Hammond: Providing Nourishment for Elementary Students with Weekend Happy Packs

Improving the world one child and one community at a time.
INSIDE

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Andy and Happy Children - Students at Woodlawn Park School gather around Andy Thomas, member of Hammond Kiwanis Club. The Hammond Kiwanis Club provides children with Happy Packs of food every Thursday for the weekend. See more on Page 23

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Governor’s Thoughts on LOVE IT, LIVE IT, SHARE IT

By Eva B. Abate, Governor

LOVE IT- KIWANIS

- Your Kiwanis moment
- Enduring friendships
- Smiles on the faces of children
- Caring communities
- Working together to make a greater impact
- Leadership opportunities
- Setting and accomplishing goals/becoming distinguished
- Celebrating success/having fun
- Staying connected

www.Kiwanis.org and
www.LAMISSTENN.org

LIVE IT- KIWANIS

- Service to children and communities
- The Golden Rule/Do unto others as you would have them do unto you
- Spiritual rather than material values
- Dedication to children through our Service Leadership Programs (SLPs)
- Your Kiwanis moment
- Education opportunities to serve members and communities
- Wear your “K” daily

SHARE IT- KIWANIS

- Invite others to join you in service
- Publicize your service
- Network/Interclub/Kiwanis One Day
- Exchange ideas for service and fundraising
- Your wealth by a donation to the District Foundation and The Children’s Fund
- Increase membership
- Open new clubs
- Connect communities to Kiwanis by awarding Firefighter, Lawman, Teacher and Layman

What is your Kiwanis LOVE IT LIVE IT SHARE IT?

We all have our Kiwanis Moment that turns us into a lifelong Kiwanian not just a Kiwanis member. As I travel around the District and visit our Clubs, I realize the impact Kiwanis has on our children and our communities. Kiwanis International says that one Kiwanian impacts 200 children annually. A Club of 30 members will impact the lives of 6,000 children per year. We are definitely improving the world and the Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District. Our volunteers are awesome and I appreciate all that you accomplish.

The Kiwanis family is growing. New clubs have been chartered this quarter; 5 Key Clubs, 1 Circle K International Clubs, and 1 Kiwanis Club. Our dedicated volunteers are improving the world one child and one community at a time.

-Eva B Abate
Great things are happening in LaMissTenn! To see this one only has to read the District Newsletter, which is so excellently constructed and edited by Tiffany. Yet there are many good things happening in our district that go unreported simply because the clubs fail to report these events outside of their own communities. Several of us recently had the opportunity to read about four projects which clubs did indeed make well-known to the district. These four were the finalists in our district’s competition for the signature project that is submitted to Kiwanis International for their signature project awards competition. Two of these were fundraiser projects and two were service projects. ALL are excellent, ongoing projects that affect the lives of many people. The two fundraising projects, submitted by Lake Charles and Baton Rouge, were ones which might not be unique in the district, but what makes them stand out are the methods used, the amount of money raised, and the impact made by the funds. (Actually the Lake Charles project was a combination of fund raising and the service project that went along with it.) The Baton Rouge Club was declared the winner.

Yet the project that is near and dear to my heart is the one submitted by the Corinth, Mississippi club. Each year they host a Father-Daughter Dance. Having raised our two daughters before the birth of our son, my wife and I could not help but notice how few things, including community sports, were held for girls. And there were very few, if any, events held just for fathers and their daughters. The sports shortage has, of course, changed partly because of Title IX, but the shortage of father and daughter activities remains about the same. The Corinth Club decided to do something about that and started their father-daughter dance. This started out fairly small but has grown to an event that impacts the entire northeast Mississippi area. It was very satisfying for me to read about how this event has become a major event for that area. Way to go, Corinth! See Page 31.

We had a great Mid-Winter Conference in Jackson, Mississippi this year. It was my honor to present awards at the Friday night meeting and entertainment event. We had so many clubs winning awards from the 2017-2018 year that I was nearly tongue-tied by the time we got through them all. Congratulations to all the winners! One special category that had only one winner was the award for Kiwanis International Distinguished Member. Our own Dennis Oliver received that award. But wait! There were 10 others in the District that met all the qualifications for the award, but no one submitted the materials to Kiwanis International. KI decided they wanted to honor these other 10 (plus many more world-wide) despite not receiving the materials. So we were notified that 10 additional LaMissTenn members are being honored as International distinguished Kiwanians. We will find another opportunity to honor them with their awards.

2019’s District Convention is in Memphis. Start planning now to attend! And for cruise-lovers, we have planned for the 2020 District Convention to be a “Convention at Sea.” Very reasonable rates to be announced soon. Yes, great things are happening in LaMissTenn!
Executive Director, Charlie Ford. Charlie was none other than the LAMISSTENN phone call. On the other end of the line to drive myself up there on my own, I got a nerve to tell/convince Joy that I was going while I was trying to get up enough couple of weeks ago.

I received a phone call a few weeks back suggesting I plan to go to the Circle K District convention to install new District officers for the upcoming year. When I get these notifications, whether in the form of a phone call, text or e-mail, I try to write them down right away on my IPhone calendar since I found long ago that my feeble mind cannot recall all of the specifics without a constant reminder.

My reminder did show up again earlier in the week indicating I needed to be in Vicksburg, MS on Friday. My dilemma was that I have not driven much by myself after some serious health issues over the last year. The LSU baseball season was also scheduled to begin that same day so I knew my wife, Joy, would be preoccupied (like totally preoccupied) and I was not going to ask her to drive me up there. Gary Graham, one of my Kiwanis friends and mentors, was also not available since he was still recovering from eye surgery he had a couple of weeks ago.

While I was trying to get up enough nerve to tell/convince Joy that I was going to drive myself up there on my own, I got a phone call. On the other end of the line was none other than the LAMISSTENN Executive Director, Charlie Ford. Charlie indicated he was planning on picking me up Friday morning to bring me up to the Circle K convention. Of course he knew it would be difficult for me to drive up on my own and he certainly knew about the upcoming LSU sports weekend.

The trip up to Vicksburg was busy as Charlie and I discussed many things. Just prior to reaching our hotel parking lot we met up with our District’s Circle K Administrator, Sid Guedry and Judy Couvillion, our District V Trustee. They had just traveled there together and were heading to the store to ensure Sid’s order for convention food was being prepared for the evening’s events. After a relaxing late lunch, Governor Eva and her husband, VJ joined us as we visited among ourselves and the Circle K young adults as they registered and picked up their convention packets.

It did not take long for me to realize how organized the Circle K board had been under the able leadership of Governor Kaelyn Nguyen. I was also excited to see two members of the LSU Circle K club that our Kiwanis Club of Baton Rouge sponsors. I had been advised they were probably not going to be able to make it up there so it was nice to see Jacob and Connor Martin arrive for the meetings. The late afternoon meetings and social went smoothly and it was nice to see how much work and excitement was in the air all the way to the end of the fun at midnight.

The following morning began as it had ended the night before. A lot of fun and excitement as the club members had presentations showing the broad range of service and fundraising activities their respective clubs had engaged in the previous year. Also attending the meeting was James Smith from the Audubon Kiwanis Club in Baton Rouge who was attending his 55th consecutive Circle K convention. How about that for dedication to our Service Leadership Programs.

