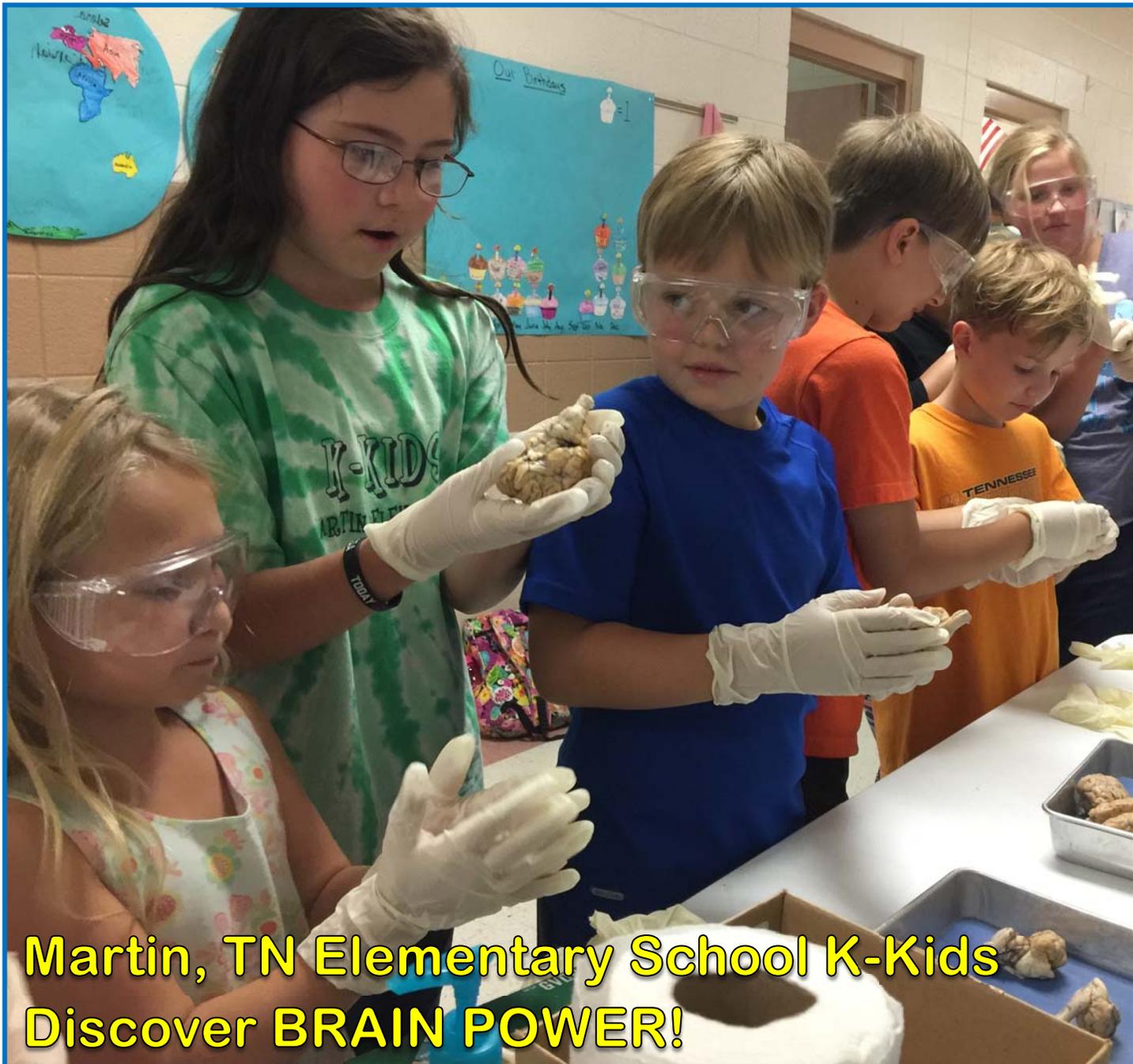


January-February-March 2017

Kiwanis®

Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District News



**Martin, TN Elementary School K-Kids
Discover BRAIN POWER!**

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



IN THIS ISSUE:

DISTRICT NEWS

- 3 Updates from Governor Fred Pitts
- 4 Message from the Immediate Past Governor
- 5 Unpleasant Truths Vs. Comforting Lies
- 6 Greetings from the Governor-Elect
- 7-8 2017 Mid-Year Regional Conferences

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 9 Eliminate Maternal/Neonatal Tetanus
- 10 Foundation Updates
- 11 Make Your Club More Human & Spiritual Values - Conscious
- 12 Aspire to Inspire: Little Needzum
- 13 K-Kids: Super Cool Activities
- 14 Key Leader Updates

CLUB NEWS

- 15 Making a Difference!
- 16 Trunk or Treat!
- 17 Boo at the Zoo!
- 18 Hammond Aktion Club Recognized
- 19-20 Greater Covington's Dan Johnson
- 21 A Record Setting Christmas Food Drive
- 22 BRAIN POWER!
- 23 A Partnership of Greatness
- 24-26 Kiwanis Kares!
- 27 Fantastic Fall Book Walk
- 28 A Special Dance for Special Kids
- 29 Annual Reelfoot Road Race
- 29 Ringing Bells!
- 30 Kiwanis Keeping Busy!
- 31 Granting Christmas Wishes
- 32 A Club that Cares for All Ages!
- 33 Dyersburg Charters A New Key Club
- 34 Helping the Methodist Children's Home of Mississippi
- 35 Celebrating K-Kids
- 36 Coats for Kids
- 36 Paying it Forward
- 37 Kiwanis Kids Day
- 38 Spreading Some holiday Cheer
- 38 Thanksgiving Meal Distribution
- 39 Sending Aids to Flood Victims
- 40 Santa Fun Run Kicks off Christmas Parade
- 41 Club Launches Multiplication Program
- 42-43 The World's Largest Turkey Fry

BACK COVER NEWS

- 41 International Convention/Share Your Club's News!

