Wayne Sisk
takes reins
as governor

By Patrice Stewart
Kiwanis Kourier Editor

The leadership team for 2012-13 was installed and a number of awards presented during the Alabama District of Kiwanis Convention in Montgomery.

Wayne Sisk of Alexandria, a member of the Kiwanis Club of Anniston, was installed as governor, taking over from Tammy Driskill of Gadsden. Also moving up the officer ladder was Bill Phillips of Pell City, governor-elect.

Brian Rodgers, the only candidate for vice governor, was elected and installed. A resident of Indian Springs and member of the Kiwanis Club of Metropolitan Hoover, he has been serving as communications officer for the district, promoting it on social media and the worldwide web.

These officers plus lieutenant governors for 2012-13 received pins (see photos, Page 8) during the Governor’s Banquet during the July 27-29 District Convention at Embassy Suites in downtown Montgomery, although they did not officially take office until Oct. 1.

The convention, with the Kiwanis Club of

(See CONVENTION, Page 12)

Blankets for hospitals

Judy Driskill of Huntsville works on a no-sew blanket during the District Convention in Montgomery. Her daughter, 2011-12 Governor Tammy Driskill, planned this K-Family service project during and around convention activities, with men, women and teens dropping in to help. Several dozen blankets have been completed and delivered to the new Benjamin Russell Hospital for Children in Birmingham, as well as to Helen Keller Hospital in Sheffield. “I am so happy we have a hands-on project that includes Key Club, Circle K and Kiwanians,” said Tammy Driskill. See more photos and information on Page 20.

Wayne Sisk
takes reins
as governor

Up next: Mid-winter Conference

Mark your calendars now for the Alabama District of Kiwanis Mid-winter Conference Feb. 22-23, 2013, at The Legends Marriott at Prattville.

Pat Manasco, Alabama District secretary, says an informal awards dinner is being planned at the Presidential Cottage there on Friday night.

“This will be lots of fun,” she said. “Also, on Saturday, International Key Club President Rebecca Riley will be attending with her family, and we are also planning some great workshops and speakers.”

Registration forms will be ready in the middle of December.
Hello, Kiwanis Family,

Here we are a month into the new Kiwanis year, and everyone is showing excitement as we set out on our journeys to achieve the goals of 2012-2013. Whether these goals are for the district, the clubs or yourself, I wish you well and I am here to see you succeed. I have such high hopes for you and wish you well this year.

When your district leadership and I met in August to set the path for 2012-2013, we agreed that the two biggest challenges we all seem to face year after year are membership numbers and finances. I would like to use the words “growth” and “balanced budget,” but that is difficult, since without the first we won’t have the last.

It quickly became clear to me when creating the district budget that as we continue to drop in members, we will not be able to give support to the service programs that make Kiwanis great.

I know that times are hard for most everyone, and it seems that everywhere we turn we are being asked for donations to support a good cause. Well, I can’t think of a better cause than that of Kiwanis, and because of that, we can’t let this great service organization falter in its commitment to children. The Kiwanis-supported programs are not just good; they are great!

All of us who have spent time with the kids and young adults know how important they are, and we can quickly see their passion for service. Let’s not let them down. To that point, your commitment to service, membership growth and fundraising is more critical than ever before.

The goals set out for the Alabama District this year are tied to the six Objects of Kiwanis that have been the theme for this great service organization since 1919. I am asking that we refresh our memory in respect to these objects and proceed with them in mind every day we do. That’s why we have set the Distinguished Club criteria with the six objects in mind (see separate article on distinguished criteria).

The Alabama District of Kiwanis fully supports the Eliminate Project, Reading Is Fundamental, Kiwanis Service Leadership Programs, Key Leader, Kiwanis International Foundation and Alabama District Foundation. I encourage all members to get involved through fundraising and promoting these causes. As with anything we support, if it has a real purpose and is important to us, we will support it fully to see it succeed. All of these programs and foundations ultimately save lives and improve the health, safety and education of children in our communities and around the world. Every dollar we raise will come back in the way of powerful rewards. These are “our children” and “their future,” so generously and unselfishly give and support all of them with your time and donations.