While the future Kiwanians were busy handling their activities indoors, another crew of Kiwanians from the Vicksburg Club arrived at mid-morning and began preparing a delicious pot of award-winning chili for the entire group. Under the leadership of President Sarah McMillin and chief cook and incoming Lieutenant Governor Tom Osburn, the meal was ready to eat right at noon. The meal was outstanding and allowed the entire group to get acquainted a little more as we all ate together in the breakout room.

There was also a lot of business that had to be handled such as presentations of District awards and the election of officers for the coming year. Just like at our annual District Convention, the announcements, nominations, politicking and talks, were orderly and exciting to watch.

Of special note for our Club was that LSU’s Jacob Martin received the Outstanding New Member Award and Lisa Huang was awarded the Outstanding Club Secretary. In addition, Dorothy Kemp received the Outstanding Faculty Advisor, and Gary Graham was named as the Outstanding Kiwanis Advisor. Although this was my first Circle K convention, I was not that surprised when they received these honors because of the work and commitment I had seen in these individuals for as long as I have known them.

I want to congratulate all of the Circle K members and Kiwanis leaders for a job well done. It was apparent to me that Sid is the right person to be the Circle K Administrator as he allowed the Circle K Board members to handle their business with limited, but gentle guidance. A special cheer for the newly elected Board members and their new Governor, Kassady Ryder, from the Circle K Club at Louisiana Tech. I consider it a privilege to have been invited to attend and be a participant in their Convention and I look forward to many more visits with the Clubs and individuals while they continue their education and hopefully be our future Kiwanis Leaders. See more on CKI Convention on Page 17
Nearly two hundred Kiwanians from all over the District gathered at the Hilton Hotel in Jackson, Mississippi from January 18th thru the 19th for the 2019 Mid-Winter Conference. Many distinguished clubs and individual members were recognized at the Friday night awards dinner, led by Immediate Past Governor Otha Britton, followed by some very entertaining Kiwanis Karaoke. Saturday, Governor Eva Abate began the day with a general welcome session followed by exciting and informational workshops where members gained and shared new ideas on club openings, membership growth, club signature projects and fundraisers, sponsoring Service Leadership Programs, officer training and much more. But let’s not forget, some good ole Kiwanis camaraderie was shared by all. Fellowship Luncheon Guest Speaker Greg Beard, International Trustee, gave an uplifting and motivational talk about the importance of being a Kiwanian, but most importantly, stepping up to fill leadership roles. Participants provided much positive feedback about their Mid-Winter experience and we are looking forward to the next one! But for now, let’s focus on the upcoming District Convention from August 1-4 in Memphis, Tennessee! See ya’ll there!
Mid-Winter Gift Basket Raffle Thanks!

By Catherine Simmons, Foundation Grants Chair

We have some pretty AWESOME clubs in this District!

When your club donates to the District Foundation, in any way ..... we put your funds to work for AEDs, Community Grants, Service Leadership training, Key Club & Circle K Scholarships, Disaster Relief and more. THANK YOU for supporting the LaMissTenn Foundation! Special thanks to the following Kiwanis Clubs that donated a total of 37 gift baskets at the Mid Winter Conference:

1A: Union City (2), Martin
1C: Memphis, Millington, Germantown
4A: Algiers, Big Easy, New Orleans, Pontchartrain, St. Bernard-Arabi
4B: Kenner North, Dawn Busters
6: Ruston
7: Acadiana
8W: Baton Rouge, E-Club, The Oaks, South Baton Rouge, St. Gabriel
8E: Cortana, Red Stick
9: Shreveport, Southeast Shreveport, Southern Hills
10A: Grenada
10B: Tupelo
11: Alexandria
12: South Lake Charles, Southwest Contraband
13: Greater Covington, Hammond (2), Northshore Mandeville
14: Orange Grove
15: Vicksburg
17: East St. Mary

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Grants Awarded So Far This Year

By Catherine Simmons, Foundation Grants Chair

AED GRANTS:
($750 to schools, $500 to other facilities)
* Amory: $750 * Cortana: $750 * Gulfport: $750
* Millington: $750 * Pontchartrain: $500

COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANTS:
(Level 1 – Up to $5,000. Round 1 deadline: Feb 1st. Round 2 = July 1st)
* Gulfport - Baseball Field Upgrade: $5,000
* Picayune - Special Olympics: $5,000
* Southwest Contraband - Peaceful Playground: $2,100

SCHOLARSHIPS:
* Key Club Scholarships: $14,500 * Circle K Scholarships: $3,000

Grant Funding is still available!

www.lamisstenn.org/foundation, scroll to GRANTS. Criteria/Applications
Help Strengthen The Foundation’s Endowment Fund

We have had founders of the LaMissTenn Kiwanis District Foundation, followed by pioneers forging the dreams of those founders, build the endowment funds bigger and better each year. Your District Kiwanis Foundation has given more funds back to YOU and YOUR CLUBS through grants due to the Endowment Fund. Your continued support CAN and DOES make a difference!

- An annual tax-deductible donation of only $120 - or make it as easy as a donation of only $10 per month! Set your “Friends” pledge up on a recurring monthly credit card charge to maintain your status as a Friend of the Foundation every year!
- ANYONE, not just Kiwanians, may become a ‘Friend of the Foundation.’
- Receive a distinctive Friend of the Foundation lapel pin.
- For every $1,000 donated, you have the choice of River of Life Fellowship, John T. Roberts Fellowship plus other levels thereof.

Friend of the Foundation Donor Information Form

Name: ________________________________
Kiwanis Club: __________________________
Mailing Address: _________________________
Day Phone: (_____) ___________________ E-mail: __________________________
My total gift/pledge is $ __________   Remember your $120 Friends of the Foundation donation is tax deductible.

I wish to make my donation by:

☐ Check (payable to “Kiwanis District Foundation”)
☐ Credit Card
☐ Cash

For Credit Card Payments:

Card Number ___________________________ Exp. Date (MM/YY)
Name as it appears on credit card ___________________________ Card billing zip code
Signature ___________________________ Date ___________________________

I would like my credit card payment of $ __________ scheduled (choose one):

☐ Monthly  ☐ Quarterly  ☐ Semiannually  ☐ Annually
Beginning ________ and ending ________
(MM/YY) (MM/YY)
Put Me in Coach, I’m Ready to Play

By Gary S. Graham, Formula Chair and Past Governor

Have you ever watched a world class athlete in action and enjoyed their performance? Whether it’s baseball, football, basketball, soccer, or track and field, watching them achieve a spectacular goal or making an outstanding play, it is something everyone admires whether it is your team or not. But what you haven’t seen is the hard work, the hours of training, or the failures behind the scenes before they make that seemingly effortless play. And what else you don’t see is the individual, who works with them to perfect the technique, give them tips on what they need to start or stop doing, who gives them a kick in the rear or a pat on the back when needed or just is there to encourage them to go on and not quit. That is the coach. An athlete’s performance comes from effective coaching. They work to establish positive, personal relationships with their athletes to help them reach their maximum capability. Coaches are respected and serve as a role model or mentor. It’s just that many if not most may not be well known to the public who watch the athlete perform.