ON THE COVER:

Thanks to the Martin Kiwanis Club, K-Kids at Martin Elementary School learn how to protect the brain from injury and the effects of drugs and alcohol through hands-on examination of the various parts of sheep brains and their function. *See more on Page 22.*

Updates from Governor Fred Pitts

By Fred Pitts, Governor

My Mother always said that, “if you can’t say something nice then don’t say anything at all.” Do I have your attention yet?

- OK, Nice first:

Carol and I have enjoyed flipping pancakes in Baton Rouge, Union City, TN and Gulfport with Kiwanians and Key Clubbers. Wish I had kept count but feels like it was way over a thousand pancakes. Great fellowship, fun and glad to have been of service in raising money to help make kids’ lives better. Last but not least we ate a few pancakes ourselves and they were delicious.

One of the most challenging yet satisfying projects was helping deep fry 900 turkeys with Dawn Busters. Now they know how to throw a “deep fry party.” Past Governor Gary and I injected a seasoning liquid into the turkeys and after buying three and bringing them home for Thanksgiving, I can vouch that they were very juicy. Thank you very much, Dawn Busters.

It has been a very busy first two months of my year as your Governor, and looking forward to more great visits and opening new clubs.

- Now for the “not so nice”:

We have a lot of very dedicated Kiwanians in the LAMSTN District family, BUT we need a lot more!

Past Governor Gary Graham is our Formula Chair and he has identified 74 clubs out of 125 in our District that are slowly disappearing.

“HOUSTON, WE HAVE A PROBLEM” (Apollo 13-1970)

Well folks, the Great and Wonderful LAMSTN District has a problem! The kids in our Kiwanis Clubs’ communities are not being served, and are doing without, because we are not growing to serve the ever-increasing needs out there.

Some of you will stop reading this article now and mumble to yourself, my club is fine just like it is. If you are one of those, then I have a question for you. WHY ARE YOU A KIWANIAN? If you have not repeated “what is Kiwanis” in a while, then I would suggest you do so, even if it means you must read it.

The 2016-17 goal for growth is 752 net new members. This means every club needs to grow by a net 6 at least. Where does your club stand after the first 2 months.? Well district wise we are way behind.

After two months, we have a net of 56 new members and we needed a net 138. So now we are needing to average 70 new members per month. That is about 2 new members a month per club for 10 months. I really do not understand



why every Kiwanian cannot bring in one new member in 10 months? That would be an easy 4,000 new Kiwanians for our district. Is that too much to ask of each Kiwanis member today?

Besides growing our existing clubs, we must start at least 7 new clubs. They have been identified and your Lt. Governor knows the locations. Call and volunteer to help with these.

Think about how wonderful it would be if the Great LAMSTN District had 4,000 new members to service the kids of Louisiana, Mississippi and West Tennessee in 2017-2018. All that takes is one new member per Kiwanian.

PROUD TO BE A KIWANIAN? WILL YOU COMMIT TO BRING IN AT LEAST ONE NEW MEMBER TO YOUR CLUB BY END OF SEPTEMBER 2017???

Message from the Immediate Past Governor

By Gary Graham, Immediate Past Governor

A Resolution for the New Year

As we wrap up the first quarter of our 2016-17 Kiwanis year, we have seen some turn around in our membership losses but it is only the beginning. Last year we lost 259 members in our District, so we have a lot of ground to make up. Read the headlines or listen to the news and it is painfully obvious that Kiwanis is needed now more than ever. An analysis has shown that each Kiwanian impacts 206 children in a year. By that calculation we did not help over 50,000 kids last year that needed us. Read the article in this newsletter on page 5 from the Western Canada District that shows how much Kiwanis has lost over the past 50 years. There is a quote “*Always remember that even if something doesn’t last forever, it doesn’t mean that it’s not worth your time.*” And if we don’t take the time, the LaMissTenn District won’t last because sadly we mirror this article.

Too many of us have grown complacent and have forgotten why we joined Kiwanis. Regardless of the reason you joined you can ask others to share it with you. It is up to each and every one of us to make the change. My preacher recently wrote “*I reflect on this season of stewardship and thanksgiving, I am reminded of a lesson I learned several years ago, when I naively said to my mentor, “I could never be a car salesman.” He laughed. Nothing against selling cars; rather, I felt I did not have the personality for selling cars, or at least the way it is portrayed in television ads. However, he*



changed my mind about the matter, saying, “You could sell the cars you believe in.” He was right! What he meant, of course, was that, if we feel strongly enough about a particular brand of automobile – or anything really – then we could convince others that it is also worth their investment. Wouldn’t you agree? For example, let’s say you know someone that owned a Volvo (my car), who came away from an accident without a scratch. You could sell Volvo cars. Or let’s say you read a particular book that changed your life. You could sell that book. I know someone that claims she was rescued from a life of debt thanks to Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace University. She is sold on it and has sold others on the benefits of that program. If you believe something is worth your investment, then you can convince others of its value, too. Such as that old television ad went: “When my wife bought me a Remington shaver, I was so impressed, I bought the company.” **We invest in what we believe in. We sell that which has made a difference in our lives. We fund the cause whose mission reflects our own.”**

