



Alabama

# Kiwanis Kourier

Winter 2011

Published by Alabama Kiwanis Foundation

9 pages

## Mid-Winter Conference in Prattville

By Patrice Stewart  
Kiwanis Kourier editor

Kiwanians should be making plans to head to Prattville the last weekend in February for the Alabama District's 2011 Mid-Winter Conference.

Officers and board members will be involved in meetings on Friday, Feb. 25, while most programs and educational sessions and breakfasts and the Interclub Luncheon will be on Saturday, Feb. 26 (see schedule, Page 4).

All meetings will be held at the Marriott Hotel and Conference Center at 2500 Legends Circle, next to the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail site in Prattville.

### Feb. 3 price break

A form with convention and hotel registration information is on Page 5 of this issue. Feb. 3 is the deadline for the lowest fees and room rates.

"We encourage everyone to attend and will make it exciting and fun,"

(See PRATTVILLE, Page 4)



### RIF work

Children and books are the focus of Jean Dean Reading Is Fundamental. Jason McNeil, left, Tuscaloosa Kiwanis RIF team captain, reads to children at Tuscaloosa Head Start. See pages 6 and 7 for more about RIF.

## Plan your Swiss trip

### Geneva will host KI convention July 7-10

It's time to get organized if you're planning to go to Geneva.

If you want to join fellow Kiwanians in Switzerland for the 96th annual Kiwanis International Convention July 7-10, go to [www.KiwanisOne.org/](http://www.KiwanisOne.org/) convention and plan your trip. Explore the tour options and find a Kiwanis hotel.

Early-bird convention registration ends Jan. 31, so hurry if you want to save money. Kiwanis member rates increase from \$350 to \$425 starting Feb. 1, and guest rates go from \$100 to \$150.

This is the first time that Kiwanis

International will hold its annual convention in Europe since 1993, when thousands of Kiwanians gathered in Nice and strolled along the French Riviera.

The Geneva convention will offer the Swiss Alps as a backdrop and the sumptuous cuisines of Europe as sustenance while Kiwanians make new friends from around the world.

Ueli Mühlemann, governor-elect of the Switzerland-Liechtenstein District, invites fellow Kiwanians to the convention in Geneva. Meet her in an

(See GENEVA, Page 8)

**Kiwanis Convention 2011**  
Geneva Switzerland  
July 7-10

**Geneva**

**REGISTER BY JANUARY 31**

Take advantage of the discounted rate

Sign up by Feb. 3 for lowest Mid-Winter Conference registration and hotel fees

# Time for an update on plans and visions

Hello to all Kiwanians! The first quarter of this year has been a time of organizing, educating and creating new ways for Kiwanians to communicate.

We are thrilled that we have gotten the majority of that completed, and we will be sharing this with you in greater detail at the Mid-Winter Conference. There are so many exciting new activities to talk about; you won't want to miss this information!

I've been on the road, visiting divisions and spreading the word about our Kiwanis International activities, International President Sylvester Neal's message, our Alabama District project and my vision of "Plus One" as it relates to each club and Kiwanian.

If you haven't seen me yet, I'll be visiting your division soon. Your lieutenant governor will be sending information out to the club leaders for dates scheduled throughout the next month.

Of course, we are encouraging all Kiwanians to attend the Mid-Winter Conference in Prattville on Feb. 25 and 26 and not consider my short visit to the divisions a worthy replacement.



## Governor's Greetings

By Colean  
Black

I cannot possibly convey everything in sufficient detail in my small window of time during these enjoyable visits.

The Alabama District's boards will meet on Friday afternoon before the conference. The conference itself will be held on Saturday, Feb. 26.

District Secretary Pat Manasco has done an excellent job of working with the staff of the Marriott in Prattville to ensure this event will run smoothly (be sure to thank her when you see her because it takes a good bit of effort to do this correctly.) Thanks, Pat!

We will start our general session promptly at 9 a.m. with a full day of announcements, presentations, education sessions and fellowship.