Kiwanis has people who serve in the same role. Clubs often get into a rut of bad habits. The common excuse “this is the way we’ve always done it” doesn’t wash in this new century of Kiwanian service. The younger generation does not care about what was or how it used to be done. They want to serve and make use of new ways of communicating to do it. So if your club is losing members and/or is rapidly aging out of the hands-on service Kiwanians are known for and are rightfully proud to do, then maybe it’s time to ask the ol’ coach to take a look at what you are doing and how you can make improvements in what you are doing. It’s helps athletes and it helps clubs to have a fresh pair of eyes look at what is happening. Sometimes clubs get into the same old routines and can’t see the forest for the trees. You can be too close to the problem or perhaps you have some who are not willing to change regardless of the worth of the new ways. Change can be scary and people will resist it if they cannot see the benefit in doing something new. This is where the coach can act as a facilitator to have the club take a good long hard look at what they are doing, why they are doing it and how they are doing it.

LaMissTenn has a great person, Kim Champagne, as Vice-Chair of the Growth Team in charge of club coaching. She along with your Lt Governors are available to help you see other possibilities in making your club a world class service organization that will enhance your community and more importantly improve the lives of the children we serve. There are tools that the team employs that will help clubs see where they can improve. They are not there to tell you what to do or even how to do it. They are there to help you see ways you can help yourselves. You know your members, your community and the needs of the children. So who better can decide what is needed to make your club as good as it can get.

While we grew last year in the District and so far this year we have seen positive growth, clubs need to grow. Last year although we grew, we lost several clubs who had lost their fire and inspiration to help children. Each Kiwanian on average has a positive impact on the lives of over 200 children a year. We grew last year because of new clubs. We lost with existing clubs. However, it is the existing clubs that have years of experience that are in need of recapturing the spirit of service. The coaches are there for you – just ask. You can always email (ggraham01@cox.net) or call (225-936-1457) me or Kim and we will be more than happy to work with you. We may not help you set a record in the 100 meter dash at the Olympics but we will listen and help you make the improvements your club wants to have to help the children.
Hello LaMissTenn Kiwanians!

I know you’re well versed in The Eliminate Project. I won’t take time to tell you all about what and why. You know this is important, and you’ve been supporting it from the beginning. What I do want to share are some facts you may not know. Did you know that no country that has eliminated MNT has gone back on the list of at-risk countries? The program is sustainable because of the high bar every district in a country must achieve. Speaking of districts, did you know that districts within a country can be MNT-free, even if the country isn’t completely validated? These are called “partial validations”. Now mothers in the South East Zone of Nigeria and, most recently, the southern part of Mali are no longer worried about their children dying from MNT. Why is this so important? Because these countries are the hardest part of the journey. They’re the most remote and least secure. That means that every success is worth celebrating.

We’re still making progress at the country level, too. There are five countries that could finish their vaccination campaigns yet this year! But at the end of the day, what we’re doing is saving lives. I hope you’re proud to know that since MNT was identified as a priority, the mortality rate has decreased 96%. Kiwanis is a key part of the world’s global health story. Starting with IDD and continuing into The Eliminate Project, we are making a difference in the lives of children, forever.

- Aaron
Aspire to Inspire: 

The Naked Apes of Kiwanis in the Human Zoo

By James A. “Jeems” White, III, Past Governor

Desmond Morris, a British Zoologist, published in 1967 and 1969 respectively his two influential books, The Naked Ape and The Human Zoo. The first book discussed human behavior as a reflection of our animal origins and the second book discussed the behavior of humans living in cities... which he compared to other primates living confined in zoos. Both books were controversial from the start, but both stimulated considerable interest, insight and study of human behavior. Fifty years later the books still have influence and relevance in the scientific community and the general population... and the principles laid out in the books have significant importance for us in the Kiwanis Family.

Morris points out that animals frequently congregate in groups for various reasons which include food supply, safety, reproduction and nurturing of the young and other things. Cattle and grazing animals live in herds. Birds often flock. Wolves hunt in packs. Primates function best in small groups.

The observations, behaviors, concepts, opinions and more that Morris discusses and postulates have generated considerable discussion and further research for half a century and is far too voluminous for this short article. However, a generally accepted and fundamental fact of human behavior is that we function best when we have “Small Group Identity.” Psychologists describe a “small group” as 3 to 20 people. With a larger group, usually it is composed of several smaller subgroups within it. Most people identify with multiple small groups simultaneously.

Think about this and about your own life. Most of us identify with a church, an occupation, co-workers, one or more hobbies, our families of course, sports teams, schools, etc. the list is endless. It is normal to “belong” to many different small groups. With families we are cast into those groups by birth and genetic makeup. Educational levels, geographic considerations, circumstantial serendipity and so much more affect where we identify ourselves in the panoply of society.

One of the best examples of small group identity and optimal functioning is the military and the understanding of this goes back to the beginning of history. Armies have divisions, brigades, regiments, battalions, companies, platoons, squads, etc. until the functioning small group identity is accomplished. [In my stint as a Navy flight surgeon it was fascinating to work with and observe multiple squadrons comprised of about twenty pilots in each. Everyone’s mission was the same as a whole but there was amazing performance competition between squadrons as to proficiency in carrier landings, bombing accuracy, air combat practice, et al... including best swagger and braggadocio, best partying practices ashore... the list was endless.]

Is there much difference with NFL football, NBA basketball, MLB baseball, March Madness College basketball with its “sweet sixteen,” “elite eight,” “final four”... the teams AND the fans who identify with the small group teams’ identity?

Fast forward to Kiwanis considerations. Like the military Kiwanis has the big picture: Kiwanis International, then Districts, then Divisions, then Clubs... the small group identity and the functioning group. How many times have you heard that in Kiwanis all the action is in the local club and all the rest is just to support the clubs? Example: one goal is to Eliminate Maternal/Neonatal Tetanus worldwide, but clubs have reward designations for levels of success and there is small group identity pride if your club is Model, Gold, Platinum, etc. [While you read this, please remember we still have babies dying every day until we complete our fundraising to immunize their mothers.]

So we don’t like to think of ourselves as apes, naked or clothed, sophisticated or not in our city-zoos... but we do function best with our small group identities. Let’s roll up our sleeves and do something positive right now for the children of our communities. Let’s motivate and enthuse our K-club... as a whole or as a subgroup within it... to take action and improve the world bit by bit. Let’s be proud of our functioning small group success... and enjoy with me the same friendships, fellowship and pride of accomplishment we share in our small group identity in Kiwanis. Best wishes from one Kiwanis to another.
I hope your clubs have begun to see where the Human and Spiritual Values of Kiwanis International help to make us different from other purely service or social organizations in our communities. Many of our fellow Kiwanians actually see their Kiwanis experience as one of their personal ministries. Giving back to their communities is simply the spiritual collateral they put back into the communities to make them a better place to live and raise their families.

