



Alabama

Kiwaniis Kourier

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19 pages

Make plans now to go to Geneva

By Patrice Stewart
Kourier editor

It's time to start doing some serious planning to join fellow Kiwanians from around the world in Geneva, Switzerland, next July.

The 96th annual Kiwanis International Convention will be held there July 7-10, and all Kiwanians are invited, along with spouses and guests.

Registration is now open on the KI website. Go to www.KiwanisOne.org/convention to register, read tour descriptions, explore Geneva and plan your trip.

Register by Jan. 31, 2011, to save, because on Feb. 1, Kiwanis member rates increase from \$350 to \$425 and guests go from \$100 to \$150.

Switzerland has more than 7,000 Kiwanis members, but all 250,000 Kiwanians from 70 nations and geographic areas are invited to the convention.

Pat Manasco, who serves as "On to Geneva" chairwoman as well as

(See GENEVA, page 18)



At the governor's banquet and installation in Florence, clockwise from top left: incoming governor Colean Black, left, and outgoing governor George Aiken, right, with visiting Kiwanis International trustee adviser Jim Jennings from the Phoenix, Ariz., area; newly elected and installed treasurer Wayne Sisk gets a kiss from his wife, Toni; incoming governor Colean Black welcomes some of her lieutenant governors; and Sherry Jennings puts the governor-elect pin on Tammy Driskill.

Colean Black begins term

By Patrice Stewart
Kourier editor

Officers and lieutenant governors for 2010-11 were installed during the Alabama Kiwanis District Convention in Florence.

Colean Black of Leeds, a member of the Homewood-Mountain Brook club, is the new governor, following George Aiken of Talladega (Pell City club).

Tammy Driskill of Gadsden (Gadsden club) moved up to governor-elect.

Wayne Sisk of Alexandria (Anniston club) won a race with Bob Palys (Cullman club) to become the district

Find yourself in photos from Florence convention, Pages 9-13.

treasurer. That puts Sisk in position to move up to governor-elect for 2011-12.

These officers officially took over on Oct. 1, although they were installed during the governor's banquet at the Marriott Shoals Hotel during the district convention there July 23-25.

Also installed were 14 lieutenant governors. See complete list on Page 19.

The new governor appointed Pat

(See OFFICERS, page 19)

Mark your calendars for the Mid-Winter Conference Feb. 25-26, 2011

Goal for 2010-11: 'Plus One'

From the Governor

By Colean Black



"Plus One" sums up our goals for the Alabama District in 2010-2011. Here's what we need to do at several levels.

At the District level, we want to end the 2010-2011 year next Sept. 30 with:

- A Plus One member count
- Plus One Classic Kiwanis Club
- Plus One Young Professional Kiwanis Club
- Plus One Corporate Kiwanis Club.

At the club level:
■ Plus One member by year end for each club.

At the individual level:
■ Plus One activity by each and every Kiwanian.

Examples:

- Attend one more meeting.
- Attend one more interclub.
- Attend one more service project.
- Bring in one more member.
- Give one more dollar.
- Collect one more project item.

Whatever it is that gets you excited about being a Kiwanian, do it, "Plus One" more time.

New Kiwanis job, new husband

The new governor of the Alabama District of Kiwanis decided to take on more than one new role this fall.

Colean Bailey of Leeds and Shane Black of Trussville were married Sept. 25, 2010, and she took up the duties of the 2010-11 Kiwanis governor Oct. 1.

Kiwanians attending the District Convention at the Marriott Shoals in Florence in July may remember that Colean helped raise money for Jean Dean RIF and other projects as the successful live auction bidder on a weekend package at the

Marriott hotel.

She had another visit in mind — without several hundred Kiwanians.

Colean and Shane were married in Muscle Shoals at the Victorian Tea Room Oliver Chapel by Pastor Shane Swinney, a friend of Kiwanis International Trustee Pam Fleming of the Shoals.

Then they enjoyed a quiet weekend relaxing at the Marriott Shoals.

Colean said it was a beautiful place to get away from their busy lives in Birmingham and there was no better time to use that weekend package.

They reside in Leeds with her son Charles, 13, and her mother, Beryl. Shane has two daughters, Lauren, 20, and Linnea, 8.

He is an independent contractor specializing in home remodeling. They laugh when asked how they met, and she tells everyone that he "just knocked on my front door."

He remodeled much of her home, and Colean said he did such a good job that she wanted to keep him for lifelong projects.

Congratulations to the newly married couple!



Shane and Colean Black

See pages 6 and 13 for Governor Colean Black's District service project and important dates.

Alabama Kiwanis Kourier

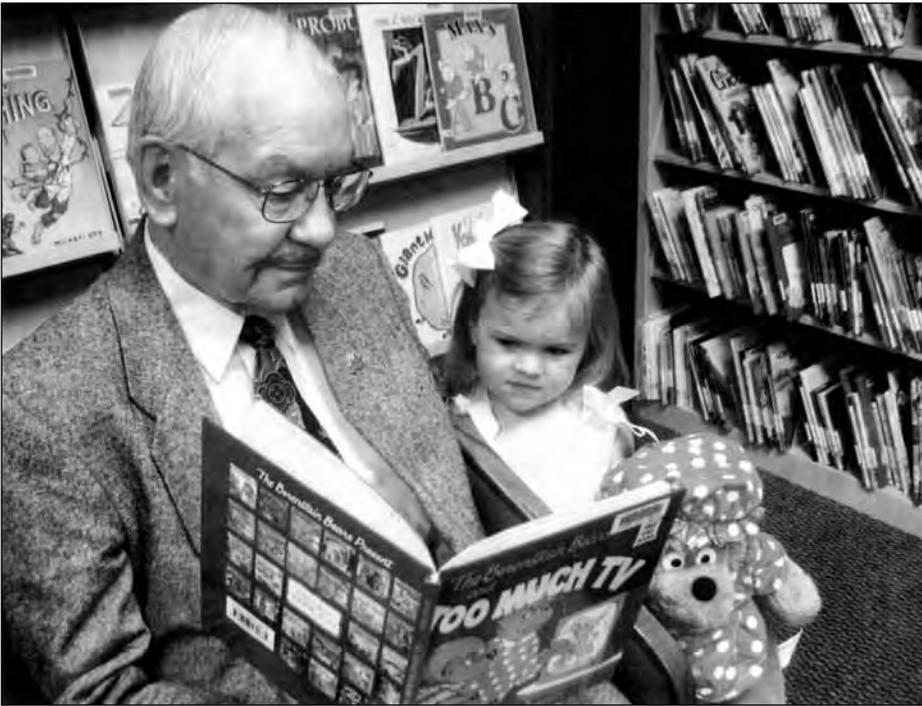
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Joe Duck, left, reading to a child at the public library in Sylacauga as part of the Kiwanis Club's Reading Is Fundamental program, and, at right, as a graduate of the Pensacola Air Academy in 1945.