Governor-elect Tammy Driskill has been hard at work planning our education topics, and there are several well-thought-out selections. I'm confident you will find this to be a worthy Kiwanis event.

Please register today!

In service with you,

*Colean Black*



## Alabama District clubs' birthdays

Here is a listing of Alabama District club anniversaries in the first four months of Kiwanis year 2010-11:

Helena, Oct. 2, 2001  
Houston County, Dothan,  
Oct. 3, 1968  
Anniston Sunrisers, Oct. 18, 1979  
North Huntsville, Oct. 22, 1980  
Montgomery, Oct. 31, 1919  
Greater Tuscaloosa, Nov. 2, 1976  
Birmingham East, Nov. 9, 1960  
Jackson, Nov. 10, 1992  
Sand Mountain, Albertville,  
Nov. 12, 1997  
Metropolitan Birmingham,  
Nov. 18, 1969  
West Jefferson County,  
Bessemer, Nov. 20, 1986  
Headland, Nov. 22, 1938  
Athens-Limestone County, Nov.  
26, 1996  
Daphne-Spanish Fort, Nov. 28,  
1990  
Homewood-Mountain Brook,  
Nov. 30, 1955  
Prattville East, Dec. 1, 1999  
Scottsboro, Dec. 8, 1976  
Fort Payne, Dec. 9, 1976  
Muscle Shoals, Dec. 9, 1976  
Florence, Dec. 14, 1922  
Andalusia, Dec. 17, 1947  
North Florence, Dec. 27, 1955  
Golden K, Tuscaloosa,  
Jan. 6, 1984  
Auburn, Jan. 12, 1928  
Prichard, Jan. 26, 1989  
Clanton, Jan. 27, 1928  
Hamilton, Jan. 28, 1974

## Alabama Kiwanis kourier

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# Alabama's first 6 Kiwanis clubs

## By Robert L. McCurley

Past KI and Foundation officer  
and past Alabama District Governor

In the fall of 1918, the Alabama-Florida District of Kiwanis was organized. The clubs within these two states remained as one district until 1924, when the International Board made the two states independent and separate districts of Kiwanis International.

During these formative years, the first six clubs in Alabama were: Birmingham, Mobile, Gadsden, Huntsville, Selma and Montgomery.

## 1. Birmingham Kiwanis Club

On Feb. 28, 1917, Dr. A. D. Durham of Oakmont, Pa., arrived in Birmingham and went to the office of Dr. Percy A. Woodall, an old friend of many years and a fellow member of the medical profession.

Dr. Durham secured the required number of names on an application for a charter and forwarded it to Kiwanis International in Detroit. The charter was granted on May 19, 1917.

The first president of Birmingham Kiwanis Club was Mr. W. C. Bonham, who served through the year of 1917.

A year later the Birmingham club reached a membership of 100 members and was under the guidance of club president J. Mercer Barnett. He became Alabama's first president of Kiwanis International in 1920.

The Birmingham club for the last several years has been the largest Kiwanis club in the world.

## 2. Mobile Kiwanis Club

The second club in Alabama was organized on April 22, 1919, and officially chartered June 4, 1919. H. Austill Pharr served as the first president.

The group included a farmer, jeweler, cotton compress firm owner, cigar dealer, physician, judge and railway executive. Diversity continues to be a cornerstone of the Mobile club.

This club boasts having had as one of its members Albert Tully, who in 1959 became the second president of Kiwanis International from the Alabama District.



Bob McCurley

## 3. Gadsden Kiwanis Club

Friday the 13th is a suspicious day of any month to many people, but not to those faithful citizens of Gadsden. On Friday, June 13, 1919, T. Jeff Bailey and Andrew "Andy" Arab of Birmingham

made the first move in organizing a Kiwanis Club in Gadsden.

Fifteen men gathered in the office of Judge William J. Boykin in the Stocks Building and accepted the invitation of Kiwanis International to organize the third Kiwanis club in Alabama. On Wednesday, July 2, 1919, the first regular meeting of this group was held at the Printup Hotel. Regular weekly meetings were held each Wednesday, and on December 10, 1919, the Gadsden Club received its charter from Kiwanis International.