Start planning now to recognize a Layperson of the Year for the spiritual role models they are in your community. This person can be a Kiwanian but certainly doesn’t have to be. Identify your recipient for his or her contribution to your community through efforts of a “human and spiritual values” nature. The first two Objects of Kiwanis International lay a perfect foundation for such a recognition.

In other words, do you see someone making your community better outside their individual church? I’m not going to give an example because I don’t want to limit your imagination. “Think outside the box.” Or in this case, “Think outside the church.” Is your recipient touching lives … maybe specifically the lives of children, but don’t limit yourselves.

Send your nominations to Court Crow, District Chair, 215 Sand Beach Blvd. Apt 1407, Shreveport, Louisiana 71105 or crow52269@aol.com. The review committee will need a cover letter from the Kiwanis Club nominating the person and whatever documentation you can include (letters of endorsement or recommendation, news articles, etc.)

The District will recognize the Lay Person of the Year at the District Convention in Memphis, Tenn. and send the plaque to the local club. I hope we have several recommendations from clubs throughout the District. THE DEADLINE IS JULY 15.

Let me remind each of you to pray for our local, state and national leaders. Our country is facing a lot of challenges right now.

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Kiwani’s Children’s Fund

By Donna Osburn, Kiwanis Children’s Fund District Chair

We help make remarkable things happen for kids and communities around the world.

Kids need Kiwanis, and the Kiwanis Children’s Fund helps by amplifying your impact in communities around the world. We provide grants for disaster relief, Kiwanis Service Leadership Programs, club & district service projects, and the elimination of maternal & neonatal tetanus as well as iodine deficiency disorders.

We are a trusted partner, staffed by experts. We know how to turn money into something more meaningful.

As the Kiwanis Children’s Fund District Chair, I want to help you! If you need more information about the Children’s Fund in general, Club Grants or Disaster Relief Grants, please let me know.

The Kiwanis Children’s Fund Annual Giving Campaign is underway! If you have already budgeted this money, please get it sent into KCF. If you need a form or an invoice, please let me know. If you have not budgeted money, we ask that you truly consider giving to this remarkable charity.

You can contact Donna Osburn at: donna@chezosburn.com or 601-831-7363
I just had a great experience with some super third graders at one of our elementary schools at the “Read Across America” celebration. Parents were lined up ready to read their favorite book to the unsuspecting youngsters. I on the other hand went with stories from my dad and his wild West Virginia youth. I also had “Terrific Kid” stickers. Those are a powerful tool used to capture the attention of kids. I always carry stickers in my sport coat and they are an excellent way to spread the Kiwanis spirit. They loved the stories and I escaped feeling pretty pleased with myself.

Mr. K-Bear

My favorite TK group is our a beautiful bunch of special needs children at the Germantown Madonna Learning Center (MLC). Mr. K-Bear was purchased online for the MLC programs and he has done a great job. A member added the “K”. You will notice that K-Bear uses the original Terrific Kids certificates. A lot nicer than the box store type. This is a high point in the MLC Kid’s day.

Collecting Diapers

Our three K-Kids programs collected over 3,000 diapers for the local Urban Childhood Institute during K-Kids Week in February. Our children’s hospital reported a serious need for diapers in the poorer sections of Memphis. Rashes and unsanitary conditions are commonly existing when babies are brought in for other unrelated illnesses. The Dogwood K-Kids’ picture shows about half of the collection. My truck still smells like baby powder!

Thank You Snack Bags

Farmington K-Kids enjoy recognizing the school support staff each year by packing snack bags with thank you notes and delivering them to the bus drivers, cafeteria folks, crossing guards, and many others. Forty-five bags were delivered!

Kiwanis Pavilion

This August, I invite you to visit Germantown and see where the Kiwanis Club of Germantown lives and supports their community and children. The Kiwanis Pavilion was designed, built and is maintained by the Kiwanis Club of Germantown. The pavilion is used year round by the citizens of our great community. On the inside of the upper trim, is our Kiwanis mission: “Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.” I am proud of my club and its good works.
K-Kids at Martin Elementary School in Martin, Tennessee, continue their study of books in the Read and Lead program sponsored by Kiwanis International. These 25 young people in grades 3 through 5 have explored books that express the theme of how ordinary people can change the world.

At this point in the school year, books that have been read and discussed are *I am Jane Goodall* and *I am Jackie Robinson*, both by Brad Meltzer and illustrated by Christopher Eliopoulos.

For the study of the book *I Am Jane Goodall*, UT Martin biology professor Dr. Ann Gathers, dressed as Jane Goodall, visited the group in November and read the story to the children. Students also enjoyed joining Jane’s nature group by becoming members of the Alligator Club, which required naming 10 butterflies and moths and 10 dog breeds.

On February 7, focus was the book *I Am Jackie Robinson*. UT Martin baseball coach Ryan Jenkins and 11 members of the Skyhawk baseball team visited the group to read the book. All athletes participated in the reading, shared facts about the first black athlete in major league baseball, talked about their baseball experiences, and helped with a baseball-themed word search puzzle. Coach Jenkins emphasized to the young students that working hard and making good grades was essential to being a successful university athlete. He invited everyone to attend the free baseball games at UT Martin.

On Thursday, January 17, art teacher Jennifer Wenz visited the K-Kids group to explain about the Anna Kate Wenz FIGHT Foundation and to guide the 28 students attending in making cards for children fighting cancer. This foundation is named for Jennifer’s daughter who succumbed to childhood cancer at the age of 2. In several weeks, Jennifer will take the special hand-crafted cards to students at the St. Jude Target House in Memphis. The K-Kids were most creative in the shaping of their cards, and each person handed his or her card directly to Jennifer. She explained that the cards will be connections to the outside world for so many of the children and that each card will be treasured by someone. This program was part of the ordinary people can change the world theme.

On February 21, Kiwanian Sara Sieber, advisor for K-Kids, read *I am Helen Keller* to the group and talked with them about how Helen and her teacher both overcame disabilities. After the reading and discussion, students participated in a hands-on activity using Braille where each young person wrote his or her name and a short sentence in Braille. Advisor Sara Sieber printed copies of the Braille alphabet for each student.

2. UT Martin baseball players reads *I Am Jackie Robinson* to 25 young students.
5. K-Kid student Madi Adcock shows how she wrote her name and a short sentence in Braille after the discussion of the book *I am Helen Keller*. Advisor Sara Sieber printed copies of the Braille alphabet for each student.
New Key Club Makes a Fresh Start!

*Southside High School Key Club Facebook Page*

**Valentines for Teacher Appreciation**

Members of the newly formed *Southside High School Key Club* showed their love and appreciation to teachers by making special Valentines cards for them.

Welcome to the K Family, First Ever Southside High School Key Club Officers!