You are the greatest element of the greatest service organization in the entire world. Kiwanis International and I thank you for your commitment. I look forward to visiting you and your divisions and hearing of your successes. Please let us know what you are doing in your clubs through your monthly reports and newsletters. I know we are a humble people, but sharing your club’s activities and success for others to see will go a long way towards helping other clubs improve.

I am your greatest fan and am rooting for you. Let’s make a turnaround in membership by inspiring others to be passionate about Kiwanis. Thank you for your service and leadership. God bless and have an awesome year chock full of fun and success!
Alabama District of Kiwanis

Goals for 2012-2013

Membership growth: District membership has been falling for the past several years (4,074 members in July 2012) and that is causing a major loss in service hours, fewer children served and less money raised for support of Kiwanis sponsored services. Increase membership by 10 percent.

Revitalize existing Kiwanis clubs that are under charter strength: While increasing the numbers of club members sounds easy, it has been nearly nonexistent. Develop a campaign that will spark the interest of existing members to invite potential new members to club meetings and to service projects, which is vitally important when asking someone to join our organization. I will be preparing a message that will be sent to the membership and communicated through the lieutenant governors. I want to see struggling clubs with fewer than 15 members grow beyond the minimum charter strength and become effective clubs again in their communities, rather than fade away.

New club building: In addition to growing existing K-Family clubs, the District will build new clubs. For the 2012-2013 year, the Alabama District will build the following: five Kiwanis Clubs; two Aktion Clubs; five Circle K Clubs; two Key Clubs; five Builders Clubs; and five K-Kids.

Celebrate 25 years of Women in Kiwanis: Encourage programs that highlight women as we celebrate 25 Years of Women in Kiwanis in 2012-2013.

Encourage member involvement in District and International Conventions: Encourage all clubs to be represented at the Alabama District Conventions and Mid-Winter Conferences. Encourage all clubs to send voting delegates to International Conventions.

Key Leader program: Have a minimum of 60 participants (minimum of four students for each division) for the April event. Encourage clubs to engage in communicating with local schools to find emerging young leaders and support the program by providing more scholarships and chaperones/assistants.

RIF (Jean Dean Reading Is Fundamental): Educate clubs on the state of the District’s signature service project and its financial needs. We will determine the cost of the program and request funding from the clubs to supplement the loss of funding from federal grants in order to continue providing three books per year to 25,000 Head Start students across the state.

Eliminate: In my visits, I will stress the urgency of all members and clubs getting involved now in this Kiwanis International service project. We should promote the project statewide to get funding increased and get three new “Model Clubs” to commit, along with individual member gifts.

Kiwanis International Foundation and Alabama District Foundation Annual Club Giving campaigns: Encourage $5 per capita for each foundation from every club in the District. Educate club members on the foundations’ missions and accomplishments to show their value, with a goal of 100 percent participation.

Distinguished Clubs: The Alabama District’s goal is to award at least 25 percent of Kiwanis clubs with Distinguished Club awards.

As District Governor, I will do my very best to lead the great Alabama District of Kiwanis down the path to a successful year in 2012-2013 in order to serve our most valuable and vulnerable human asset, our children. They are “our children” and it is “their future.” Let’s see that they are more educated, healthier and happier than they have ever been. Thank you for your support and for your service leadership.

Wayne Sisk
Alabama District of Kiwanis Governor 2012-2013

How to achieve ‘Distinguished’ status

2012-2013 Kiwanis International Distinguished Club Criteria will focus on the Six Objects of Kiwanis:
1) Giving primacy to the human and spiritual
   a. Participate in the Eliminate Project
   b. Honor a member or community volunteer with 25 years of service
   c. Enroll new member committed to the Six Objects of Kiwanis
2) Encourage the Golden Rule in all relationships
   a. Complete a project involving character education
   b. Recognize a local hero who saved children from harm
   c. Enroll new member involved in youth services and/or mentoring
3) Adopting higher social, business, professional standards
   a. Work with Service Leadership Programs or other youth clubs to protect the environment
   b. Obtain $50 or more in donations payable to Kiwanis International Foundation from private business
   c. Obtain $50 or more in donations payable to the District Foundation from private business
4) Develop by example a more aggressive and serviceable citizenship
   a. Project advocating for Young Children / Early Childhood Development
   b. Certify club participation in Kiwanis education and training program
   c. Enroll new member who is a former Key Club or Circle K member

(See DISTINGUISHED, Page 4)
Nine adult clients from Valley Haven School were inducted as charter members of the Valley’s first Aktion Club Sept. 12.