If your club is dying a death of a thousand cuts, then you have to stop the bleeding. As the old adage goes, the definition of insanity is doing the same thing, the same way and hoping for a different result. If your club is not growing, having fun serving the children of your community then you have to take a long hard honest look at where you are. There are new ideas and new ways to adapt to attract members and especially the younger generation, but you have to be willing to try. But this may mean you have to get out of your comfort zone. But you are not alone.

The Formula team of Club Builders and Club Counselors are available to help. They will reach out to you but you can reach out to them. Don’t let another month go by without trying to sell your club, your service and your fun. Start the New Year off with a resolution you can easily keep. Just ask someone to join. I am forever grateful to the late Steve Kaufman for not giving up on me. It took him four times before I finally said yes 26 years ago to joining my club. Everyone can sell something they believe in. If you believe that Kiwanis has made a difference in the lives of children, in your community, and in you then sell it.

Unpleasant Truths Vs. Comforting Lies

An Article from the Western Canada District Recommended by Gary Graham, Immediate Past Governor

It is all too easy to recall the "good old days" and convince ourselves that if we keep doing what made us successful during our first 100 years, Kiwanis will continue to make a significant impact. . . . comforting perhaps.

Face the Facts:

- 1951 was the last year the organization membership stood at its current total.
- The average age of Kiwanis members is 61 for males and 56 for females - up 3 years. Yes, as a group, we are getting older!

- The average club size has shrunk in the last 7 years by 5 members on average.

You may have already seen some of the warning signs:

- slow gradual loss of members year over year;
- difficulty getting new people to serve on the board;
- recycling old executives every few years;
- the same core group beginning to get burnt out.

Where will your club be in 5 years, 10 years from now?

What about the children and community you serve?

While this is an unpleasant future - Kiwanis and Western Canada District (Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District too) have people and resources to help you shape the future of your club and ensure the impact in your community.

**Now more than ever,
#KidsNeedKiwanis!**



Kiwani[®] will you accept and die

The Kiwanis Club of Your-Town passed away quietly on April 1st, 2016 after a long battle with apathy. Chartered May 8th, 1957, the Kiwanis Club is survived by a Key Club, two CKI clubs and an Aktion Club. In its early years the Kiwanis Club worked tirelessly to make Your-Town a stronger community and family and friends will fondly remember the fun and fellowship. The club contracted contentment and inaction eventually leading to its death. Remembrance services will be held . . .



Western Canada District

Greetings from the Governor-Elect

By Otha Britton, Governor-Elect



It is now three months into the 2016-2017 Kiwanis year and things have been happening quickly and intensely. We have had conference calls, meetings, training sessions, decisions to make, and a few other things. Going along with this, however, has been some outstanding service from our clubs, district, and district foundation.

Many of you may not be aware that our Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District is grouped with several other districts (Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Carolinas, Capitol and Kentucky-Tennessee) to form the USA-2 Region of Kiwanis International. Rhonda Vrell from the Kiwanis International staff holds regular conference calls with all of the Governor-Elects of the districts in USA-2. Governor Fred Pitts has the other officers of our district on his conference calls with the Lt. Governors.

In early November all of the Governor-Elects from all over the world met for four days in Indianapolis at the KI headquarters building in order to receive our specialized training in preparation of our year as Governor. At that meeting we heard about the membership declines that Kiwanis International has suffered in the United States. Kiwanis has dropped below the critical 200,000 member level, despite having increases in the membership in the non-United States districts. Needless to say, much of our training involved doing something about this decline in membership. Unfortunately, the Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District was one of the leaders in the decline! It is essential that we make plans to increase our membership levels over the next two years, including the opening of new clubs within the district. The district board and Lt. Governors recently met in Jackson, Mississippi and came up with a plan for opening new clubs and for strengthening existing clubs in our district. Your club can help right away by putting a plan in place for increasing the club's membership. This plan should be part of your club's I-Plan. At the regional conferences this spring we will be presenting a lot of

material about how to increase club membership and how to help open new clubs, so make your plans to attend now. I can't emphasize enough how important this is to the survival of our district.

Please work with your Lt. Governors in determining the Lt. Governor-Elects for this year (to serve as Lt. Governor in 2017-2018). We need these 19 positions to be determined by early January if possible. If you haven't considered serving the district in this capacity yourself, you need to do so. It is a rewarding experience to work with the clubs in your entire division instead of just your own club, plus you will be working with the other Lt. Governors throughout the district. The training for the Lt. Governor-Elects is scheduled for the last weekend in April, so it is essential that we get the names as soon as possible. Being a district officer and working to improve the lives of the children in our district is one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. Thanks for any help you can give.

2016-2017 Mid-Year Regional Conferences

A Closer Look at Membership & Engagement

The LaMissTenn District has put a lot of emphasis on the I-Plan - and rightfully so. As Kiwanis International, the District, and hopefully all clubs are developing our personalized I-Plans to guide our organizations in to the next 100 years!