## 4. Huntsville Kiwanis Club

Huntsville was the fourth city to acquire a Kiwanis club. Officially, the club was organized on July 14, 1919, the same day as the Gadsden club. It is, however, listed as the 150th Kiwanis club, one number higher than the Gadsden club. The first president, Clarendon Davis, presided over a membership which consisted of 53 charter members.

In 1934 John L. Sparkman of the Huntsville club was elected the Kiwanis District Governor. Years later, Kiwanian Sparkman was elected to the United States House of Representatives, where he served for nine years. In 1946, he was elected United States Senator and served in that position until 1979. Senator Sparkman was the Democratic nominee for vice president of the United States in 1952.

In 1986 Kiwanis International recognized the Huntsville club as being the first club to have three generations of club presidents in the same club. Charter president Clarendon Davis was followed by his son-in-law, Merritt Wikle Sr., in 1943, and his grandson, Merritt Wikle Jr., in 1986.

## 5. Selma Kiwanis Club

On Sept. 24, 1919, the Selma club was organized as Alabama's fifth Kiwanis club. The Honorable Hugh Mallory, a Selma lawyer, was elected the club's first president.

Although the club was chartered with 50 members, its initial charter membership lists 76 members.

The Selma club was organized by field representative Jeff Bailey, who organized more than 30 of the new clubs in this district. The club was chartered by A.J. Arrant and began with annual dues of \$36, which was paid at \$9 a quarter. Club members were charged an additional 75 cents for the luncheon.

## 6. Kiwanis Club of Montgomery

William Thomas Edmondson Jr. of the Alabama State Child Welfare Department is listed on the 1920 roster as the first Montgomery Kiwanian. His starting date was June 1919. However, the official charter date was Oct. 31, 1919.

Not long after the Montgomery Kiwanis Club received its charter in 1919, it elected to membership as its first new member John A. "Pete" Peterson. He was a native of Indiana of Swedish extraction who came to Camp Sheridan during World War II as an engineering officer in the U.S. Signal Corps (later to become the U.S. Air Force).

Except with close friends, Peterson was a shy, retiring man. He never sought the limelight; he in fact shunned any form of publicity. When he died on July 16, 1968, the membership of Kiwanis was astounded to learn that this shy, unobtrusive member who some thought was living on Social Security had left the club almost three quarters of a million dollars. The Kiwanis Club of Montgomery consistently uses the proceeds of this trust for the benefit of the community.

*These excerpts are taken from the "History of the Alabama District" by Bob McCurley, a Tuscaloosa Kiwanian who is a past District and International officer. Send information to him at P.O. Box 861287, Tuscaloosa, AL 35486.*

# Alabama District Mid-Winter Conference

## Montgomery Marriott Prattville Hotel & Conference Center

### Friday, Feb. 25

- 10 a.m.-11 a.m.:** RIF Foundation Board meeting  
**1 p.m.-2 p.m.:** District Foundation Board meeting  
**3 p.m.-4:30 p.m.:** District Board of Trustees Board meeting