**Acadiana Homeschool Hosts Another Successful Food Drive**

*Acadiana Homeschool Key Club Facebook Page*

The *Acadiana Homeschool Key Club* collected 8,752 lbs. of food and $2,203 in cash from the generous donors of Acadiana for their Annual Mardi Gras Food Drive benefitting their local Food Net Pantry. Acadiana Homeschool Key Club would like to thank all the people who donated, all the students and parents that gave of their time, Acadiana Homeschool 4H, Faith Fellowship Homeschool Group, Acadiana Homeschool Builders Club and all the stores that allowed collection (Super 1 - Lafayette, Super 1 - Youngsville, Super 1- Scott, and Adrien’s on West Congress). A special shout out to the Food Drive Committee: Head Chair Blake Landry, Chloe Comeaux, Nathan Thompson, and Samuel Reed for doing such a great job organizing and running this Service Project.
Key Clubbers & Kiwanians Read to Students
East Central Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

On Friday, March 15, members of the East Central Kiwanis Club and the East Central High School Key Club read to the second graders at East Central Lower Elementary.

Moss Point Spreads Christmas Cheer
Moss Point High School Key Club Facebook Page

On December 22nd, Moss Point High School Key Club members helped spread Christmas cheer by delivering canned goods and spending the day serving at Our Daily Bread.

Spirit of Christmas Food Drive
Shreveport Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

The C. E. Byrd Key Club, along with Brookshires & Super-One Foods and The Northwest Louisiana Food Bank, helped put food on the tables of needy families during the Christmas season thanks to a successful food drive.
On February 15-16, 2019, CKIers all around the district gathered in Vicksburg, MS for a swinging 60s themed event for their 60th annual convention. Friday night was filled with fellowship games consisting of icebreakers to learn each other’s names and wacky choreographed dance competitions. For the District Service Initiative, clubs were given a challenge to raise money for the UNICEF WASH Project by convention time. To end the service initiative on a sweet note, attendees could pay to pie the district board in the face with all proceeds going to the WASH Project. The CKI District raised $557 for the year to help bring clean drinking water to families in Haiti. Saturday provided service and leadership opportunities for attendees. Each club was provided the spotlight to present on their year of service. Workshops such as “How to Financially Plan” hosted by Kiwanis Governor, Eva Abate, gave attendees a chance to gain knowledge. CKIers gathered around to do what they do best, serve. The convention service project was to assemble hygiene kits provided by Clean the World, a program that recycles unused hygiene products from hotels. The kits came with bags, bar soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, and washcloths. The kit also includes a notecard to allow volunteers to include loving inspirational messages. The 200 hygiene kits consisting of shampoo were donated locally to the Haven House Family Shelter. After the service project, attendees got to enjoy a great chili lunch provided by the Kiwanis Club of Vicksburg. The convention ended with CKIers voting and welcoming their new 2019-2020 District Board.
The AKtion Club of Memphis, Tenn. does lots of work helping people. Right now we are making Valentine Grams to sell and give money to charity. We have sold them for four years now. We give the money from selling the Valentine grams to charities like Madonna Learning Center, JoyLife901, Ronald McDonald House, St. Jude Children's Hospital and LeBonheur Children's Hospital. We collect hats, gloves and scarves for the homeless people at A Room at the Inn. We collect box tops for education to get supplies for the Madonna Learning Center. We participate in Feed the Flock every year too. We assemble meals that are sent to Africa (rice and beans). All of us take turns putting together the meals. We made knotted blankets for the people at Kings Daughters and Sons Nursing Home and hand them out to all of the residents. We also make gift bags with school supplies for elementary schools in our city and we make gift bags with sport supplies for the players in the St. Jude Golf Classic. We also make cards for the veterans at the Memphis Veterans Hospital at holiday times so that they are not lonely and sad.

Your friend in Memphis, Tenn.,

Murphy McLeary
AKtion Club of South Mississippi: Community Service with a Smile

Volunteering at the Humane Society of South Mississippi

On Saturday, January 19th, the AKtion Club of South Mississippi volunteered at the Humane Society of South Mississippi. The shelter pets loved all the extra attention!

Annual Beach Cleanup

On Saturday, February 23rd, the AKtion Club of South Mississippi participated in the Annual Beach Cleanup! It was foggy, but everyone "Pitched In" to clean up Beach Park in Pascagoula.

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store

On Wednesday, March 6th, members of the South Mississippi AKtion Club, Abby and Jerimy, volunteered at the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store where revenue is put back into programs to assist the needy. What a great day to volunteer! Thanks Abby and Jerimy for all your efforts today and everyday!
AKtion Club of Hammond: Back in Action!

By Judy Couvillion, Hammond Kiwanis Club

Having A Little Baseball Fun

Members of the Hammond Kiwanis AKtion Club were special guests at a recent Southeastern Louisiana University baseball game. The game, sponsored by Regions Bank, featured AKtion Club member Joe Cheatem tossing out the symbolic first pitch. Cheatem was cheered by the crowd gathered for the game on a pleasant day at the university’s Alumni Field. Attending local and regional sporting events is just one of the activities enjoyed by members of the Aktion Club sponsored by the Hammond Kiwanis Club.

Pictured below at Alumni Field on the SLU campus, from left, are AKtion Club member Brian Phillips; Shelly Robinson, Regions Bank branch manager, AKtion clubber Julie Burke, Henry Sullivan, an Options client, Cheatem and AKtion Club member Jerry Corcoran.

Filling Hygiene Bags for Those in Need

Members of the Hammond Kiwanis AKtion Club created fifty hygiene kits at one of their recent meetings. Each bag was filled with a tooth brush, tooth paste, sanitizers, a wash cloth, soap, shampoo and conditioner, a comb, and other personal hygiene items. The bags will be delivered to local homeless shelters, battered women’s retreats, and other charitable agencies to assist those in need of such items. Packing the bags was one of the community service projects being pursued by the AKtion Club this year. The Aktion Club used funds derived from an annual fund raiser to purchase some of the items in the bags.

↑ Hammond Kiwanis Club member Terry King who serves as Hammond Kiwanis Aktion Club sponsor and Aktion Club members Joe Cheatem, Jerry Corcoran, Aktion Club President; Robert Keller, Joyce Reid and Theresa Chandler, fill bags with personal hygiene items during a recent Aktion Club meeting.

← Happy smiles light up the faces of members of the Hammond Kiwanis Aktion Club who had just finished filling 50 hygiene bags.
Cortana Kiwanis of Baton Rouge has had a wonderful start to 2019. We began the year with a party for the students at Broadmoor Elementary School who are participating in the BUG program. Nine members of Cortana Kiwanis hosted 87 students to applaud their academic achievements.

As is our tradition, several members met to assemble Trauma Dolls. These handmade dolls are sewn and stuffed by members. They are often given to hospital pediatric emergency rooms to be offered to the children in stressful situations. The current batch will be given to the local fire department. These dolls can be given to children by the firemen who respond to their crisis situation.

The Inter-Civic council in our area sponsored an inaugural Non-Profit Fair to give the community at large an opportunity to learn about the agencies and clubs working for our citizens. Cortana Kiwanis participated in an effort to get our message of service to members of the community.

With Easter upon us, members of the club assisted St. Vincent de Paul workers in assembling Easter baskets for the children of our area. The club also donated stuffed animals and candy to fill the baskets.