Probably the most detailed area of the I-Plan - and the most important area - is "Inspiration: Membership and Engagement." Simply put, if a club cannot add members, it will disappear! And with the District losing over 250 members last year, every club needs to focus on ways to add new members to survive.

Inspiration MEMBERSHIP & ENGAGEMENT
 GOAL: To build, retain and support a growing Kiwanis membership network
 STRATEGY: What does this mean to your club? Discussions on how to view and do things differently. Action steps on how to move forward.

Additionally, Governor Fred has included a completed I-Plan in his requirements to be named a "Distinguished Club" for 2016-2017. What better way to get refocused on completing your club's I-Plan, than to be guided through the most difficult portion?

Is your club making progress on your I-Plan?

As we continue into a second century of service and fellowship, we must plan to ensure that our Kiwanis clubs - and most important, the children and communities we serve - flourish long into the future. That's why we present the Kiwanis I-Plan - and work with our clubs to incorporate the plan into the workings of each club.

To succeed, all clubs are encouraged to send at least four members - and even more! to the Mid-Year Regional Conference, to develop, as a team, a working plan for your club that incorporates all 4 "I's" - for the future of your club, the District, and Kiwanis International.

Club members will work together on thoughts to be included on the plan - then share with other clubs. The end result will be a well thought out strategic plan for membership growth - and a suggested format on how to complete the other 3 sections of your club's I-Plan.

The 2016-2017 Mid-Year Regional Conference will be...

- A working meeting, to help each club succeed with a plan;
- A one-day event, starting at 8:00 a.m., and ending before 3:00 p.m.
- Centrally located, at a convenient location within the Region.
- Less expensive! Registration is \$25 per member in advance; on-site are \$30 per member. This fee will include refreshment breaks during the day, and lunch.

TYPICAL 2016-2017 MID-YEAR REGIONAL AGENDA

NOTE: Times may vary slightly by Region

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

REGISTRATION

- Continental Breakfast (*recommended*)
- District Foundation Gift Basket Raffle

8:30 a.m.

Governor Fred meets with Club Presidents & Lt. Governors

9:00 a.m.

OPENING SESSION

- Welcome by Regional Trustee & Introductions

9:15 a.m.

A closer look at Membership and Engagement as it pertains to each club's I-Plan.

LUNCH

Governor Fred Pitts makes his "official visit" to the Divisions of the Region; presentation of the 2015-2016 Awards, and drawings for the Foundation Raffle

FOLLOWING, if needed...

DIVISION COUNCIL MEETING to share information and to elect Lt. Governors and Lt. Governors-Elect if necessary

TRUSTEE ELECTION (if needed for Regions I, II, or III)

2016-2017 Mid-Year Regional Schedule

<p>January 21st <i>"Florida Parishes Region"</i> Region V - Divisions 8A, 8B & 13 Kiwanis Log Cabin, 201 W. Magnolia St., Ponchatoula, La.</p>	<p>February 4th <i>"Southwest Region"</i> Region VI - Divs. 7, 12, & 17 Lafayette Fire Training Center, 300 Dugas Rd., Lafayette, La.</p>	<p>February 11th <i>"Magnolia South Region"</i> Region III - Divisions 3, 5, 14, & 15 SMEPA Convention Center, 7037 Hwy. 49 No., Hattiesburg, Miss.</p>
<p>February 18th <i>"Red River Region"</i> Region VII - Divisions 6, 9 & 11 National Guard Armory, 3102 McDonald Ave., Ruston, La.</p>	<p>February 25th <i>"Natchez Trace North Region"</i> Region II - Divisions 2 & 10 St. Andrew's Methodist Church, 431 No. 16th St., Oxford, Miss.</p>	<p>March 4th <i>"WestTenn Region"</i> Region I - Divisions 1A & 1C Madonna Learning Center, 7007 Poplar Ave., Germantown, Tenn.</p>
 <p>99th Annual La.-Miss.-W.Tenn. District Convention: Natchez, Miss. June 23-25, 2017</p>	<p>March 18th <i>"The Bayou Region"</i> Region IV - Divisions 4A & 4B Crescent Christian School, 4828 Utica St., Metairie, La.</p>	 <p>PARIS ANNUAL CONVENTION 2017 July 13-16, 2017</p>

2016-2017 MID-YEAR REGIONAL REGISTRATION

Club: _____
 President: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Daytime Phone: (____) _____

Please print information below-use additional sheet if necessary:
NAMES of those attending: _____
OFFICE HELD (if any): _____

Registering for Regional Conference...

- Reg. I: Mar. 4th Reg. II: Feb. 25th
 Reg. III: Feb. 11th Reg. IV: Mar. 18th
 Reg. V: Jan. 21st Reg. VI: Feb. 4th
 Reg. VII: Feb. 18th

REGISTRATION FEE MUST BE ENCLOSED:

No. attending: _____ x \$25.00 per person = \$ _____
 Total included: \$ _____

The Registration Fee is \$25 per person

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____

Make check payable to:
La.-Miss.-W.Tenn. Kiwanis
 Mail to:
**5319-B Didesse Dr.
 Baton Rouge, LA 70808-6041**
**Mail at least 2 weeks
 before Regional is scheduled!**

Eliminate Maternal/Neonatal Tetanus

By Dennis Oliver, Project Eliminate Co-Chair



OUR PROMISE TO 61 MILLION MOTHERS AND THEIR BABIES IS TOO IMPORTANT NOT TO KEEP!