Joe Duck: a dedicated Kiwanian with 56 years' perfect attendance

By Earl Lewis

Sylacauga Kiwanis Club

In small towns in the South, almost everybody knows one another, but there is always that one individual that literally everybody really does know.

In Sylacauga, that person is an 89-year-old gentleman by the name of Joe Duck.

There are many things that can be said to identify him, but one of the things that he is proudest of is his perfect attendance record in the Kiwanis Club of Sylacauga.

Charter member

A charter member of the club, he has been a Kiwanian since June 1954. Since then, Duck has compiled the unbelievable record of 56 years of perfect attendance.

That translates to attendance at approximately 2,800 Kiwanis Club meetings. His health has obviously been good in order for that to happen,

but he has actually gotten out of bed to attend meetings during the few times that he has been ill. In fact, on at least two occasions he has come directly to Kiwanis meetings at 6 p.m. on Tuesday evenings after being dismissed from the hospital just an hour or so earlier.

As an active Kiwanian during all those years, he has served his club on the board of directors numerous times and has worked on just about every committee. He also has participated in countless fundraising projects, including Radio Day, peanut sales and 55 consecutive Pancake Days.

He says today that he became interested as a youngster because all the notable men in his hometown were Kiwanians, and he wanted to be like them.

Duck was born in Bessemer on June 9, 1921, and graduated from Bessemer High School, where he was on the track team, in the band and served as president of the student body.

As a child, one of his uncles took him to an air show at Roberts Field near Birmingham, where he got to meet Charles Lindbergh. That meeting kindled his love for flying, which grew over the years and eventually led him to train as a fighter pilot in the U.S. Navy.

Bananas got him in

When World War II broke out, Duck tried to enlist but was rejected because his body weight didn't meet the requirements. After several attempts and a like number of rejections, he desperately ate several dozen bananas and went back to weigh in. That did the trick, and he was finally accepted into the Navy.

After training at the University of Georgia, Auburn and Pensacola, he graduated from the Pensacola Air Academy in 1945. He was shipped to California and was about to leave on an aircraft carrier when the bomb was

(See JOE DUCK, page 18)

Let's keep up the hard work after a busy, memorable year

Kiwanians and dear friends,

My year as governor of the Alabama District of Kiwanis was a busy and memorable year for yours truly and the love of my life, Allyne.

During 2009-10, we covered this grand state from the Tennessee River to the Gulf and from state line to state line east to west.

Through some 61 visits within our great District, my beliefs were confirmed; you are the greatest group of folks with whom I have ever been fortunate enough to be associated. I profusely offer my thanks for you doing what you do.

Let's continue to be about the business of our children and communities, while strengthening the family. Our U.S. family unit makes this country different from all other countries in the world.

I must, along with offering my accolades, strongly urge all of us to double and redouble our recruiting efforts during 2010-11 and thereafter.

We must have the corpus (the body), the infrastructure and the strength to bring into our membership new members, including younger persons, to perform service needed in our communities. New and younger recruits will be our future. Without this sustained effort, we will not be viable and will cease to exist, or be just another "also ran" civic club.

Membership, new clubs

Let's look at the membership during the year 2009-2010. We severely reduced the rate of attrition of membership in the Alabama District.

We had hoped that "our year" would be the year that the Alabama District would again see positive growth in membership. That was not to be, but we did hold the hemorrhage of members to 53, while losses were in triple digits in 2007-2009, with over 100 members lost during each of those Kiwanis years.

We were trying to form five new Kiwanis Clubs in 2009-10. We achieved fewer than that, building three new clubs. That was more than in the last several years but still two clubs short of our objective.

The jury is still out regarding distinguished clubs for the year. We did not achieve Distinguished District, but we experienced over 20 distinguished clubs by my count.

I solemnly pledge to Governor Colean and her administration to aid wherever I can to achieve greater accomplishment than we did in 2009-10.

Let's all redouble our efforts to grow and be better Kiwanians, and the good clubs of this District should strive to be great clubs. It doesn't take much extra effort; it does, however, require more focus on everyone's part.

My last duty as your governor took place on Saturday,



George Aiken

New and younger recruits will be our future. Without this sustained effort, we will not be viable and will cease to exist, or be just another "also ran" civic club.

Oct. 2, when I was asked by David Beasley, lieutenant governor of Division 2, to stand in for him at a children's playground dedication in the small community of Underwood-Petersville, located near Florence (see story, Page 7).

Allyne and I arrived slightly before the announced time of the dedication and watched children making full use of this playground equipment, even before it was dedicated. It was great to see the kids enjoying the playground, and I couldn't help but wonder what the kids did or where they played before the playground was built.