Two members of Cortana Kiwanis recently received The Tablet of Honor, an award that honors individuals who have exemplified dedicated service to Kiwanis, their club or community. Brent Salter and Pam Morgan were presented with this honor. The club is very proud of these two for their dedicated service through the years.
Every Thursday a great group of Hammond Kiwanis Club members gather at Woodland Park School to fill and distribute our Kiwanis Happy Packs. Students gathered around club member Andy Thomas on a recent backpack day for a picture. This program is extremely well received by the students and their teachers and has become the club’s signature community service event.

Jacob Ahumada, a student at Woodland Park School, enjoys lending a helping hand to the members who pick up the backpacks for refilling each week. Jacob always brings smiles to the faces of the Kiwanis volunteers who help keep the backpack program going.

Izabella Guillot is always eager to help members of the Hammond Kiwanis Club because she, as does her classmates, enjoy the backpacks that contain 10 food items that they can eat during the weekends. The Happy Pack program has become the club’s major community service project. The program is well served by our members and two volunteers. The club averages about 10 volunteers each week…and they all enjoy the experience.
Long Beach Kiwanis Soon to be Back!

By Travis Moore, Div. 14 Lieutenant Governor & Howard Lock, Long Beach Kiwanis Club Organizer

The founding group of the former Long Beach Kiwanis Club had a re-organizational Q&A meeting on March 4th at Bull’s Restaurant to present their intentions of restarting the club. The club was operational in Long Beach for 11 years, but closed with the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The local Kiwanis members were resigned to participate with the Orange Grove Club. After the group completes their membership drive, Long Beach will again have a Kiwanis Club.

Several Kiwanis members on the Q&A panel were (left to right), former International Trustee Dennis Oliver, Club Organizer Howard Lock, Regional Trustee Barbara McCay, and Lieutenant Governor Travis B. Moore.

Martin Hosts a Gathering of Governors

By Anna Clark, Martin Kiwanis Club

Past LaMissTenn district governors Linda Ramsey (center) and Gary Graham (left), along with governor-elect Bruce Hammatt, enjoyed talking with members of the Kiwanis Club of Martin (Linda’s home Club) at the March 6 meeting in Martin. Bruce’s entertaining and informative presentation about alligator hunting indeed kept members engaged. Also, Club President Danelle Fabianich presented a certificate to Bruce showing that a donation had been made in his honor to the Martin Public Library Foundation. During this several-day road trip, Bruce and Gary also visited other clubs in the district.

The hat, in the pictures, bears some significance worth mentioning. At our last meeting, Bettye Giles, 90, gave a Kiwanis moment (an important Kiwanis realization from the past): she recalled a meeting in 1988 when she, the first woman initiated into the Kiwanis Club of Martin, TN, was present. The president at the time presented her with a hat and said, "Now, Betty, you are going to have to be a bull alligator!" Betty said that she was not exactly sure what that comment meant but that she has kept the hat and used it in various ways all these 31 years.
Martin Helps with Read Across America Initiative

By Anna Clark, Martin Kiwanis Club

As a part of the Read across America initiative, Martin Kiwanis Club member Anna Clark (holding book), reads to a group of two year olds in Martin Tennessee. Other Kiwanis members also supported the program.

Paris Lakeway Lends a Helping Hand

By Rita Reed, Paris Lakeway Kiwanis Club President

The 39th annual Helping Hand Radio Auction in Paris, TN was held January 7th through February 27th. The auction operates with several volunteers and members of civic organizations in the community. According to the Helping Hand Facebook page, this annual auction will benefit 85 non-profit organizations in Paris and Henry County, TN. The auction raised over $325,000 this year. Cakes, pies, casseroles, and homemade goods are among the items donated and auctioned off.

As a service project, the Lakeway Kiwanis Club volunteered every Tuesday to answer the phones and record bids at the Helping Hand Auction. In addition, 3 current members served as auctioneers for the event and a few other members volunteered their time to keep things running smooth during the auction. This totaled over 250-man hours.
Southwest Contraband Participates in Read Around the World Project

By Angela W. Guth, Southwest Contraband Kiwanis Club

On Friday, March 15th, members of the Kiwanis Club of Southwest Contraband, visited M. J. Kaufman Elementary school in Lake Charles, LA to introduce the Read Around the World project. In celebration of Dr. Seuss’s birthday, members all wore Dr. Seuss hats and encouraged the students and promoted reading. Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students were read Dr. Seuss’s Mr. Brown Can Moo. Can You? while each of the students followed along with their own personal copy donated to them by the Club. First and Second grade students were challenged to read and obtain as many accelerated reader points as possible during the final 9 weeks of school. The student who earns the most points in each grade will receive a bicycle at the school’s end of the year awards day program. Each student received a Dr. Seuss pencil, bookmark, and candy to increase the excitement of reading.

Memphis Celebrates Dr. Seuss’ Birthday

By Beth Haag, Memphis Kiwanis Club

Memphis Kiwanis Club members Mary Wilder and Grady Frisby came to Kingsbury Elementary School in Memphis, TN on Friday, May 1, 2018 and helped the students celebrate Dr. Seuss’ birthday. Mary read to a 1st grade class and Grady read to two kindergarten classes. They were both a big hit with the kids. The school really appreciated them taking the time to read to the kids on this special day. Thank you so much for making a difference!
New Orleans: A 100 Year Legacy

By Catherine Simmons, New Orleans Kiwanis Club

The year? 1919 – a new type of men’s club was arriving on the scene. In New Orleans, businessmen of all types were eager to join this networking opportunity. On March 29, 1919, with 189 men, the Kiwanis Club of New Orleans was officially chartered.

One hundred years to the date, March 29, 2019, the Kiwanis Club of New Orleans hosted a “Century of Service Celebration” at the Arbor Room in City Park. Kiwanis Governor Eve Abate and First Gent, VJ were in attendance, as was the District’s Executive Director, Charlie Ford and wife, Sharon.

As a gift to the children of New Orleans, the Kiwanis Club of New Orleans donated $40,000 in funds to build the new musical garden in Story Land, City Park. “Boudreaux, the Zydeco Gator” will offer children of all ages the opportunity to experience various outdoor musical instruments. Our club is proud of the legacy we have built over the last 100 years, and look forward to the continued service to the Greater New Orleans Community.

Pontchartrain Partners on AED Grant for the People Program

By Myra M. Lewis, Pontchartrain Kiwanis Club

The Kiwanis Club of Pontchartrain recently partnered with the Congregation of St. Joseph to provide an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for the Lakefront campus of the People Program through a grant from the District Foundation. The people Program is a non-profit that has served the greater New Orleans area since 1974, providing a wide array of classes to people 50 or older. The 120 leisure and creative courses include art, crafts, history, culture, current events, computer use, sewing, crochet, knitting, quilting, bridge, mah jong, chess, instrumental and vocal music, sign language, yoga, tai chi, dance and exercise. There are two campuses located in New Orleans and Algiers. The AED is the first available on a People Program campus to make the building safer for the senior participants. Over 500 participants were served in the past year. The photo shows Myra Lewis, KCP Secretary and People Program participant and board member, discussing the best placement for the AED with People Program Director, Steve Lenahan.