The ceremony took place during the Kiwanis Club of Valley’s weekly meeting, held at noon inside the Family Life Center at Langdale Methodist Church.

The new club is part of a worldwide organization of service clubs for adults with disabilities. Over 9,000 people worldwide are members of Aktion Clubs. Each one of these clubs has a local sponsor organization such as a church or a civic club.

While members of the Valley Haven Aktion Club didn’t get their membership pins and certificates until Sept. 12, they didn’t want to wait till then to start doing good works for the community.

During their organizational phase, they held a fundraiser walk in the annual Relay for Life and collected shoes for another local benefit. Their next project is to collect baby clothes for the Circle of Care.

In November, they will be helping out as the Kiwanis Club of Valley holds a Pancake Day.

“We’re very appreciative of the support the Kiwanis Club of Valley has given us,” said chapter adviser Liz Magby. “We firmly believe that disability has no limitations.”

This story by Wayne Clark, Valley Times-News, is reprinted with permission.

Distinguished
(From Page 3)

5) Forming enduring friendships to build better communities
   a. Connect and interact with Kiwanis clubs in another Kiwanis district or nation
   b. Initiate and complete a new service project involving at least two new members
   c. Certify club participation in either International Convention or District Convention

6) Creating public opinion to support patriotism and goodwill
   a. Launch a traditional or social media campaign to promote Kiwanis service
   b. Complete a project to benefit the children or families of heroes
   c. Enroll new member involved in media or government service

To be a Distinguished Club, the following criteria must be achieved:

- Enroll a minimum of three new members in any of the object categories; (multiple new members in any one object category is acceptable)
- Certify completion of required club leadership education programs
- Satisfy at least eight additional criteria within the Six Objects of Kiwanis, achieving a total of 12 items completed.

(A Kiwanis One web page will be created to provide suggestions for the various projects a club may undertake to achieve Distinguished status.)

Be sure to track the items listed above and submit them so that your club and/or individual members can receive “Distinguished” honors.

Deadline is Dec. 20, 2012, for the winter online edition of the Kiwanis Kourier
K-Family helps out at RIF warehouse

Kiwanians from all over Alabama joined forces with the service leadership groups they sponsor for a day of service in Opelika Aug. 25. The annual K-Family Day to help Jean Dean Reading Is Fundamental resulted in the sorting and labeling of thousands of books to prepare them for distribution to young children in Head Starts and other centers three times during 2012-13. Kiwanians and other volunteers will read books to the children and then write their names in the books so children can take them home.
Charter night and orientation at Madison

A Charter Night and new member orientation for the Kiwanis Club of Madison was held Sept. 13 at Landry’s Seafood House in Huntsville.

Sherwood Anderson, president of the Kiwanis Club of Huntsville, the sponsoring club, welcomed the group and led leadership training.

Charles Jones, president-elect, discussed club programs and activities, while Ernest Hulsey, past district governor, and Bryan Bennett, past lieutenant governor, also took part in the program. Lt. Governor Michael Hodge introduced guests, and Debbie Younsg and John Youngs led prayers.

During the club charter ceremony, Anderson and Hodge presented the gavel to John Wanschek, president of the Madison club. Tammy Driskill, 2011-12 governor, presented the charter to Wanschek.

Jones gave a club bell to Debra Brooke, secretary of the Madison club. Linda Kinlaw is serving as vice president, while Jeremy Ward is treasurer.

Charter member certificates and pins were presented to Madison members.

What if you could save a baby’s life?