### Saturday, Feb. 26

- 7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m.:** Breakfast Breakouts  
 RIF — Salon C  
 Past Governors — Salon D  
 Lt. Governors/Elects — Salon E
- 8:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.:** Volunteers assembling school supplies in packets — Azalea
- 9 a.m.-9:30 a.m.:** Welcome and General Session — Salon A
- 9:40 a.m.-10:30 a.m.:** Focused Education Sessions
- 1) Brian Rogers/Colean Black — Google/Social Media
  - 2) Sidney Lanier — Service through our District Foundation
  - 3) George Aiken — Membership Growth & How to Become a Distinguished Club
  - 4) Pam Fleming/David Beasley — Intro to the Eliminate Program
- 10:40 a.m.-11:30 a.m.:** Focused Education Sessions
- 1) Brian Rogers/Colean Black — Google/Social Media
  - 2) Wayne Sisk — Making a Club Better through Leadership (mentors and lieutenant governors)
  - 3) Earl Hutchinson — Key Leader in 2011
  - 4) Pat Manasco — On to Geneva
  - 5) Harry Hinson — On to Andalusia
- 11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m.:** General Session Lunch — Salon B  
 Guest Speaker: (TBA — American Red Cross)  
 Kiwanis and Red Cross partner in District Project.
- 1:30 p.m.-4 p.m.:** Club Leadership Training (CLE — required for incoming officers)  
 Incoming Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer — Grand Oak
- 1:30 p.m.-4 p.m.:** Division Council Meetings  
 Led by lieutenant governors for current leadership (elects encouraged to attend)
- Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 — Salon B  
 Division 7, 8 — Salon C  
 Division 9, 10 — Salon D  
 Division 11, 12 — Salon E  
 Division 13 — Camellia  
 Division 14 — Azalea
- 4 p.m.:** Mid-Winter Conference is adjourned.

## Prattville (From Page 1)

said Pat Manasco, District secretary. "We want this Mid-Winter Conference to be for all of our members, not just officers."

She said they hope to "light a fire" with Kiwanians and will include a mortgage-burning celebration for the Reading Is Fundamental Building.

See Governor Colean Black's column on Page 2 for more about the convention.

She and Governor-elect Tammy Driskill, Treasurer Wayne Sisk, Foundation President Sidney Lanier and others will focus on ways to make clubs better, attract new members, mentor new leaders, provide more service, and spread the word about Kiwanis through Google and social media.

They will give information about the Key Leader program for youths, plus updates from Kiwanis International.

The Interclub luncheon will feature a speaker from the American Red Cross plus the District project of collecting school supplies for use following disasters.

In the afternoon, training sessions are set for incoming club officers (presidents, secretaries and treasurers), and lieutenant governors will lead division council meetings.

The Alabama Circle K District also will hold a statewide meeting at the Marriott in Prattville on Feb. 25-27. Key Club members will gather in Mobile on March 25-27.



### 'Sylvester's Angels'

When Alabama District Governor Colean Black visited the Kiwanis Club of Chelsea, the women decided to have a little fun in the spirit of Kiwanis. Those striking a TV-show pose in honor of Kiwanis International President Sylvester Neal include, from left, Chelsea immediate past president Mary Fogo, Governor Black, Chelsea president Maggie Glass and vice president Jaime Echols.

**MID-WINTER  
CONFERENCE  
REGISTRATION**

**Kiwanis**

THE LEGENDS-MONTGOMERY MARRIOTT HOTEL  
PRATTVILLE, ALABAMA

**February 25 - 27, 2011**

**PLEASE COPY & USE ONE REGISTRATION FORM PER KIWANIAN  
PLEASE PRINT**

LAST NAME		FIRST NAME	
NAME FOR BADGE			
FIRST TIME ATTENDEE?	YES	NO	
STAYING AT THE MARRIOTT?	YES	NO	
MAILING ADDRESS			
CITY/STATE/ZIP			
HOME PHONE			
BUSINESS PHONE			
EMAIL			
KIWANIS CLUB			
DIVISION			
PARTNER/GUEST NAME			
NAMES/AGES OF YOUTH ATTENDING			

EVENT	NUMBER ATTENDING	FEE	TOTAL
MEMBER REGISTRATION FEE- Includes Interclub Luncheon		\$50	\$
GUEST TICKET (NON-KIWANIAN)		\$30	\$
PAST GOVERNORS BREAKFAST		\$18	\$
LT. GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION BREAKFAST		\$18	\$
READING IS FUNDAMENTAL BREAKFAST		\$18	\$
<b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED</b>			\$

### Convention registration instructions:

Make copies and fill out a registration form (print clearly) for each member who will be attending the convention.

Mail form with check payable to Alabama District Kiwanis for registration and meals requested to Alabama District Kiwanis, 85 Bagby Drive, Suite 206, Birmingham, AL 35209.