Although we have made a great deal of progress:

1. Kiwanis International has reached the goal of 110 million dollars through gifts and pledges.
2. Beginning with 39 countries with babies dying every 9 minutes - ONLY 18 REMAIN!!!!
3. The LAMISSTENN District pledged 2.3 million dollars and is approaching 2 million in gifts and pledges.
4. Our Key Club pledged 100 thousand over 5 years, and they are on schedule to complete their pledge.

YOU SEE, WE HAVE GONE TOO FAR NOT TO CELEBRATE VICTORY!

I am asking every club and division to have ELIMINATE in their weekly/monthly plans.

NEW FOR 2017: GOVERNOR FRED PITTS CHALLENGE - \$20.17 FOR 2017

- Governor Fred Pitts is asking every member to write a check or raise out of your community \$20.17. This amount saves and protects 11 moms and all her future babies! Surely each one of you can do this!
- Clubs are asked to report by District Convention in June
 1. Goes against the goal of pledged clubs
 2. New \$\$\$\$ (SO NEEDED) by clubs who haven't pledged.

UNICEF is waiting on our \$1.80s to head out to the end of the road villages to give shots and educate a generation of women! CAN WE REALLY REFUSE?

Dennis Oliver • Phone: 228-343-5444 • Email: DMOKiwanis@aol.com

ELIMINATE

maternal/neonatal tetanus



Foundation Updates

By Catherine Simmons, District Foundation Grant Chair



**Can YOUR club use some extra cash?
Do you have a project you want to start,
but don't have all the funds?
Well, the **DISTRICT FOUNDATION** can assist!**



Grants up to **\$1,000** are available on a monthly basis (or until funds are depleted). These are reimbursement grants of up to 75% of the cost of the project, up to \$1,000. You have one FULL year to complete the project. You do NOT have to pay all at once; sending in quarterly receipts for reimbursement will allow you to use those funds to continue the project with minimum cash output from your club!

Grants up to **\$5,000** are available only **ONCE** during the administrative year. The deadline to apply is **MARCH 1, 2017**. These are reimbursement grants of up to 75% of the cost of the project, up to \$5,000. You have one FULL year to complete the project. You do NOT have to pay all at once; sending in quarterly receipts for reimbursement will allow you to use those funds to continue the project with minimum cash output from your club!

ONE GRANT PER CLUB PER YEAR



For more information: Visit www.lamisstenn.org. All grant applications are fillable online.

Questions?: Contact the District Foundation Grant Chair, Cathy Simmons
at 504/874-2816 or cathysimmons@cox.net

Make Your Club More Human & Spiritual Values - Conscious

By Court Crow, Human & Spiritual Values Chair

“Happy New Year!” Well, not quite. Our District Administrative Year is already one quarter gone. But it’s not too late to get your club up to speed for *Human and Spiritual Values*.

All six of our Kiwanis International Objects are important pillars on which to build our personal and professional lives and, of course, to build our clubs. But I hope you’ll make an effort in the remainder of 2016-2017 to make your clubs more CONSCIOUS (yes, open their eyes) to our first Object: *to give primacy to the human and spiritual, rather than to the material values of life.*

Absolutely call attention to this object as a life-style. But give examples of how that life style helps build our Kiwanis relationships, our business relationships and even helps build our personal relationships.

May I suggest that either in the context of Kiwanis meetings or our club newsletters that we highlight examples of where by giving “primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life,” we have seen fruits of this behavior? Don’t just find or write small devotionals for your newsletter (which is certainly a good start) but find, create or write examples of Kiwanians using this object in their personal or business experiences.



Just a quick reminder of other suggestions:

1. Be sure that each club meeting starts with an Invocation. May I suggest that we ask different Kiwanians to offer the Invocation each meeting, not the same person? I know change can shake things up, but having the same person each week may make the whole opening ceremony “fall-into-a-rut” while a different person sharing that responsibility or privilege may make it more exciting.

2. Be sure to end each meeting with a Kiwanis prayer. May I suggest the following Kiwanis prayer; it won’t take more than a couple of weeks to learn:

“Dear Lord: In Thy infinite goodness and mercy, look down upon Thy children in this hour of need. Grant unto us the light and the wisdom to know Thee and to serve Thee. And give us the strength and the courage, with Thy help, to face whatever the morrow may bring. And grant us peace. Amen”

3. Start planning now to sponsor a Community Prayer Breakfast ... or a Prayer Breakfast for your K-Family ... or a Prayer Breakfast for the young athletes of your community (co-sponsored with FCA) for the spring. Plan one for the spring to get 2017 started on the right spiritual foot. Your civic leaders will always show up and invite two or three different religious leaders to participate in the breakfast.

4. Start your planning now to recognize a Lay Person of the Year (yes, Layman of the Year) and, maybe, a Young Leader of the Year (high school or college) recognized for the spiritual role models they are in the community. The District will recognize these at the District Convention this summer and I hope we have several nominations from clubs throughout the District.

Please don’t let this committee become one of little consequence. There are so many ways that our clubs can emphasize our first Object and many Kiwanians feel that their clubs broaden their personal ministries in our communities. Let’s make 2016-2017 a year we can remember for our reigniting our love for Human and Spiritual Values.