You can — by getting involved in the Eliminate Project.

Join with others in this Kiwanis International worldwide service project with UNICEF to eliminate maternal/neonatal tetanus.

There are few events more joyful than the day a new baby is welcomed to the world. But in 31 countries, a dreaded disease quickly turns that joy into tragedy.

Maternal and neonatal tetanus (MNT) kills one baby every nine minutes — that’s 60,000 babies every year who will never grow up, make their mothers laugh, play with friends or dream about the future. The effects of the disease are excruciating — tiny newborns suffer repeated, painful convulsions and extreme sensitivity to light and touch. A significant number of women die from MNT each year, too.

What can you do?
Spread the word: Help let the world know that the poorest, most vulnerable babies and mothers need our help. Rally others to get involved. Add a link to www.TheEliminateProject.org on your club website.

Make a donation: Join the 10,000-plus donors who have contributed gifts that save or protect, on average, more than 500 mothers and their future babies.

You can pledge an amount over several years or make a one-time contribution. You can designate yourself or another as the recipient of a Walter Zeller Fellow, an award that will help raise funds for the Eliminate Project.

Make your gift payable to the Kiwanis International Foundation, and designate the gift for The Eliminate Project. Please send your gift to: Kiwanis International Foundation, The Eliminate Project Campaign Office, 3636 Woodview Trace, Indianapolis, IN 46268.

Remember, the work you do to eliminate MNT will change the world.
Helping next generation of leaders

By Nichole Morris
Key Leader Student Facilitator

Kiwanis’s Key Leader is a weekend dedicated to developing leadership skills in the next generation of leaders.

From April 19-21, 2012, a group of about 50 teenagers called the 4-H Camp at Columbiana, Ala., their weekend getaway. What a getaway it was!

Key Leader is unique in the way it operates because student servant leaders are leading other students. With five student facilitators over five groups of eager students, the atmosphere couldn’t have been more exciting.

One of the most memorable things about Key Leader was sessions where the Key Leader participants were able to voice their opinions about different aspects of being a leader. On Saturday, the Key Leader participants got to go outside and experience hands-on leadership training with a ropes course.

Key Leader is a fabulous experience that is fun, no matter how you’re participating! As a student facilitator, I certainly enjoyed being able to lead and be lead by the amazing servant leaders who spoke during the sessions.

I loved being a part of Key Leader last spring and cannot wait to be a part of the 2013 session.

Nichole Morris, who serves Alabama Key Clubs as District Secretary, was one of five student facilitators assisting at the 2012 Key Leader weekend.

Send students to Key Leader 2013

By Jamie Brabston
Key Leader Administrator

Key Leader is a fun and rewarding weekend that provides the opportunity to explore new ideas, make friends and develop better leadership skills.

The 2013 Alabama District Key Leader event will be the weekend of April 19-21 at Camp ASCCA in Jackson’s Gap, Ala. It is open to all eighth- through 12th-graders, and the cost is only $200 per student ($175 for Key Club members).

Registration includes: two nights’ lodging, all meals and snacks, program materials, a cool T-shirt and lots of fun.

Online registration opens November/December 2012; space is limited.

Assistance with transportation may also be available.

Interested in learning more?
Contact Key Leader Administrator Jamie Brabston at (256) 679-6341, or email her at Jamie.m.brabston@gmail.com.

KI: Back to the future

By Thomas E. "Tom" DeJulio
President, Kiwanis International

Greetings, Kiwanians,

A new chapter in our Kiwanis history begins with the 2012-13 year. As an organization proud of its past and poised for its future, we will “go back to the future” and relive the six Objects of Kiwanis adopted by a convocation of members in Denver, Colo., in 1924.

Kiwanians will change the future by returning to the indelible organizational values found in those time-honored objects. Following the guiding principles that can inspire and impact more lives, we will demonstrate to prospective new members what Kiwanians do every day to fulfill each object.

One does not have to look much beyond the Global Campaign for Children -- with its centerpiece the prevention of horrific deaths by tetanus -- to realize how we can rewrite history.