Kicking off the Bikes for Books Program

Pontchartrain Kiwanis Club member Deidre Charlot is shown introducing fourth graders at St. Mary’s Academy to the book that starts them on the Bikes for Books program. Also shown is Ms. Beemis, the school librarian and coordinator for the program. Pontchartrain Kiwanis Club Myra Lewis assisted in the school’s startup with second, third and fourth graders on Wednesday, January 16th.
The Kiwanis Club of Pinebelt, Hattiesburg, MS, recently spent their noon day lunch hour as a 5th Tuesday Service Project. “Today’s service project is Beyond the Lunch Table Backpack Program, a partnership with Parkway Heights United Methodist Church which serves some of our local children at Woodley Elementary of the Hattiesburg Public School District” says Benny Waddle, Pinebelt Kiwanian and Parkway Heights United Methodist Church member. “This backpack feeding program is a national feeding program that Parkway Heights and Pinebelt Kiwanis Club have been a part of since 2010 and we are very proud and fortunate to have a local Kiwanis club in Hattiesburg to partner with,” stated Wes Arrington, church member and Beyond the Table organizer.

At the moment, 45 elementary students are provided with a backpack of food items for the weekend, for 34 weeks of the school year. Each bag of food items averages $4.40 a week and $140.00 for school year per student at approximately $7,000 annually.

Volunteer opportunities consist of picking up the cases of food items from the MS Food Network and taking them to the church where the food items are placed in backpacks and stored until delivery to the school.

“We are very thankful for this partnership the Hattiesburg Public School District has with the Pinebelt Kiwanis Club and Parkway Heights United Methodist Church with the Beyond the Table Backpack Program. Our children are well worth it,” commented Dr. Robert Williams, Superintendent, Hattiesburg Public School District.
LaMissTenn District Lt. Governors Morgan M. Watson from Division 8W and Laura Gilliland from Division 8E hosted the Kiwanis Presidents’ Council Meeting for Divisions 8W and 8E this morning at Neighbors Federal Credit Union. The room was beautifully decorated in a Mardi Gras theme by Matt Barnhill from Billy Heroman’s Perkins South. Delicious pecan praline with cream cheese and strawberry with cream cheese king cakes were provided by Ambrosia Bakery. Coffee, cocoa, water, and paper products were supplied by Neighbors. DJ Robert 'Bob' Blanchard kicked off the morning with Mardi Gras music. The program began with Governor-Elect R. Bruce Hammatt talking about plans for the Kiwanis House. This is one of Kiwanis’ latest philanthropies which focuses on housing for parents of hospitalized children. Past Governor and Membership Chair Gary Graham then spoke about growing clubs and chartering new clubs. LAMISSWTENN Director Charlie Ford talked about the Kiwanis Foundation. President of the Oaks Club Bob Blanchard then presented Butch Passman’s Speakers’ Directory. Each club’s attendees introduced themselves and talked about their projects and concerns. A drawing was held and members won a floral arrangement from Billy Heroman’s, a king cake, a ticket to the LSU Jambalaya Sale, and several Kiwanis shirts. The meeting concluded with a group photo.

Special thanks goes out to Red Stick Kiwanis President and Past Lt. Governor Gary LaBauve for making coffee and setting up the cocoa, waters, paper products, TV screens, and having the AC going!

Pictured left to right front row: Angela Kanney, LSU; Milisa York, St. Gabriel; Jessica Johnson, South Baton Rouge; Katherine D. Lemelle, Zachary; & Emma Royal, Zachary.

Pictured left to right middle row: Bob Blanchard, Oaks; Morgan M. Watson, Early Risers; Laura Gilliland, Red Stick; Travis Clark, Walker; Phil DiVincenti, Red Stick; Gordon Shelton, Walker; & Jessie Thomas, St. Gabriel.

Pictured left to right back row: Bruce Langley, Zachary; Jeff Wittenbrink, Cortana; Noel Hammatt, Baton Rouge; Gary Graham, Baton Rouge; Charlie Ford, Oaks; Greg Earles, Walker; Louie Vidos, Cortana; Morris Welch, LSU; & Matt Robinson, Red Stick.

Not pictured: R. Bruce Hammatt, Baton Rouge; & Gary LaBauve, Red Stick.
On January 25th, Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club members, Gary Graham and Bruce Hammatt, along with Kiwanis Club of LSU member Richard Barbalace, helped plant 30 trees at their adopted school, BRFLAIM.

Improving the World, One Child, One Community at a Time, Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club member, Joy Hammatt, read The Spooky Old Tree to children at the Knock Knock Children’s Museum on January 10. Knock Knock Children’s Museum is a community spark for playful, engaging learning experiences that support young children’s success in school and beyond.

At a club meeting in January, Joy Hammatt, Chair of the Youth Services Committee, presented a $1,000 check to Gayelynne Mack, Executive Director of the Big Buddy Program. As Gaye noted in accepting the check, they are celebrating 40 years this year of the Big Buddy Program and Baton Rouge Kiwanis has been a part of supporting Big Buddy from the beginning helping with programs like Leadership, Burger Bash and Dancing with Big Buddy.
Camellia City Socks it to Local Schools!

Camellia City, Slidell Kiwanis Club members packed socks into boxes for some local schools. School secretaries had informed club members that they never have socks to give students who have accidents throughout the day. The socks were delivered to school offices to make sure the kids always have a spare pair for bad days. All of these socks were donated by the community.

Another Successful Father Daughter Ball for Corinth

Another successful Father Daughter Ball for Corinth Kiwanis Club is in the books! Thank you to all the Kiwanis members who worked tirelessly to present the perfect setting for lifetime memories. Thank you to each sponsor that made the event possible. Last but certainly not least, thank you to each father figure that gave their most valuable asset - their time - to nurture precious memories that will long outlive the night in the minds of their beautiful little girls.
Lafayette Celebrates BUGs with Miss Louisiana

The Lafayette Kiwanis Club celebrated students Bringing up Grades with special guest Miss Louisiana Holli Conway in January. The celebration also included sing-a-long dancing and fun!

Moisant Feeds the Homeless

See our Moisant Kiwanis Club in action, feeding the homeless - another successful, meaningful, caring project!
Moss Point Volunteers with SWAG

The Moss Point Kiwanis Club helped stuff S.W.A.G. bags full of educational materials for the Moss Point School District’s “Students with Achievement Goals” event. The event for all K-12 students and parents took place on Thursday, February 7th at the Family Education Center. Student goals were reviewed and resources were shared.

Northshore Mandeville Collects Bears for Kids

In December, Northshore Mandeville Kiwanis wrapped up their teddy bear drive for the Hope House Children’s Advocacy Center. Hope House is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to ending the cycle of child abuse in the community. When kids visit Children’s Advocacy Center for the first time, it is usually because they’ve been hurt by someone they trust - resulting in an undeserved sense of shame. A brand new teddy bear affirms their goodness. It provides them a choice they have control over. And it gives them comfort. Northshore Mandeville Kiwanis Club’s bear drive raised over 200-bears for the children! #bearittogether

Conference Call Bingo with e-LaMissTenn

Members of the e-LaMissTenn Kiwanis Club know how to have a little fun on their conference calls! The District’s first Internet Club meets online the 1st Monday of each month to: plan service, listen to guest speakers, share current Kiwanis updates and activities, and to have fun visiting with fellow Kiwanians. So, who wants to play Conference Call Bingo (thanks to Kim Eppling Champagne)! Email Dennis Oliver at dmokiwanis@aol.com if you’re interested in joining in on the fun! The beauty of e-LaMissTenn is it is comprised of members from all over the District.