9 members, \$23,000 playground

I learned that the nine-member Kiwanis Club of Underwood-Petersville was the driving force behind the construction and financing of the playground.

These nine members collected in excess of \$23,000 to purchase the playground equipment, grade and construct the site, and install the playground equipment.

My, oh, my — is this not Kiwanis at its very best? A little club with big dreams and a bigger heart.

I have, since that Saturday, wondered what that club or any other small club could do with two or three times its current membership. I tip my hat to Tony Hardin and his eight great Kiwanians for this fine effort.

The Underwood-Petersville Kiwanis Club, a small club by any measure, had the community in the palm of its hand, with happy kids playing in the very playground that was being dedicated to them and the community that day — what an awesome Kiwanis project!

That visit in North Alabama on a beautiful sunny day closed my administrative year at an absolute zenith.

Thanks again, Alabama Kiwanis, for allowing me to be a part of a good year among terrific people. Allyne and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts. This has been a year that neither of us will soon forget.

Yours in Service,

George Aiken

Immediate Past Governor

The Alabama Purchase

Kiwanis reborn with Birmingham deal in 1919

By Robert L. McCurley

Past KI and Foundation officer
and past Alabama District Governor

We all know that Kiwanis International notes Jan. 15, 1915, as the day Kiwanis International was born in Detroit, Michigan. True.

But did you know that Kiwanis as we know it today was reborn at noon, May 21, 1919, at the Tutwiler Hotel in Birmingham during the 1919 International Convention held in Alabama?

That evening hundreds of delegates were entertained and it was a night of politicking and negotiation. But that night in Birmingham was not all devoted to entertainment.

Negotiations were in progress for the proposed purchase of the Browne contract. (Alan Browne's contract provided he receive \$5 for every new member who joined.)

Some organizers still were building clubs on an exchange-of-business principle, but a check showed that every club so built has had to eliminate a big proportion of its members before it could actually succeed. Before a year had passed, such clubs had learned to reject the exchange-of-business principle as unworthy of primary consideration

Going to court?

"Listen, Brownie," past president George Hixson had said to Browne. "I'm absolutely satisfied that you're dead right, but let me tell you something — you are all through! You have been discredited with the organization, and you can never get ahead now. So there is only one thing to do — get all you can, and get out and say goodbye to it."

In fact, Browne, on the afternoon of the convention's first day, had let the word get out that he might go into court the next day and ask for an injunction to prevent the organization from carrying on under the Kiwanis name. There were some who feared that the threat, if carried out, might halt convention proceedings.

"Let's stop this thing," Mercer



Bob McCurley

Barnett said. "Let's go around and see all the judges. I know every one of them, and maybe I can get them not to issue an injunction in case an application is made."

They did just that, and they were informed that they need not worry about disruption of the convention because, even if an injunction should be asked, there wouldn't be ample time for a court hearing before the convention actually was over.

Browne then consented to meet Kiwanians Louis Hammerschmidt and Dick Burch in a hotel conference room, where Browne continued with an attitude that he owned Kiwanis.

He was pressed to name a sum at which he would consider selling his contract to Kiwanis International. Finally, he said that he might be induced to sell for \$20,000, if he decided to drop his plan for court action, but he was not quite sure about that at the moment.

"Listen, Browne," Hammerschmidt said. "I'm going to be perfectly blunt and tell you that if we can't work out a satisfactory agreement with you, Kiwanis will take steps to disband and create a new club, under another name. That's how we stand, so take it or leave it."

Browne was visibly surprised . . . this possibility simply had not

occurred to him. He abandoned all thought of bringing an injunction action. He decided to follow the advice of his friend George Hixson, the first International President of Kiwanis, to get all that he could and get out. . . .

The board members made an offer of \$12,500. Browne held out for \$20,000, but by midnight Brown was willing to drop his demand to \$19,000.

The bargaining went on until 2 a.m. Wednesday morning before they reached common ground — Brown would sell for \$17,500.

"I'll take it," said Brown, "but on one condition -- the money must be turned over to me by Thursday noon and in cold cash."

A \$17,500 settlement

Stripped of all its legal terminology, the paper simply boiled down to this: that upon receipt of the \$17,500, Browne would surrender to the organization the use of the word Kiwanis or any idea connected and "absolutely and forever sever all relations that have at any time existed between the parties hereto as fully and completely as though the same had never at any time been actually or impliedly entered into."

The convention lost no time in adopting, without a single dissenting vote, both the purchase resolution and the proposition for the per capita tax increase (by \$2 per Kiwanian), and the wave of check writing by convention-

(See HISTORY, page 13)

McCurley updating state Kiwanis history

Bob McCurley, a Tuscaloosa Kiwanian who is director of the Alabama Law Institute at the University of Alabama, is a past governor of the Alabama District. He served as vice president of Kiwanis International and president of the Kiwanis International Foundation.

Information on this page is from the first chapter of McCurley's book "History of Alabama Kiwanis," taken from a published transcript of Kiwanis International Secretary O. Sam Cummings.

Alabama Kiwanis history is being updated. Anyone with information about Kiwanis, a club, a division or the District, including its formation, should send it to Bob McCurley, P.O. Box 861287, Tuscaloosa, AL 35486.

Timeline for Worldwide Service Project

There is much to be done since Kiwanis International announced its new Worldwide Service Project: eliminating maternal/neonatal tetanus by providing vaccinations.

Since The Eliminate Project was made official at the Kiwanis International Convention in Las Vegas in June, the KI leadership has appointed a global campaign for children council and asked that clubs begin educating their members about maternal and neonatal tetanus and the impact this project can have.

Here are the activities coming up and what you can do to help:

October-December 2010

What's happening:

- Governors and governors-elect make multi-year appointments for district global campaign for children chairpersons.

What you can do:

- Share what you know about MNT with your club, your community, your family, your school.
- Engage the Kiwanis family members you support.
- Strengthen your club through growth.