Our goal is to raise in cash and pledges $25 million in 2012-13. The Eliminate Project will take more nations off the original list of 38 afflicted by maternal and neonatal tetanus.

Collectively, Kiwanis fulfills its first object — to give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life — with this noble effort.

I am so grateful that your district will perform thousands of acts of service, locally and globally, that give true meaning to all six Objects of Kiwanis. You will help us write the new chapter in our history that will connect our members to the mission, inspire more members to join and advocate for the welfare of “Our Children, Their Future.”

I look forward to working with all of you to breathe new life into an old but powerful vision for our organization. Empowered by the six objects, you will be rewarded for performing God’s work on earth while wearing a Kiwanis pin and serving under the Kiwanis banner.

Thank you for all you will do this year.
2012-13 leaders take office

Incoming (top left) and outgoing officers and lieutenant governors received pins during the Governor’s Banquet at Embassy Suites during the Alabama District Convention. Officers installed included Wayne Sisk, 2012-13 governor, getting a hug from wife Toni (top right). In the second row, Jean Phillips pins husband Bill as governor-elect, and Tammy Driskill receives a past governor’s home club banner and puts a vice governor’s pin on Brian Rodgers. District Secretary Pat Manasco and Kiwanis International trustee Jane Erickson also helped pin participants.
KI leaders at Alabama meeting

By Patrice Stewart
Kiwanis Kourier Editor

It’s not often that a District Convention draws more than one Kiwanis International trustee, but Alabama came up with all aces at its recent meeting in Montgomery.

KI Trustee Jane Erickson of Bellevue, Neb., who headed the committee for the celebration of 25 years of women in Kiwanis, was invited to give the keynote address at the interclub luncheon. Using tales from her foreign travels, she advised those present to live passionately, give back and “speak the language of love.”

Newly elected KI trustee Dennis Oliver from Gulfport, Miss., has been named the Alabama District’s adviser from the board this year, so he also arranged to attend.

Alabama Past Governor Pam Fleming of Sheffield, who completed her three-year term on the KI board Sept. 30, was in attendance at the Alabama District Convention, as was Past Governor Joel Williams of Troy, a past KI trustee who has also served on the KI Foundation Board. Kiwanis International Foundation board member Ed Humphries of Dadeville, another Past Alabama District Governor, also attended. Also attending the convention to share about their groups were Circle K Governor Kimbrlei McCain of Troy University and Key Club Governor Katelyn Smith.

While Fleming had decided not to run for another term or a KI office this year, she plans to remain as active as ever. She termed it “starting over” and said she will serve as president of the Sheffield club again for 2012-13, while her husband, David, is president of the nearby Tuscumbia club. Their daughters will be in Builders Club and Key Club, “so we are a family dedicated to Kiwanis,” Fleming said.

Oliver, who was elected to a three-year term at the Kiwanis International Convention in New Orleans in June, could be considered Fleming’s replacement from the South, and he has already assessed the Alabama leadership tradition at the international level.

Along with Alabama, he is assigned to the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District and to the Southwest District with parts of New Mexico, Arizona and Texas.

“I was really happy to get Alabama, since we’re next-door neighbors and have a lot in common, such as hurricanes and oil spills,” Oliver said at the Governor’s Banquet.

“My job is to be your No. 1 cheerleader and offer advice to your governor,” he said.

Kiwanis International Trustees, from left, Jane Erickson of Nebraska, Dennis Oliver of Mississippi and Pam Fleming of Alabama together at the Montgomery convention.

“You’ve got a world of leadership in this district, and I think that’s pretty special,” said Oliver. “You’ve got Pam Fleming — I’ve got her on my speed-dial for questions. Then there’s Joel Williams, who has done everything from here to Indy and back four times and wrote the manual we operate from. And we’ve got Ed Humphries on our Kiwanis International Foundation board.

“And Alabama must be the factory for Key Club International presidents, since 10 of 70 have come from here,” he said, referring to Rebecca Riley of Homewood, who is heading Key Club International for 2012-13.