Aspire to Inspire: LITTLE NEEDZUM

By Jeems White, III, Past Governor



The glare was blazing bright. It was difficult to open my eyes as I slowly regained consciousness and became aware of the surroundings. The brilliant light was coming from the lights over my bed in some kind of medical facility. I became aware of people gazing down at me with concerned looks on their faces. One spoke and said, “You’re going to be okay. You are in the Emergency Room at the hospital.”

I focused on his face. It was serious, but friendly with a slight smile. A glance at the name tag pinned neatly to his crisp white lab coat showed his name, “N. Elp, M.D.” Dr. Elp continued with further explanation. “You were attending a basketball game at the local high school when you apparently collapsed and had a cardiac arrest. Luckily for you the Kiwanis Club had provided an Automated External Defibrillator to the school and the prompt action of several faculty restored your cardiac rhythm. Our tests show no permanent damage. You have a good heart but it just needed a little help.”

By now my sensorium had recovered and I recalled being with the group that had delivered the AED unit to the school. Having been a

member of the Kiwanis club for several decades I remembered the AED project and how proud we were to provide the AED for the school. At the time I never imagined that it would one day save my own life!

As some of the people around my bed left the area Dr. Elp continued with his explanation of my medical condition, “We don’t think you have had a heart attack, but will keep you overnight for observation and monitoring. We will do some further testing in the morning and if all is well, will let you go home then.”

What was familiar about that name? “Elp” was an unusual last name but why did it seem so familiar? In the bustle of being transported to the Cardiac ICU and connected to untold wires, tubes and monitors it faded away from my thoughts.... but later it again centered into my memory. Yes, it was at an awards ceremony for the Terrific Kids. Our Kiwanis club sponsored the Terrific Kids program at several local elementary schools and a remarkable thing had happened that morning. One of the second graders whose name was “Needzum” had just received his certificate for accomplishing the goal he had set for himself. Needzum was shorter than the other students his age and seemed very shy, but he had a big smile on his face even though he was a little fidgety and nervous holding the certificate. “Needzum,” I had asked, “Why are you so nervous about receiving your certificate for being a terrific kid?”

Little Needzum became very serious and glanced at the floor, then replied, “Because I’m going to show this certificate to my momma.... be-

cause she calls me ‘stupid’ every day.”

Sedation allowed a good night’s sleep in the ICU and I awakened refreshed. The nurses bustled around checking on me and the other patients. Dietary brought a light breakfast and through it all I processed the events of the day before, including that puzzling memory from the Terrific Kids awards ceremony. Then Dr. Elp arrived for morning rounds. After a few questions and his examination, he reviewed my chart records and test results, then with a big smile said, “Your test results are excellent and everything looks fine. You may go home today and we will give you a few written instructions.”

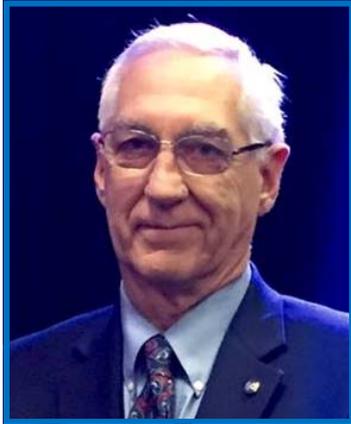
My curiosity burst through my relief and gratitude. “Dr. Elp,” I asked. “What does the ‘N.’ on your nametag mean?” “Why, it’s for my first name,” he replied, “My first name is ‘Needzum.’” I was overwhelmed. Here was that short, nervous little second-grader who twenty years later was my doctor and helped save my life.

I hesitantly asked Dr. Elp if he remembered that awards ceremony from so long ago. “Remember it?” he said. “Of course I do, it changed my life. It gave me the ego strength to overcome a great many things and eventually to enter medical school and become the person I am today.”

I was awestruck and dumbfounded. Then a sense of pride and renewal swept over me. There are so many children out there struggling with the many difficulties of life. Just like yesterday when my heart needed a little help, maybe they also just NEEDZUM ELP.

K-Kids: Super Cool Activities

By Don Eye, K-Kids District Chairman



Hard to believe, but the first semester of the school year is over and our K-Kids are home and celebrating the holidays. By now you know your K-Kids are special and can accomplish whatever task you put in front of them. Whether it be community, school, or a project for the world, they attack it with new energy and do it better than most Kiwanis Clubs.

This year the local K-Kids earned over \$3,500 for the Le Bonheur Children's Hospital by sponsoring a local TV celebrity in his bike trip around Memphis. Every year it earns hundreds of thousands toward helping children with unbelievable health issues. K-Kids have helped causes throughout the world and I am proud to be a part of such a rewarding group of children.

Another group collected funds by filling their UNICEF Trick-or-Treat boxes, decorating them and competing in a "Best Box" contest. Scary Halloween boxes!

Other activities included:

- **Mock Elections...**which turned out to be correct.
- **Christmas Elves...**cleaning classrooms before the school day started. Teachers loved it.