January-March 2011

What's happening:

- Kiwanis International education conference for leadership involved in The Eliminate Project
- Lieutenant governor education and club leadership education (CLE)
- District midyear conferences
- Regional meetings in Europe and Asia-Pacific

What you can do:



- Advocate for the cause.
- Add a link to TheEliminateProject.org on your club website.
- Continue preparing your club and the Service Leadership Programs you support.
- Make plans to send a club representative to the Kiwanis International Convention in Geneva.

April-July 2011

What's happening:

- Campaign kickoff at the 96th annual Kiwanis International Convention in Geneva, Switzerland, July 7-11, 2011

What you can do:

- Appoint a club member to lead the campaign for your club.
- Take part in the Kiwanis International Convention in Geneva.
- Make an initial gift and check for updates on www.TheEliminateProject.org.
- Share your enthusiasm with your community as you prepare to kick off the project.

District project: school supplies after disasters

Kiwanis District Governor Colean Black is spearheading a new district project to collect school supplies for Alabama disaster relief.

"I will be happy to accept these items as I make my governor's visits to the divisions and also at the Mid-Winter Conference and District Convention," she said. "This is an ongoing project for several years."

Here are the specifics of the state-wide project for Kiwanians.

Who

A child or children who have been affected by a disastrous situation which leaves them without school supplies.

What

Collect school supplies for all ages of students (elementary, middle, junior-high or high school) for distribution in the event of a disaster.

Supplies should include items such as pens and pencils, paper and note pads, rulers and protractors, markers and highlighters, crayons and paints, glue and glue sticks, folders and binders, and scissors and erasers.

Why

Many times family homes or schools are destroyed by tornadoes, hurricanes or fires. Kiwanians can be there to get school supplies back in the hands of students almost immediately to reduce further stress of the students and delay of their studies.

Where

Anywhere in the state of Alabama.

When

Kiwanians can respond immediately upon news of a disaster. The local Kiwanis club can receive supplies

from the district office for distribution within days.

How

Clubs throughout the state can collect items and present them to the Kiwanis governor when she visits divisions in October and November.

Key Clubs and Builders Clubs can help assemble them into packets and store them in the district office until needed.

Upon news of a disaster, the local Kiwanis club can contact the district office by filling out an on-line request form at alabama.kiwanis.org and submitting it via fax or e-mail, or by calling the district office and having a form faxed or e-mailed. That club will identify the age range for the supplies, the number of packets needed, and the arrangements for picking up supplies. The club will then distribute the school supplies.



Legion of Honor

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Tuscaloosa recently honored four members with Legion of Honor designations. They are, from left, Bob McCurley, 40 years; Tom Jones, 35 years; Dale Cramer, 35 years; and Phillip Sasnet, 30 years.

Playground project

Underwood-Petersville Kiwanians make recreation a reality

Tony Hardin couldn't hold back his smile as he sat in the parking lot of the Underwood-Petersville Community Center, watching children play at the center's new playground.

"That's what it's there for; this is why we did all the fundraisers," said Hardin, a member of the Underwood-Petersville Kiwanis Club, which funded the new playground.

As Hardin watched, girls and boys of all ages rushed to the playground, which is encircled by a walking trail and near a picnic pavilion, all part of the Underwood-Petersville Community Center complex in Lauderdale County.

'The kids just love it'

While children laughed and played, some mothers and grandmothers walked around the track or sat on the park benches in the shade.

Tabitha Griffith and her friend, Briannne Duncan, brought their sons to the playground after school while the mothers walked the track.

"This is just wonderful; the kids just love it," Griffith said. Before this playground was built, they would have to take their children to either Deibert Park or Cox Creek Park, she said.

"It's perfect," added Duncan. "We can walk and keep an eye on the kids. I'm so glad this is here."

Hardin said the Kiwanis Club approached the Underwood-Petersville board of directors with the idea of a playground four years ago.

"They were all for it, and we went to work," he said. Fundraisers included chicken stews, pecan sales, catfish

Editor's note: This article by Tom Smith is reprinted from the Oct. 1 Florence TimesDaily. Immediate Past Governor George Aiken attended the dedication of the Underwood-Petersville Kiwanis Club's playground project in the Shoals area and comments on Page 4 about what this and other small Kiwanis clubs can accomplish. "Is this not Kiwanis at its very best? A little club with big dreams and a bigger heart," Aiken said.

suppers, donations and grants. The final price tag of the playground was approximately \$24,000, Hardin said. "It took four years because we didn't want to take away from the other projects we donate to," Hardin said.

Danny Underwood, president of the Underwood-

Petersville Community Center board of directors, said it's amazing what the Kiwanis Club was able to accomplish.

"The playground has been a wonderful addition, not just to our center, but to the entire community," Underwood said. The official dedication was still days away, but people were already

renting the pavilion for birthday parties where the kids could enjoy the playground.

It's what Kiwanis does

"It makes you feel proud when you go out to the center and you see people using our facilities and the new playground is covered up with children having a good time," Underwood said.

Hardin, a local banker, said building the playground goes along with what Kiwanis is all about. "Everything we do is about helping kids," he said. "It's great to see them already enjoying this."

Immediate Past Governor George Aiken praised 'a little club with big dreams and a bigger heart.'

Watson receives Courage Award

Adrian Watson of Huntsville received the annual Alabama Kiwanis Foundation Jean Dean Courage Award at the District Convention in Florence.

Watson, a past District governor who has been a member of the Huntsville West Kiwanis Club for 30 years, was presented the award by Cathy Dean Gafford, who is director of the Jean Dean Reading Is Fundamental program and daughter of the award's namesake and of Past Governor Joe Dean.

"Courage is a word that defined Jean Torbert Dean, my mother — not just as she faced her final illness with strength and grace, but all of her life," said Gafford.