A 37-year Kiwanian with the Gulfport club, he has been a Distinguished Lieutenant Governor and Distinguished President, membership chairman, IDD campaign coordinator and adviser for K-Kids, Terrific Kids and Key Club.

He has also served as a district secretary, governor, Circle K administrator and coordinator for the Eliminate Project. Oliver is a John T. Roberts Fellow, a Diamond-level George F. Hixson Fellow, a River of Life recipient and a charter Walter Zeller Fellow.

He was accompanied to the Montgomery convention by his wife, Ame. They have four daughters and 10 grandchildren.

Support Reading Is Fundamental with readers and donations for books and other needs
Award recipients

During the District Convention in Montgomery, Tammy Driskill, 2011-12 District Governor, presented a Zeller honor to her mother, Judy Driskill; Brian Rodgers and Patrice Stewart received Barnett Awards, as did Jason McNeil; Pat Padgett got 100 percent of his clubs to donate to the KI Foundation and was recognized by Olivia Humphries; trustees Pam Fleming and Jane Erickson helped present Zeller honors to David Fleming, Pat Manasco and Laura Allen; Karla Moons got a long-overdue home club banner; and several Kiwanians received service awards from 2011-12 KI President Alan Penn. (See awards list on Page 12.)
Womack receives Jean Dean Award

Alabama District Circle K Administrator David Womack was presented the 2012 Jean Dean Courage Award at the Kiwanis District Convention.

Cathy Dean Gafford, director of the Jean Dean Reading is Fundamental program, presented the award, which her family created in memory of her mother, who had asthma all her life and then had both a heart attack and a stroke before she was 40. She continued to serve others despite her own struggles and to help her husband, Past Governor Joe Dean, to help others through Kiwanis.

Womack, who has been Alabama District Circle K Administrator for more than 15 years, cares about “growing” young people, Gafford said, and has acquired the patience of Job and perennial good humor over the years. When you see him at conventions, he is always surrounded by students.

“David Womack meets life with courage,” Gafford said, noting his dedication to Circle K despite a second heart attack in 2010 while having stents placed in his arteries, causing his heart to momentarily stop. “He was texting the Circle K Board about business the next day,” she said.

Health issues

Since then, he has quietly dealt with health issues such as leg problems and cataract surgeries while staying on top of Circle K needs. He’s just been ‘keeping on keeping on,’” said Gafford.

The retired University of Alabama grounds manager who spent several summers driving a tour bus in Alaska now continues to work 10 to 6 daily for Jack Warner as his personal horticulturist, Gafford said, while being available “almost 24/7 for Circle K’ers.”

Originally from Mississippi,

Womack has been a member of the Kiwanis family for a long time. He served as lieutenant governor of the Middle Mississippi District of Circle K while attending Hines Junior College and was president of his Circle K group at Mississippi State University.

When he came to Tuscaloosa to work for the University of Alabama, he became the youngest member to ever join the Tuscaloosa Kiwanis Club, and in just a few years he served as the club’s president.

Gafford said she appreciates his quiet wit and wisdom, along with his caring for the college students he mentors and his attention “to helping them become the best they can be.”

One of his Circle K friends said Womack has bought more meals for Circle K’ers than most of their parents have.

He is one of the youngest recipients of the Circle of Service Award, the highest award possible for a Kiwanian’s dedication to Circle K. He has served as Circle K advisor at UA and Shelton State – at the same time – as well as being advisor for several Key Clubs in the Tuscaloosa area.

Calls, listens, attends

“He is always looking for leadership and service opportunities for Circle K and ways to help them pay for whatever they need,” said Gafford. “He calls, he listens, he attends rallies and weddings and funerals of the Kiwanis family he loves … and he is also a good cook, a master gardener, a traveler and guide.”

“David has shown personal courage throughout his life’s journey … and continues to show courage now as he fights daily for better health,” Gafford said. “My mother would be proud to see David receive this award.”

RIF needs you more than ever; it’s time to beef up fundraising

Thanks again for the great support you and your club provide Jean Dean Reading Is Fundamental every year. It is especially important to get your support in 2012-2013 and beyond because the federal grant we have been applying for and receiving for well over a decade is no longer available.