APRIL 2019
In February, South Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club’s Black History Program featuring special guest speaker, Dr. Tamiara L. Wade, was a resounding success. Members from St. Gabriel, Downtown and LSU also joined for a very uplifting meeting. SBR Kiwanis was well represented by Jessica Jessbra Johnson, Bridgette K Hardy, Lillian Grossley, Vo’nel Trevonda Brown-Henderson, Mrs. Eula Franklin, Lacey Hardy Brown and Tenika James. There were also other members of the community that joined us as well.

On January 29, the Kiwanis Club of Orange Grove partnered with Feed My Sheep in Gulfport by serving meals to men, women, and children in need.
Pascagoula Does Super Work for Kids!

Pascagoula Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Members of the Pascagoula Kiwanis Club made super hero capes to donate to the pediatric unit of Singing River Health System in March.

Poplarville Hosts Sav-A-Life Baby Drive

Poplarville Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

In January, the Poplarville Kiwanis Club hosted a baby drive for Sav-A-Life, an organization dedicated to the support of women facing an unplanned pregnancy. Sav-A-Life offers free pregnancy testing, confidential peer counseling, baby items and referral to other assisting agencies.

Thank you to all who donated to the Sav-a-Life Baby Drive. Poplarville Kiwanis Club also thanks the business locations who hosted a box.
South Lake Charles Provides for Families at Christmas

South Lake Charles Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Again this December, the South Lake Charles Kiwanis Club was able to provide Christmas food baskets to approximately 40 families and were also able to take 35 young kids on a shopping spree to Target.

St. Bernard-Arabi: Mardi Gras Fun

St. Bernard-Arabi Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

In March, the Kiwanis Club of St. Bernard-Arabi had an amazing opportunity to host a donated float from the Knights of Nemesis Social Club and Parade for 10 children and adults with special needs. Children from almost every school were involved along with the Arc of Chalmette. In just a month's time the community rallied together to gather donations of beads, trinkets, stuffed animals and throws. The smile's on these children's and adult's faces that were able to be part of this makes every effort worth it. Thank you Knights of Nemesis Social Club and Parade for the donation of the float. Thank you to the community of St. Bernard for coming together for this cause. Thank you for the participants who joined us.

Top (left to right): Bryce Favalora, Bryan Favalora, Christopher Fox, Teddy Hebert, Manny Marenco, Manny’s Aunt, Jacob Cassreino, Aaron Cassreino, James Dobson, Jr., Kayla Mann & Aden Koepp.

Bottom (left to right): Kaysen DeFranza, Joshua DeFranza, Maria Dasilva, Emily Dasilva, Jordan Mahler, Shannan Mahler, Kristine Koepp, Kiwanis Co-Chair of Parades for children and adults with special needs & Nicholas Koepp, Kiwanis Co-Chair of Parades for children and adults with special needs.
Southwest Contraband: Valentine Love for Educators

For Valentines Day, the Kiwanis Club of Southwest Contraband showed their love and appreciation for teachers and faculty members at MJ Kaufman Elementary! All educators were treated to baskets full of Valentine's love for all they do for the students.

Starkville Works the Casserole Kitchen

The Starkville Kiwanis Club along with the Starkville High School Key Club combined forces in January to prepare and serve the meal for the Starkville Casserole Kitchen on Thursday evening, Jan. 3, 2019. Since it was a rainy night, Brunswick stew was decided to be the main course served over rice and a coconut pound cake was had for dessert. There was plenty of stew for everyone to have enough and each to take a takeout cup full for another meal. Thanks to each of the ones involved in providing ingredients to cook the stew and to the Key Club members that served the meal and helped clean up the kitchen afterwards.

The Casserole Kitchen is an exciting and much needed ministry began by The First Presbyterian Church's Local and Global Missions Committee in 2009. The mission of the Casserole Kitchen is to serve hot, nutritious meals to anyone in need at no charge. The Casserole Kitchen is sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church but is ecumenical in its operation. There are currently about 15 local churches that are participating. Since the program began, it has have served over 35,000 meals to those in need. The Casserole Kitchen operates three days a week: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. These hot nutritious meals are prepared, served and donated by volunteers as a ministry from our participating churches. We currently serve an average of 20-25 people per meal.
Mark Your Calendar!

Get Ready for Disney World!

104th International Convention
June 27-30, 2019
Coronado Springs Resort
Disney World, Florida

www.kiwanis.org

2019 La. Miss. Tenn. District Convention
August 1-4, 2019
Sheraton Downtown

www.lamisstenn.org
Share Your Club’s News!

By Tiffany Domingue, District Bulletin Editor

Submit your article or photographs:

EMAIL: tiffany@lamisstenn.org

ARTICLES & PHOTOGRAPHS: All article submissions must be attached in an email as a Word document and should be approximately 250 words or less. Please submit original articles written by your club’s members. We cannot use pre-published articles due to copyright laws. Do not include photos within text documents; send as separate attachments in the highest resolution TIFF or JPEG file if possible. Include a description of the photograph.

DEADLINES:

The deadline for article submissions is always two weeks before the publication’s date. Here are the deadlines for the 2019 Kiwanis Year:

July 2019 Issue = Deadline: June 16, 2019

October 2019 Issue = Deadline: September 16, 2019

January 2020 Issue = Deadline: December 16, 2019

Include this information:

CLUB: Club, Division Number, and Author

EVENT: Make sure to answer: what was done, why it was done, who benefited, when and where it occurred, how it was accomplished, etc.

ACCURACY: Please double check all dates, locations, etc., and be sure that all names are spelled correctly. While we do our best to correct issues if we notice them, we do not have the resources to confirm this type of information.

PHOTOGRAPHS: Avoid poses such as check acceptances, podium speakers, and groups standing in line or stacked rows. If you’re shooting a service project, look for an action photo of the volunteers in progress or interacting with children. Shoot from the front – we are not likely to use a shot with mostly backs. Use as high a resolution as possible. Captions may not always be published, but it is helpful if you can identify subjects.

AND REMEMBER . . . THE BEST ACTION SHOT WINS THE COVER!

Keep in mind, the cover photograph for the District News Magazine will be selected based on clarity, action and emotion.

We want photographs showing how your club impacts the community!

“The Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District News” is the official publication of the Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District of Kiwanis International

2018-2019 LA.-MISS.-W. TENN, DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Governor . . . . Eva Abate

Governor - Elect . . . . R. Bruce Hammatt

Immediate Past Governor . . . . Otha Britton

Executive Director . . . . Charles H. Ford

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Claude Vinson, Germantown, Tenn.

Region II

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Region IV

Alfred G. Lotz, Jr., Third District, New Orleans, La.

Region V

Judy Couvillion, Hammond, La.

Region VI

Richard Latiolais, Acadiana, Lafayette, La.

Region VII

Richard Rose, Natchitoches, La.

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