She recounted how her mother always looked around to see whom she might help, despite lifelong asthma and a heart attack and debilitating stroke before age 40.

"I believe courage is taking the circumstances God gives you, and making the best of them ... being happy with what you have — not having to have something to make you happy," said Gafford.

The 2010 Courage Award recipient is another person in the Alabama Kiwanis family whose life exemplifies courage, Gafford said.

She described Watson as a "great big bear of a man with an even bigger heart for those in need." Along with his laughter, joking and presence in a room, he hates to waste time and can bring a meeting back to center whenever it starts to wander.

Gafford said Watson insists on a plan and encourages everyone to "get out and get on it."



At the interclub luncheon in Florence are, from left, Cathy Dean Gafford, Adrian Watson, Joe Dean and Dianne Sharp (Watson's daughter). Watson received the Jean Dean Courage Award for 2010.

He served in the Navy at the end of World War II, married Kitty — now his wife of 62 years — in 1948, and then decided to attend Auburn. He waited tables to make money, but the talented pitcher known as "Fireball Watson" also made time to letter in baseball.

After earning his engineering degree in 1949, Watson worked for Alabama Power in Birmingham and then moved to Huntsville in 1956 to do missile defense work for Redstone Arsenal.

He worked on Hercules and Stinger programs and traveled extensively through Europe and Southeast Asia.

Gafford said Watson has shown personal courage throughout his life journey as a young person who had the

courage to decide what he wanted to do about getting an education and working for it and as a young man who put time into defending the country from a ship.

"That led to a work life where he had the courage to follow convictions which led him to use his intelligence and engineering skills to develop effective weaponry to protect his family and his country," she said.

"He has also shown courage in later life, when he has courageously worked to help others though plagued by numerous joint surgeries and a massive heart attack," Gafford said. "Adrian Watson has shown courage throughout his life and continues to show courage now as he fights daily for better health."

**Charter
Bank
Foundation
gives \$1,000
to RIF**



Charter Bank vice president Linda Drummond presents a check for \$1,000 from the Charter Bank Foundation to Jean Dean RIF (Reading is Fundamental) volunteer and Kiwanian Rich Bailey. The Jean Dean RIF program, supported by the Alabama Kiwanis Foundation, facilitates the annual purchase, distribution and reading of more than 75,000 new books to 25,000 at-risk preschool children throughout Alabama. More than 1 million books have been distributed since its founding in 1990. Located in Opelika and supported by the Alabama Kiwanis Foundation, Jean Dean RIF is the nation's largest project of its kind serving preschool children. Charter Bank supported the third annual Run to Read 5k race and family fun walk Sept 11. The IPA Foundation (UPS Pilots) was also a major donor supporting this event.



Elvis shakes up the Shoals

*Photos by Patrice Stewart,
Kiwanis Kourier editor*





Music by the river

during Florence convention



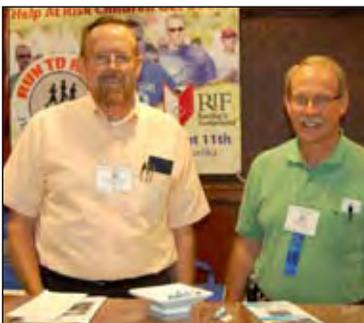
*Photos by
Don Rohling*





Fun in Florence

Photos by Patrice Stewart





Convention delegates

Photos by Patrice Stewart



Make an impact by service during Kiwanis One Day

Kiwanis One Day, which will be celebrated April 2, 2011, is the opportunity to work together with members of all Kiwanis-family clubs and other members of the community to make an impact through service.

What will your club be doing that day?

If you are looking for ideas, you are in luck: the October edition of KIWANIS magazine (<http://kiwanis.imirus.com/>

[Mpowered/imirus.jsp?volume=kiw10&issue=6&page=40](http://kiwanis.imirus.com/Mpowered/imirus.jsp?volume=kiw10&issue=6&page=40)) offers a list of projects (<http://kiwanis.imirus.com/Mpowered/imirus.jsp?volume=kiw10&issue=6&page=40>) that other clubs have done with great success.

Adapt some of these ideas to the needs of your community and get everyone on board to have a great service experience in April.

Start planning now for the Kiwanis International Convention in Switzerland July 7-10, 2011



In the Shoals

Photos by Patrice Stewart



Big Kiwanis dates in 2011

Mark these dates on your calendars for 2011.

Feb. 25-27, 2011: Kiwanis Mid-Winter Conference, Prattville

Feb. 25-27, 2011: Circle K District Convention, Prattville

April 1-3, 2011: Key Leader Weekend, Columbiana

June 11, 2011: Ride to Read benefiting RIF, Opelika

June 22-26, 2011: Circle K International Convention, Virginia Beach, Va.

June 29-July 3, 2011: Key Club International Convention, Phoenix, Ariz.

July 7-10, 2011: Kiwanis International Convention, Geneva, Switzerland

Aug. 12-14, 2011: Kiwanis District Convention, Andalusia

History

(From Page 5)

goers started with enthusiasm.

Kiwanis bought itself that Wednesday morning in half an hour's time. Allen Browne's deadline of Thursday noon had been met with almost 24 hours to spare!

The International Secretary then passed the check along to a representative, who delivered it to Browne in early afternoon at the hotel room where Browne had remained in seclusion during his last hours with the organization he had founded.

Kiwanis International stood in its own shoes as of Wednesday noon, May 21, 1919.

After that, Kiwanis heard very little of Browne until his death at Dallas, Texas, in 1934.

Nothing stops RIF volunteers

By Cathy Gafford
Director, Jean Dean
Reading Is Fundamental

It has been quite a summer and fall for Jean Dean RIF Kiwanis!