It is the goal of Jean Dean RIF and the Alabama Kiwanis Foundation to continue to cover children in counties where there is no Kiwanis Club to help, or there is a larger population of children needing books.

—Cathy Gafford, Jean Dean RIF executive director
Visit to
Auburn club
One of Tammy
Driskill’s last visits of
her 2011-12 term as gov-
ernor of the Alabama
District was to Auburn.  
Shown with her at a
meeting of the Kiwanis
Club of Auburn Aug. 13
are Pat Padgett, lieuten-
ant governor, left, and
Eric Halverson, presi-
dent. (Photo courtesy of
Mary Prather)

Convention
(From Page 1)
Montgomery as the host club, also
included a Friday evening barbecue in
the historic downtown train station
and a Saturday interclub luncheon.
Awards were presented at the
Saturday luncheon and dinner, and
speakers included several Kiwanis
International trustees (see Page 9).
The Jean Dean Courage Award was
presented to David Womack, Circle K
Administrator for the Alabama
District (see Page 11). Many other
award photos are on Page 10.

Zeller honors
Walter Zeller Fellow honors, which
benefit the worldwide Eliminate proj-
et, were presented to Laura Allen of
the Monroeville club; Ki trustee Pam
Fleming’s husband, David Fleming of the
Tuscaloosa club; and Pat Manasco of
Birmingham, district secretary.
Outgoing Governor Tammy Driskill
also presented a Zeller award in the
Mother’s Day design to her mother,
Judy Driskill of Huntsville, for her
help as the “First Mom” during the
past year.
The Alabama District’s Mercer
Barnett Awards were presented to
Patrice Stewart, editor of the district’s
online newsletter, the Kiwanis
Kourier, and Brian Rodgers, commu-
nications officer, who handles the dis-
trict website and social media. A
Barnett honor also was presented to
Jason McNeil of the Kiwanis Club of
Tuscaloosa.

Giving 100 percent
During his service as Division 10
lieutenant governor, Pat Padgett of
Auburn got all nine of his clubs to
contribute at least $5 per capita to the
annual giving campaign of the
Kiwanis International Foundation. He
was recognized as the only Alabama
board member with 100 percent par-
ticipation by Olivia Humphries, who
heads the KIF effort in Alabama.
Fleming, an outgoing Ki trustee,
was recognized with a gift for her ser-
vice to the Alabama District and
Kiwanis International and with a cer-
tificate from 2011-12 Ki President Alan
Penn in appreciation of her “visionary
guidance and leadership.”

Tops in growth
Driskill cited clubs that showed pos-
itive membership growth during her
year as governor, such as Clanton,
which topped the district with a 42
percent increase.
Division 2: Hartselle, 10 percent
growth, from 21 to 23 members, and
Muscle Shoals, up 11 percent, from 9
to 10 members.
Division 5: Chelsea, 12.5 percent,
from 32 to 36 members.
Division 7: Oxford, 14 percent, from
28 to 32 members.
Division 8: Childersburg, 12 percent,
from 25 to 28 members; Moody, 16
percent, from 12 to 14 members;
Wadley, 15 percent, from 13 to 15
members.
Division 9: Clanton, 42 percent, from
26 to 37 members.
Division 10: Valley, 30 percent, from
23 to 30 members.
Division 13: Gulf Shores, 16 percent,
from 42 to 49 members.

KI service recognitions
Driskill also announced the follow-
ing awards from Ki President Penn
for “outstanding dedication and ser-
vice to service leadership”:

For programs, Kiwanis Club of
Gadsden, with one K-Kids, eight
Builders Clubs, nine Key Clubs, one
Circle K and one Aktion Club;
Kiwanis Club of Dadeville (Key Club)
and Kiwanis Club of Tuscaloosa
(Circle K); and to three lieutenant gov-
ernors in divisions which each sent at
least 10 students to the Key Leader
weekend: Michael Hodge, Division 1;
Maggie Glass, Division 5; and Pat
Padgett, Division 10.