The registration fee of \$50 includes the Interclub luncheon. The non-Kiwanian guest fee for the luncheon is \$30. No one will be admitted to events who has not prepaid. Reservations made will be paid since we are charged based on reservation numbers.

Note: Registrations made after Feb. 3, 2011, will have a \$15 "late" fee added to the amount to be paid. Also, you must check in at the registration desk no later than 30 minutes before the Interclub luncheon starts or you are subject to losing your reservations.

For more information, contact District Secretary Pat Manasco, Alabama District of Kiwanis, 205-945-1334 or e-mail [patriciamanasco@bellsouth.net](mailto:patriciamanasco@bellsouth.net).

### Hotel reservation information:

Reserve rooms directly with the hotel: The Marriott Hotel and Conference Center at 2500 Legends Circle, Prattville, AL 36066, telephone (800) 468-3571.

Mention "Kiwanis" as the rate code for convention rooms.

Make your room reservations early, because reservations must be made no later than Feb. 3, 2011, to receive conference rates of \$119 plus tax (whether single, double, triple or quad).

Reservations made after Feb. 03 will be on space-available basis at full rate. Room fees must be paid to the hotel by the individual making the reservations.

**The Mid-Winter Conference registration form and program are available on the District website, [www.alabama.kiwanis.org](http://www.alabama.kiwanis.org), as well as in the online Kiwanis Kourier.**

**Buy a RIF T-shirt from Circle K and help support books and reading**



Kiwanis Club of Decatur past president Steve Pirkle (left) and RIF chairman Garet Beane were among those reading to Head Start children Dec. 3. In 1990, the club began reading three times a year and contributing \$2,500 annually to buy books.

# You+RIF = books for at-risk children

## By Cathy Gafford

Director, Jean Dean  
Reading Is Fundamental

"Thank you for my baby's book!" the subject line said.

I want to share that e-mail I received from a parent while writing this column, because it shows the impact we can have through Reading Is Fundamental.

"My baby received a book yesterday at her school, and I just wanted to thank you all for what you do!

"She loves her book ("Twinkle, Twinkle"). It has become her favorite. For the first time my husband and I heard her sing along with me as I read the book to her, and it was certainly a precious moment for us! God bless."

It's almost time for our second book distribution this year. Close to 25,000 at-risk young children have already received their first book from their caring Kiwanis friends and Friends of Kiwanis through Jean Dean RIF, the signature service project of the Alabama Kiwanis Foundation. Thanks again for your help.

## RIF breakfast Feb. 26

I am looking forward to seeing my RIF buddies soon at the Kiwanis Mid-Winter Conference in Prattville. I hope to see you at the RIF breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 26, at 7:30 a.m. in Salon C of the Marriott Legends Hotel.

Don't forget to register. Please make plans to come to the Interclub Luncheon, too, so we can celebrate burning the mortgage on the RIF building together!

Jean Dean RIF serves at-risk young children statewide, and we all worked together across the state to protect our program by completing a \$190,000 capital campaign to buy our RIF ware-



**RIF**  
Reading Is  
Fundamental

house and office. Let's celebrate this combined achievement!

Thank you for supporting the Alabama Kiwanis Foundation Jean Dean RIF Capital Campaign. There is NO mortgage now on our 7,500-square-foot warehouse/office, the Jean Dean RIF/Kiwanis Building — but we still need your help.

As with all buildings, there will continue to be operating costs: about \$12,000 to \$20,000 a year to cover an umbrella insurance policy, gas, power,

water, phone service, garbage, and security and sprinkler system maintenance, and to build a reserve fund for when we have major repairs to make on our building. Donations are still very important for 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.

## Designate RIF Barnettts

Alabama Kiwanis Foundation Barnett and Diamond Barnett donations, which are designated as RIF donations by the donors, 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 Barnettts/RIF Diamond Barnettts.

Club or individual donations for Jean Dean RIF are also important to meet RIF operating needs. Tax-deductible donations can be sent to the above address.