This reading program and service project of the Alabama Kiwanis Foundation is in the shadow of an SEC team where on game days, our two small towns (Opelika and Auburn) gain about 80,000 in population.

Everything we do that requires volunteers and space is controlled by Auburn University's football schedule. This year, AU's highly ranked team only played out of town on three weekends! That's great for retail trade but terrible for volunteer dates, and it changes work dates and fundraiser dates. And on one of those weekends, our daughter, Meg, got married.

RIF also added a fundraiser this fall. It has been quite a "ride" but appears to have been a successful one.

Thanks to each of you for making it possible for thousands of at-risk young children to get books — for many the first books in their homes — through Jean Dean RIF/Kiwanis. At least 20,000 at-risk young children in Alabama will have received their first book this school year from Jean Dean RIF/Kiwanis before Christmas.

Our other RIF activities in Opelika since mid-June included a successful Truel Watts Ride to Read, Foundation and RIF advisory board meetings, the Tri-K Family Service Day, our annual site coordinators' meeting, Run to Read and a Pancake Breakfast.

Mortgage paid off

Thanks to the live and silent auctions during the District Convention in Florence, other donations and a \$13,000 donation by the Alabama Kiwanis Foundation, the mortgage on the RIF building has been satisfied! Expect a celebration when we get together in Prattville in February.

Thank you for supporting the foundation and the Jean Dean RIF Capital Campaign. There is now no mortgage on our 7,500-square-foot Opelika warehouse/office, the Jean Dean RIF/Kiwanis building. Yea! Of course, operating the building still costs about \$12,000 to \$15,000 a year to cover an



umbrella insurance policy, gas, power, water, phone service, garbage, and security and sprinkler system maintenance.

Donations are still very important to meeting these needs. All donations are appreciated and tax-deductible and can be mailed to Jean Dean RIF, P.O. Box 848, Opelika, AL 36803 (www.jeandeanrif.org or 334-749-5631). Alabama Kiwanis Foundation Barnett and Diamond Barnett donations -- which are designated as RIF donations by the donor -- will be an important funding source to meet these continued expenses for the RIF building. Please remember to continue to honor your club members or family members in this way and to mark them as RIF Barnetts/RIF Diamond Barnetts.

Riders for reading

The 2010 Truel Watts Ride to Read Motorcycle Poker Run was a huge success, netting about \$4,000 -- thanks to our riders, our super committee and a great sponsor group, including Outback Steakhouse.

About 60 folks rode this year, a big increase in participation which we expect to continue in the years to come. Next year's ride is planned for June 11, 2011, with all riders welcome.

Together for service

Tri-K Family Service Day Aug. 28 was a lot of fun, as usual. It was filled with great Kiwanis fellowship, with more than 150 Kiwanians, Golden K members, Circle K members and Key Clubbers from all over the state working together to inventory and put bookplates in over 28,000 RIF books.

The Kiwanis board met, and a crowd ate the delicious lunch served every year by the ladies at Pepperell Methodist. A good time was had by all.

Every Circle K club in the state was represented and kicked off their 2010-2011 main fund-raising focus, raising \$5,000 to add to the on-going RIF Building Fund. If you haven't purchased one of their neat RIF T-shirts, be sure to buy one for \$10 and help them meet their goal.

Fellowship and service: it's what Kiwanis is all about! Plan to come be a part of this day next year -- you'll be glad you did.

Runners for readers

The Run to Read 2010 was amazing, netting more than \$6,000. Close to 300 runners and walkers took part in Run to Read (a 5K and 1.5 mile fun walk) with support from over 60 capable volunteers.



Cathy Gafford

The crowd enjoyed Aubie, Clifford the Big Red Dog, an Auburn JROTC flag ceremony and a stirring trumpet rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner." A large crowd of "six and unders" took part in the "Big Red Dog" 50-yard fun dash, and the inflatables were a big hit with all the children.

Run director Rich Bailey was presented a RIF Barnett at the event in appreciation for his devotion to making the Run to Read a successful event. The 2011 run is scheduled for Oct. 22, with 5K and 10K runs and 1.5-mile fun walk. Plan to bring your family and enjoy the morning together in beautiful historic Opelika.

Newest fundraiser

Our latest addition to RIF fundraising was a Pancake Breakfast in early November, thanks to Cambridge Place donating the food and location and the A-O Emblem Club selling tickets.

Local author Jim Buford came and signed his book, "The House Across the Road," and donated 25 books to the "cause", which we sold as part of the event. We netted more than \$1,000 and had a lot of really good food. It looks like we'll be doing this again next year, maybe in the spring.



Tri-K Service Day

Aug. 28, 2010, Opelika — at work for RIF



Photos by Patrice Stewart, Kiwanis Kourier editor





Representatives from every Circle K club in Alabama participated in Tri-K Family Service Day at the RIF warehouse in Opelika on Aug. 28. Below is the design for the RIF lapel pin that Alabama Circle K'ers are selling.

Circle K raising RIF funds

By Dana A. Lackey

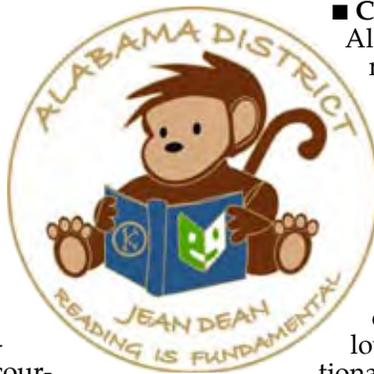
Bama Bugle Bulletin Editor
Alabama District of Circle K International

The Alabama District of Circle K International is raising money in 2010-11 to bring the Jean Dean Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) warehouse in Opelika one giant step closer to financial independence.

This project has several incentives at various levels of organization within the District:

■ **Individual Circle K members:** All members of the Alabama District are strongly encouraged to donate at least \$1 to Jean Dean RIF. Some clubs, such as the Circle K at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), are even taking this \$1 out of the member's club dues.