- **Collecting Supplies...**for area senior's day care facility.
- **Veterans Day...**school program run by the K-Kids
- **Letters to veterans...**delivered to VA Hospital by Kiwanis Club.
- **Operation Christmas Child...**a part of Samaritan's Purse Operation packing shoe boxes for children around the world. If you heard Emma Haddix's K-Kids speech last August, you would remember this program caused her to give up her Christmas to help a child on the other side of the globe.
- **Operation Mitten Tree...**K-Kids directed school collection of scarves, hats, and mittens for a school in an extremely poor area.
- **Christmas Parade Float...**all the area K-Kids rode the Kiwanis float in the city Christmas Parade and handed out candy and sang carols along the way. Great Image!

For the life of me I cannot understand why any Kiwanis Club would not have a K-Kids Club if they have an elementary school in their area. It is a certain bridge to Kiwanis. I enjoyed this semester with my K-Kids. They say I am not 73, but 11 with 62 years of experience.

I accept that. Please start a K-Kids Club. You will not regret it.

- Don Eye



Key Leader Updates

By Linda Ramsey, Key Leader District Committee Chair of the North

Dear LAMISSTENN Kiwanians,

Key Leader Weekend registration is now open for Camp Lakeshore in Eva, TN just outside of Camden, TN. This year's event will take place on May 5-7, 2017 beginning with registration on May 5 from 4-6PM. Supper immediately follows registration, and the educational program begins at 7PM. Saturday afternoon the participants will complete a ropes course, and that evening when we complete our program activities, we will have a bonfire, and the program will be completed at noon on Sunday, May 7, 2017.

Key Leader is a weekend jam-packed with lots of information on how to become a leader and a productive part of your community and school. Sponsorships are available, and students who have attended Key Leader before are eligible to apply and serve as Student Facilitators to help administer the activities. We spend the night in cabins, and the food is delicious and the location is beautiful.

Please encourage any young people that you know between the ages of 14 and 18 to consider taking advantage of this wonderful opportunity to engage with other young people from across the region in valuable learning experiences that they will remember for a lifetime. Our Lead Facilitator will be trained by Kiwanis International, and he/she will be a motivational speaker who will inspire everyone in attendance.

Parents, teachers, advisors are all invited to serve as chaperones for this event. If you are interested, please let me know, and I will tell you how to register. Students may register at any time by going to www.key-leader.org. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at lramsey@utm.edu.

Thanks for any help you can be in recruiting students for this event.

Sincerely,

Linda Ramsey



Making a Difference!

By Wanda Farbe, Camellia City Kiwanis Club

AKTION CLUB HELPS FLOOD VICTIMS

Pastors Andrew and Margaret Simms are husband and wife and were impacted by the recent floods here in Louisiana. Members of the **Camellia City Aktion Club** in Slidell saw a need and sprang into action. They collected and donated food and other items for the flood victims. The items were delivered to the Martin Luther King Center in Baton Rouge by Pastor Margaret Simms, where they were included with other goods collected and distributed to the many people affected by the devastating flood.



CAMELLIA CITY CLUB RECEIVES YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING

At its regularly scheduled meeting on October 11th, members of the **Camellia City Kiwanis Club** in Slidell received Youth Protection Training from Russ Kercher. This training is now required by Kiwanis, if members have any involvement with children.

Present for the training from left to right are: Camellia City Kiwanis, Slidell members Mike Collins, Richard Glad, Wanda Farbe, Miranda Parker, Amber Andre (president-elect), Christina Lowrance, Shelley D'Antoni (secretary), Barb Hogan, Jonna Turner, Russ Kercher (Northshore Kiwanis, Mandeville). Not pictured Eddie Vauthier (current president).



CAMELLIA CITY CLUB HONORS TERRIFIC KIDS

On December 8th, Terrific Kids Awards were presented at Brock Elementary School for the months of October and November by the **Kiwanis Club of Camellia City, Slidell** represented by members Wanda Farbe, Richard Glad and Barb Hogan. Ochsner Medical Center Community Outreach, sponsors the Camellia City Kiwanis Terrific Kids' Program. Students are chosen by their teachers to receive the awards because they have shown leadership and good citizenship in school and their community. Students work with their teachers to improve behavior, peer relationships, attendance, and schoolwork and are rewarded for meeting their goals during a certain time frame.

"Terrific" is an acronym for *Thoughtful, Enthusiastic, Respectful, Responsible, Inclusive, Friendly, Inquisitive* and *Capable*.



Trunk or Treat!

By: Emily Berry, East St. Mary Kiwanis Club

On October 22nd, the **East St. Mary Kiwanis Club**, Division 17, had its 1st annual booth at the Main Street Trunk or Treat at Lawrence Park in Morgan City, Louisiana. In hosting a booth at the event, the club hopes to have lived up to our goal of making a difference in children's lives in our community.

The booth provided free superhero themed carnival type games to the trunk or treaters. Some games included were: frisbee toss, can knock down, giant Jenga, giant bowling, an obstacle course, a cupcake walk, wash off tattoos, bean bag toss, candy guessing booth, and spider sticky hoops. Cupcakes and tattoos were free and were available for up to 300 kids.

There was a constant flow of people through our booth. Well over 1000 people attended which exceeded our expectation. Special thanks goes to the Morgan City High School Key Club members who helped make our booth a success by volunteering their time.

A good time was had by all and we look forward to participating in next year's event!

→ *East St. Mary Kiwanis Club President Travis Richard and Vice President Brandon Monceaux help out at the giant bowling game.*



Morgan City High School Key Club members help with games alongside East St. Mary Kiwanis members at the Main Street Trunk or Treat this past Halloween at Lawrence Park in Morgan City, La.