Penn’s awards for “outstanding
dedication and service to the people
in your community” went to the
Vulcan Club for its Children Are Our
Future Gala and to Birmingham
Young Professionals for its many proj-
ects since its charter (it was awarded a
grant for its first Zombie Run).

For being an advocate for the wel-
fare and happiness of others, Penn
cited these three:
■ Ann Shields of the Tri-Cities/
Floral Club for opening her home for
a dinner to promote awareness and
raise funds for Eliminate.
■ Hal Callaway of the Daphne/
Spanish Fort Club for leading the con-
struction of a bike track at Head Start
so the children would have a smooth,
dry surface to ride on.
■ Carolyn Parham of the Daphne/
Spanish Fort club for leading her
club’s major project, “Taste of the
Town,” and raising over $70,000 in
five years.

Grow membership by inviting prospects to your Kiwanis Club meetings and following up
Auction action

The Alabama District is making good use of silent and live auctions to raise money for causes, whether it's Jean Dean Reading Is Fundamental or the Alabama Kiwanis Foundation or the Kiwanis International worldwide project to eliminate maternal/neonatal tetanus. At the District Convention in Montgomery, Pam Fleming auctioned 120 redneck wine glasses and other items to raise almost $3,000 for Eliminate, while Alabama Kiwanis Foundation president Mike Winstead and RIF director Cathy Gafford and helpers gathered autographed footballs, books, art and other objects to help raise more than $2,300 for their causes. Governor-elect Bill Phillips was proud to snag not a “white elephant” but a Crimson Tide elephant, while Wayne Sisk, 2012-13 governor, bought wife Toni a necklace. Vacation time at a mountain cabin was donated by the Driskill family. Travel packages to beach and resort hotels also have proven popular with Kiwanians, along with T-shirts, blankets, an iPad and a Kindle Fire.

Remember your annual gift of $5 per club member to the Kiwanis International Foundation.
Support Reading Is Fundamental with readers and donations for books and other needs
Put the Mid-winter Conference in Prattville on your calendar: Feb. 22-23, 2013
Alabama District Convention
Photos by Patrice Stewart
Deadline is Dec. 20, 2012, for the winter online edition of the Kiwanis Kourier
The next Kiwanis International Convention will be in Vancouver, B.C., June 27-30, 2013
Have you donated to the Eliminate Project yet? See www.TheEliminateProject.org
All ages worked to make no-sew blankets for hospitals during the Kiwanis District Convention and a Key Club District board meeting.

The K-Family, district-wide blanket service project was promoted by Tammy Driskill, 2011-12 Kiwanis District Governor, and began at the Alabama Kiwanis District Convention in Montgomery.

Kiwanians completed 20 of the 40 blankets that were delivered to the Helen Keller Hospital in Sheffield. The remaining 20 blankets were completed by the Key Club District Board at their August meeting.

A group of Kiwanians and Key Clubbers took some no-sew blankets to the new Benjamin Russell Hospital for Children in Birmingham on their way home from K-Family Day at the Reading Is Fundamental warehouse in Opelika Aug. 25.

Representatives at the Hospital for Children were very appreciative of the blankets and thanked Driskill and the Kiwanians and Key Club Governor Katelyn Smith and Key Club.

The new Benjamin Russell Hospital for Children opened its doors on Aug. 3 after moving from a century-old facility on Seventh Street South in Birmingham. The new hospital is the third largest Children’s Hospital and the seventh busiest.

Alabama Key Club raised $150,000 for the new facility, and two rooms have been named for Alabama Key Club: the Alabama District Key Club Robert Bottsford Teen Room and the Alabama District Key Club Matt Palys PICU Family Waiting Room.

This group of Kiwanis and Key Club members dropped off a big stack of no-sew blankets at the children’s hospital in Birmingham on their way home from K-Family Day service at the RIF warehouse in Opelika. The group includes Kiwanis members Bob and Melba Palys, Frances Gillentine and Troy and Betty Whisenant, along with Key Club members Bella Martinez, Alexandra Smith, Taylor Holbrook, Erica Blackstock, Connor Pace and David Weaver.