■ **Circle K clubs:** Every club in Alabama is encouraged to hold club fundraisers for Jean Dean RIF. If they raise more than \$500, they may be able to nominate an outstanding member of the club for the Alabama District of Kiwanis International's Barnett Fellow award, a rare opportunity for members of Circle K.



■ **Circle K divisions:** Divisions of Circle K in the Alabama District will be competing to raise the most money for Jean Dean RIF. Divisions may hold large-scale fundraising projects to raise money on top of club fundraisers. The division that raises the most money will receive special recognition at District Convention.

■ **Circle K District:** The Alabama District of Circle K has set a goal to raise \$5,000 during the 2010-11 administrative year. The district may augment fundraising efforts at lower levels by holding fundraisers at international events such as CKI Convention, Kiwanis Family Conference and Y'all, as well as with sales of a new pin featuring the district's new mascot, a monkey, but that money cannot be attributed to a lower level.

Please note that contributions at one level also go toward the levels above: for example: an individual member's \$1 contribution goes toward his or her club's and division's raised funds, and also toward the district's goal.

This project to boost literacy in Alabama is sure to make waves through the Alabama District Kiwanis Family and Circle K International alike.

Plan now to attend the
**Mid-Winter
Conference**

the weekend of
Feb. 25-26, 2011
at the **Marriott Legends in Prattville**

District secretary Pat Manasco says some great educational break-out sessions are planned at the Mid-Winter Conference, and the registration form should be on the district website (<http://alabama.kiwanis.org>) in early December.

Honor someone in your club with a \$500 RIF Barnett Award, and help children, too

Alabama & KI News in brief

2 Alabama clubs tops in KI Foundation giving

The Alabama District's large Kiwanis Clubs in Birmingham and Montgomery have long been ranked high internationally in numbers of members, and they also are in the top five in annual gift giving to the Kiwanis International Foundation.

Clubs that contributed the largest amounts to the KIF annual gift campaign in 2009-10 included: Montgomery, \$2,500; Ogden, Utah, \$2,120; Indianapolis, Ind., \$2,096; Lafayette, La., \$2,000; and Birmingham, \$2,000.

Around the time of the gift donations, membership was listed at 284 for the Montgomery club and 550 for Birmingham.

The Kiwanis International Foundation appreciates clubs that include an annual gift in their budgets. With that money, KIF grants can help children around the world. For example, a KIF grant helped the Kiwanis Club of Kuala Lumpur provide funds and developmental toys to the Kiwanis Down Syndrome Foundation National Centre in Malaysia.

Also, our District's Key Club scholarships are directly linked to the per capita giving of Alabama clubs.

For details and to give securely online, go to www.kiwanis.org/foundation/annualclub.

Club Leadership Education still available online

Did you miss your district's Club Leadership Education session?

It's not too late to receive this valuable training. Go online at www.KiwanisOne.org/CLE.

Self-guided tutorials are ready whenever you are and are specific to each position: secretary/treasurer, president, membership chairman, lieutenant governor and — new this year — board member. The new board member module includes Roberts Rules of Order, basic board function and structure and knowledge that will be helpful in running smooth, productive meetings.

Log on as often as you like to use this information as a resource.

Another valuable resource for new leaders is the Leadership guide (<http://www.kiwanisone.org/Pages/Resources/default.aspx?PageID=286>), which includes a list of responsibilities, timelines and sample forms. Download the entire guide or the appropriate section.

Club officers getting permanent G-mail

To make sure that Alabama District Kiwanis club presidents and secretaries are receiving timely information from the District office in Birmingham, G-mail accounts have been created for each club president and secretary, as well as other officers.

This should eliminate the need for having to ask each year for the president's and secretary's e-mail addresses, said Brian Rodgers, communications officer. The log-in information will be passed on to the incoming officers at

the time of transition.

"If your club already has the practice of keeping one address for the president and secretary, please let us know what those e-mails are and you will not need to use the ones we create," he said.

The president and secretary can log in via a link on the District website (<http://alabama.kiwanis.org>), under the button labeled "Club E-mail Admin."

"This is a great resource for current information on District and Kiwanis International news," said Rodgers. "It is also a spot where your club can share your news via a submission form."

Presidents and secretaries can e-mail him at brianrodgers@gmail.com for their specific log-in and password. This account can be easily forwarded to your primary/home e-mail if you prefer, he said, and this system should help improve communication district-wide.

Reminder: Annual club reports due Nov. 30

Kiwanis clubs should complete their 2009-2010 Annual Club Report online by Nov. 30.

However, if your club filed all 12 of its monthly reports online through the www.KiwanisOne.org member website, you've already completed your reporting requirements. That's because the monthly reports automatically compile an annual report.

Login to the member website is required to review your 12-month report compilations/annual report.

No login is required for clubs that have not filed 12 monthly reports online. Those clubs need to create an annual report at <http://www.kiwanisone.org/memberresources/armenu.aspx>.

The Annual Club Report is no longer available in paper/postal mail version. Questions? E-mail memberservices@kiwanis.org or call 1-800-KIWANIS.

Learn from Kiwanis webinars, live and archived

You can also learn a lot by watching free Kiwanis webinars on both new and archived topics. See www.KiwanisOne.org/webinars.

Live webinars are hosted at 8 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Tuesdays, but you can watch any archived event at your convenience. Here are two live webinars scheduled in December.

"Pay It Forward: Opening a New Kiwanis Club" is Dec. 7. What if no one ever built your Kiwanis club? You can "Pay It Forward" by opening a new Kiwanis club using the new-club-building process information in this webinar.