## Thanks, Circle K'ers

An important thank-you to Alabama District of Circle K: I appreciate your understanding the importance of hav-

**(See RIF, page 7)**

## RIF (From Page 6)

ing a RIF Building. I also appreciate you realizing the additional time and expense that having a building entails. The fact that Alabama Circle K Clubs have named the RIF Building and its financial needs as your major fundraising project for 2010-2011 is a great comfort to me.

I hope you are able to raise the \$5,000 you seek this year and look forward to the possibi-

*Be part of the RIF Building mortgage burning Feb. 26 during the Mid-Winter Conference in Prattville.*

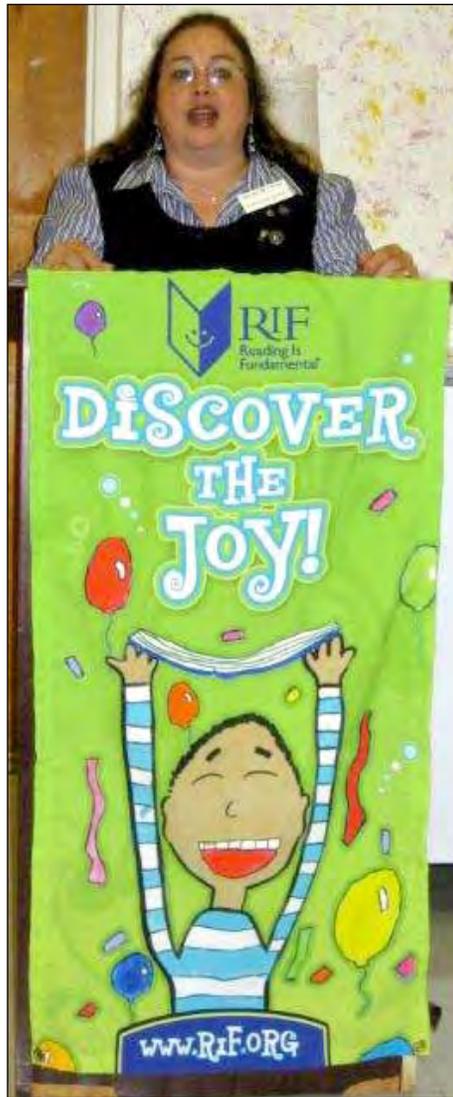
ty of working with you as a funding partner in the years to come to protect our investment and keep it in good repair so our books can be protected and our volunteers can have a place to get them ready for distributions to

thousands of at-risk young children in every county in Alabama.

Kiwanis Family members and Friends of Kiwanis and RIF -- I hope you will support the efforts of Circle K in your areas to raise these funds. These college students are selling for only \$10 super RIF T-shirts that would be great for RIF readers to wear to book distributions.

They are working on a second order right now; contact me for a way to order (jeandeanrif@bellsouth.net or 334-750-9974). Circle K Clubs are also planning fundraisers that you will be hearing about as the year goes on.

**Cathy Dean Gafford promotes the RIF program behind a festively decorated lectern.**



## Vulcan Kiwanis Club mourns past president

A past president who was thought of as the heart and soul of the Vulcan Kiwanis Club died Dec. 5, 2010.

Jerrell Bernard "Twin" Hill Sr. was injured in a fall while helping in his neighborhood.

Mr. Hill "lived his life until the very day of his death with a servant heart and as a true Kiwanian," said District Governor Colean Black. "Our sincere condolences to the Vulcan Club of Division 6 and to his family and friends."

Mr. Hill was a lifelong member of Friendly Baptist Church in Smithfield. He was educated in Birmingham City Schools, starting at Lincoln Elementary and graduating from A.H. Parker High School in 1966.

He joined the U.S. Army and gave 40 years of service. In 2008 he was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army as Chief Warrant Officer 4.

He also earned both bachelor's and master's degrees in guidance and counseling from Alabama State University. He taught in the Birmingham City School System and then worked for the State of Alabama as a chief inspector of the Food and Drug Administration until his death.