"Speeches from the Heart" is Dec. 14. Whether you need to conquer the fear of public speaking or you just want to make your speeches more memorable, you will learn some tips and tricks that are guaranteed to work. Learn how to deliver your message for the most impact and leave your audience begging for more.



From left are the three Barnett Fellow award recipients and the spouses who made the awards possible: Jo Ann Lanier, who was honored by husband Sid; Cecilia Ann Dailey, who honored husband Ervin; and Jean Phillips, who honored husband Bill.

Dailey, Phillips and Lanier receive Barnett Fellow awards in Florence

Three Barnett Fellow awards were presented by the Alabama Kiwanis Foundation at the interclub luncheon during the District Convention in Florence.

The honor begins with a donation of \$500, or \$1,000 for the diamond level, and many are designated as RIF Barnetts, with funds helping Jean Dean Reading Is Fundamental.

The award is named for J. Mercer Barnett, a Birmingham Kiwanis member who became one of the early presidents of Kiwanis International.

Recipients get a pocket patch, lapel pin and plaque.

Dr. Ervin Dailey, who at the time was incoming president of the Chickasaw Kiwanis Club, was honored with a Barnett for his Kiwanis service by his wife, Cecilia Ann Dailey.

Bill Phillips of the Pell City club was honored with a Barnett for his Kiwanis service by his wife, Jean Phillips. He has served three terms as club president and twice served as lieutenant governor of Division 8.

Jo Ann Lanier of Wedowee was honored with a diamond-level Barnett by her husband, Sid Lanier, Alabama Kiwanis Foundation president, "for putting up with me for 50 years."

Joe Duck (From Page 3)

dropped on Japan, basically ending World War II.

His love for flying continued after the war, and he stayed in the reserves as a pilot until 1958. He also was commander of the Civil Air Patrol unit in Sylacauga for many years.

Master watchmaker

Duck came to Sylacauga after the war to join his dad, who owned a jewelry store and was an expert watchmaker, a skill that he had learned at Bromberg's in Birmingham. Following in his dad's footsteps, Duck became a master watchmaker himself, specializing as a railroad watch inspector. In fact, he is believed to be the oldest railroad watch inspector still living in Alabama today.

He married the former Betty Craddock in October 1948. They have a daughter, Kim Windsor of Sylacauga; two grandchildren, Wes Watkins of Sylacauga and Ginger Nix of Chapel Hill, N.C.; and three great-grandchildren, Marlee Watkins, Maggie Watkins and Judah Nix.

Voter registrar

Duck is still extremely active today, operating a jewelry store in downtown Sylacauga and serving his third term as chairman of the Talladega County Voter Registrars.

This is a gentleman who has developed an enviable record of service to and involvement in his community, and at age 89 he is truly an "unforgettable character."

Geneva (From Page 1)

Alabama District secretary, said that unlike other conventions, this one does not have specific hotels assigned to districts/states. That means some advance planning and booking will be needed if the Alabama delegation wants to stay in the same hotel.

A long list of hotels and much other information is on the Kiwanis convention website.

"As you know, everything in Europe is pretty expensive," she said, "but staying in a hotel on the Kiwanis official list will get you free breakfasts, a free local transportation card and a free



half-day tour to a town in France."

It's time to start looking at airfares, too, to get the best rates, she said. The better hotels may run \$300-\$350 daily, while airfare may be \$1,350 to \$1,500. Star Alliance is the official convention airline serving Geneva and offering discounts.

The number of Alabama Kiwanians and guests who go to Geneva will determine whether or what type of District dinner is held, said Manasco.

"Don't miss the chance of a lifetime to see Europe and the beautiful Swiss Alps with our fellow Kiwanians," she said.

District leadership for 2010-11

Colean Black of Leeds, governor

Tammy Driskill of Gadsden, governor-elect

Wayne Sisk of Alexandria, district treasurer

George Aiken of Talladega, immediate past governor

Pat Manasco of Birmingham, district secretary

Lieutenant governors

Division 1

Paul Artis

South Huntsville club

Division 2

David Beasley

Florence club

Division 3

Alan West

Hamilton club

Division 4

Othni Lathram

Greater Tuscaloosa club

Division 5

William Choat

Hoover Metro club

Division 6

Sean Monte

Metro Birmingham club

Division 7

Paul Jackson

Anniston club

Division 8

Matt Austin

Sylacauga club

Division 9

Bill Gentry

Capital City Montgomery club

Division 10

Pat Padgett

Auburn club

Division 11

Robert Helms

Dothan club

Division 12

Casey Thompson

Andalusia club

Division 13

Randall Gautney

Fairhope/Eastern Shore club

Division 14

George Givens

Chickasaw club

Officers (From Page 1)

Manasco of Birmingham as district secretary. She plans to operate the district office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, the same schedule kept by David Allison.

The convention combined business and fun, and Elvis wasn't the only one who popped in and made a splash.

The audience also liked the music by the HappyTimes Jazz Band and barbecue at River Heritage Park on Friday night. Other highlights included a men's quartet that sang Saturday night, as well as Elvis, at the governor's reception.

They also enjoyed Jessica Fenn Hill, a Florence library employee who entertained at the interclub luncheon with a skit on reading a child's book. Several awards were given at the luncheon (see Pages 8 and 18).

Special guests at the convention were Alabama's new Kiwanis International trustee adviser Jim Jennings and his wife, Sherry, from Green Valley, Ariz.

That meant two members of the KI board were at Alabama's convention, since Pam Fleming of Sheffield is also an international trustee.

Many educational sessions were held during the weekend. On Sunday, a memorial breakfast and board meeting were held before a river cruise aboard the Pickwick Belle.



In the top photo, Allyne Aiken watches as husband George Aiken shows off the new banner that his home club, Pell City, will hang to commemorate his year as governor. At left, Sherry Jennings, wife of International Trustee adviser Joe Jennings, puts the governor's pin on Colean Black.