He is survived by his wife, Charlene Elizabeth Hill; daughters Kenya Hill, Crystal Hill and Carlie Hill; sons Anthony Hill and Jerrell Hill Jr.; brothers Rufus Hill and Terrell Hill; and six grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Dec. 11 at First Baptist Church in Ensley, with burial following in Carver Memorial Gardens.

## Let's recognize a Kiwanian!

Do you know a Kiwanian who deserves recognition for extraordinary service?

If so ... let's celebrate this person's achievements by first sending an e-mail to Bruce Buehler, the Alabama District's Achievement Committee chairman, at [bbuehler@bellsouth.net](mailto:bbuehler@bellsouth.net).

Simply give the name of the Kiwanian, his or her Kiwanis club and a description of the member's extraordinary efforts.

District Governor Colean Black said she and Buehler will work together to properly recognize these individuals. "Wouldn't it be a treat," she said, "to recognize them at the Mid-Winter Conference in front of all the District leaders!"

# Fleming is Shoals' Woman of Year

Past Alabama District Governor Pam Fleming of Sheffield recently earned Shoals Woman of the Year honors for spearheading a Kiwanis boundless playground and other projects.

Fleming was one of five finalists selected from 28 nominees.

She was elected a trustee on the Kiwanis International board and is employed as director of the Helen Keller Wellness Center in Sheffield.

She has been a leader of the Sheffield Kiwanis Club, as well as working with Big Brothers Big Sisters, United Way, American Cancer Society and American Heart Association.

Fleming coordinated both fundraising and building the playground at Riverfront Park that allows all children access to play together. Ramps and other design elements make this possible at this play area named for Mackenzie Korfman, who died of cerebral palsy at 2.

The project keeps growing and has turned into a long-term effort as a splash pad and other features were added. Kiwanians across northwest Alabama helped make the playground possible.

Fleming, who has served on the Kiwanis International Worldwide Service Project Committee, also is proud of the civic organization's track record in helping provide salt



**Pam Fleming**

iodization plants around the world to combat Iodine Deficiency Disorder.

In Las Vegas last June, she helped the KI board kick off the new Kiwanis focus: the Eliminate Project, which aims to eliminate death worldwide from maternal/neonatal tetanus. Kiwanis projects usually help children, but Fleming noted it was hard to decide on a new project when there are so many things that kill children around the world.

In the Shoals, she also worked on a United Way project to bulldoze a house with mold and move and renovate another house to provide a safer environment for a young leukemia patient to come home to after a bone marrow transplant.

Fleming and her husband, David, have two daughters. She hopes to instill in them the same kind of community service and assistance to those in need that she learned from her mother, she told Shoals Woman magazine.

The magazine, published by Florence's TimesDaily newspaper, takes nominations annually and announces the Shoals Woman of the Year.

—Patrice Stewart  
Kiwanis Kourier editor

## Geneva (From Page 1)

online video at [www.KiwanisOne.org/convention](http://www.KiwanisOne.org/convention).

Have you thought of everything? Got questions? ... What currency does Switzerland use? What can you do at night in Geneva? How do you tip in Europe?

The Geneva convention website answers these and other frequently asked questions. Also, the December 2010 KIWANIS magazine includes a 16-page convention section, complete with registration and housing forms. View it online or as a downloadable pdf.

Here are some other steps to take:

- Review the tours and convention sessions; then plan your arrival and departure accordingly.
- Review the convention's special ticketed events.
- Booking your hotel accommodations with Kuoni Travel will get you a free tour of Annecy, France.
- Register for the convention.
- Get certified as one of your club's two delegates and help plan Kiwanis' future by electing officers and considering proposed Bylaws amendments.
- If you need to make flight



arrangements, Star Alliance provides discounts.

- You can rent a car with Hertz discounts.

- Cover your trip with group coverage from Kiwanis partner Seven Corners Travel Insurance.

- Plan to attend sessions and workshops presented in English, French and German.

- Hear speakers including actress Jamie Lee Curtis and primatologist Jane Goodall.

- At the Exhibit Hall, collect ideas to help your club serve, raise funds and grow its membership. You can shop at the Kiwanis Family Store there and purchase European souvenirs.

## Make a difference with service April 2

It's time to plan those service projects for Kiwanis One Day.

April 2 is the date in 2011 when 600,000 members of the Kiwanis family are called together for one day of service.

Kiwanis, Aktion Club, CKI, Key Club, Builders Club and K-Kids members around the world all can participate. Multiply the service by involving other Kiwanis and Service Leadership Program clubs in your community.

There will be no limit to what you can do together, and it will result in an international spirit of service that inspires people worldwide.

One winning club will have its story told in a KIWANIS magazine story, and another winning club's project will be professionally videotaped. The video will be provided to the club to use for recruitment, promotion and more.

Visit [www.KiwanisOne.org/oneday](http://www.KiwanisOne.org/oneday) to get started planning your project and to find out how to enter the contest.

## Who are we? World-changers!

Who are we?

Kiwanis is a global organization of member-volunteers working to change the world, one child and one community at a time.

Kiwanis members dedicate more than 6 million volunteer hours and invest more than \$100 million annually in projects that strengthen communities and serve children.

We help shelter the homeless, feed the hungry, mentor the disadvantaged and care for the sick.

We develop youth as leaders, build playgrounds, raise funds for pediatric research and much more.

We believe that helping a child helps the world.

Together, Kiwanis members achieve what one person cannot accomplish alone. When you give a child a chance to learn, experience, dream and succeed, great things happen.

Since 1994, Kiwanis International's partnership with UNICEF has raised more than \$80 million in the global fight to eliminate Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD), the leading preventable cause of mental retardation.

Each year, clubs

- Organize nearly 150,000 service projects

- Dedicate more than 6 million volunteer hours

- Raise more than \$107 million

Membership includes

- About 8,000 clubs in 70 countries and geographic areas

- More than 600,000 adult and youth members

### Coming up 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

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

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



Actress and UNICEF ambassador Téa Leoni shares laughs with a group of children in Honduras.

## Actress is enthusiastic about Eliminate Project

Kiwanis International's commitment to battling maternal and neonatal tetanus will help raise awareness, as well as funding for vaccine, said Téa Leoni.

The actress and UNICEF ambassador announced the new Kiwanis World-wide Service Project at the Las Vegas KI convention, and Kiwanians are learning about The Eliminate Project.

Leoni's commitment to creating a world in which every child is safe and healthy runs deep in her family: Her actress grandmother helped extend the reach of UNICEF by founding the U.S. Committee for UNICEF, and her lawyer father serves on its board (now known as the U.S. Fund for UNICEF).

That's one reason The Eliminate Project and the Kiwanis/UNICEF partnership are important to Leoni. But it's also because the project "has the potential to change the face of women's and children's health in the world, far beyond the tetanus issue," she says.

A feature in the December KIWANIS magazine tells how Leoni is spreading the word about the importance of maternal/neonatal tetanus. Look for the magazine online (<http://community.kiwanisone.org/media/p/20174/download.aspx>) to read how this project can change the world.

"The thing that's so important is that it's not just about tetanus," Leoni said. "In order to do this, we're building inroads into improved health facilities that will impact women's, mothers' and children's lives in so many ways. Because when they go for their tetanus booster or vaccine, it's an opportunity for them to get other material about other issues ... breastfeeding, nutrition, education, weighing children, checking a mother's health during pregnancy... This is huge. This has the potential to change the face of women's and children's health in the world, far beyond the tetanus issue."

For more than a decade, UNICEF has been working with governments to fight maternal/neonatal tetanus, she said, "but all endeavors become very vulnerable to regressing. What Kiwanis is doing by making this large, truly awesome commitment is ensuring that we get to the end." You can sign up for The Eliminate Project e-mail newsletter (<http://sites.kiwanis.org/Kiwanis/en/theELIMINATEproject/emailupdate.aspx>), and become a fan of The Eliminate Project Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/TheEliminateProject>).