Boo at the Zoo!

From Big Easy, New Orleans and Pontchartrain Kiwanis Clubs' Facebook Pages

Kiwanians from the Big Easy, New Orleans and Pontchartrain Clubs volunteered for the 21st year of the Children's Hospital "Boo at the Zoo." **Kiwanis Club of Pontchartrain** members and family worked in the children's games area and the **Kiwanis Clubs of Big Easy** and **New Orleans** members helped out at the *Ghost Train*.



Hammond Aktion Club Recognized

By Vic Couvillion, Hammond Kiwanis Club

The Hammond Kiwanis Aktion Club, sponsored by the Hammond Kiwanis Club, has been recognized as a 2015-16 Distinguished Club award recipient. Members of the club accepted an honors patch with great cheers at the group's annual Christmas Party held in early December.

The Distinguished Club Award program provides recognition to individual sponsored clubs for their overall performance in the combined areas of club administration, membership and leadership development, Kiwanis-family involvement, and service and fund-raising efforts. Club performance is judged against a pre-established standard of excellence.

Hammond Kiwanis Club member and one of the founders of the local Aktion Club, Terry King, said of the award, "This is a crowning achievement for our Aktion Club. When the club was started several years ago, the members had to learn how to con-

duct a meeting, how to participate in community service and how to work together as a group to form a very special club that is marked by growing bonds of fellowship. This has been a remarkable journey for Aktion Club members and our Kiwanis Club members."

Judy Couvillion, Community Services Chairman for the Hammond Kiwanis Club's involvement with the Aktion Clubs, said "This is one of the greatest things our club has ever accomplished...the founding of an Aktion Club. The Aktion Club has brought a whole new world of experiences to the members and at the same time has brought a great sense of joy to our Kiwanians."

Couvillion said that one of the rewarding aspects of working with Aktion Club members is the joy the members receive from performing community service. Aktion Club members are regulars at community clean-up days sponsored by Keep

Hammond Beautiful. Aktion Club members truly enjoy picking up many bags of litter from city streets, Couvillion said. The Aktion Club also assists the Hammond Kiwanis Club at its largest fund raiser, The Tour de Tangipahoa Bicycle Ride.

Aktion Club members have also assisted in community events and at the Options center, where they volunteer to help with projects.

Over the past several years the Hammond Kiwanis Club has taken Aktion Club members on educational trips such as a visit to the football and basketball headquarters at LSU, the Aquarium of the Americas and Audubon Park in New Orleans, and to Zephyr baseball games.

"I have some advice for Kiwanis Clubs in our district. If you don't sponsor an Aktion Club, give it some consideration. Working with Aktion Club members is a wonderful experience. I have always been proud to be a member of Kiwanis, and our work with the Aktion Club only enhances that pride," King said.



HOLIDAY CELEBRATION - Members of the Hammond Kiwanis Aktion Club gathered for a Christmas party and celebration in early December. Aktion Club members were celebrating the recently earned by being recognized as a 2015-16 Distinguished Club by Kiwanis International. The Aktion Club was recognized for its community service, club administration, membership and leadership development and fund raising.

Greater Covington's Dan Johnson

Published with the Approval of Barry Lemoine, The Times-Picayune Greater New Orleans



St. Bernard native and Covington resident Dan Johnson was recently named as Kiwanis Lt. Governor for Division 13 for the 2016-17 year.

Dan Johnson's life is centered on faith, family, friends, and fellowship. The Covington resident who has deep, current ties to St. Bernard Parish, was recently named as Kiwanis Lt Governor for Division 13 for 2016-17.

Johnson said the goal is to reach the children in the community by building self-esteem, character development and leadership.

Johnson's affiliation with Kiwanis goes back 20 years, having been a member of the St. Bernard Kiwanis Club, the Northshore Mandeville Club and now the **Kiwanis Club of Greater Covington**. Each is a part of LaMissTenn District which covers all of Louisiana, all of Mississippi and the Western part of Tennessee.

As Lt. Governor of District 13,

Johnson represents Kiwanis Clubs in Amite, Franklinton, Hammond, Ponchatoula, Covington, Mandeville and Slidell.

Johnson said his specific role is to cheerlead and encourage Presidents of the other Kiwanis Clubs.

"The vision, as Lt. Governor, is to make sure all clubs have more hands on service in the community to affect children," Johnson said. He referred to his new position as "amazing and rewarding."

"I love the order and structure that is in place to reach every community in the world," he said. "To think that I am one of one million beating hearts in the world with the same mission and mindset to build children in the areas of self-esteem, character development and leadership - it's mind-blowing."

Johnson said the latest Kiwanis initiative is to develop a strategic growth action plan called the IPLAN.

"The four I's of the plan are Inspire, Impact, Image and Investment," he said. "By September of 2017 I would like to see every Kiwanis Club in my Division 13 to have their IPLAN develop for one year, three year and five-year goals involving the four I's of the plan.

How they are going to inspire their current and future members to keep the passion of Kiwanis alive to live the Kiwanis mission."

Johnson recently turned 64 and said he is grateful for the life he has shared with his wife Gloria, and their three daughters and six grandchildren. He has an especially close bond with his daughter Ashley.

"I was told in late 2000 that I had kidney failure and that by 2010 my kidney function was reduced down to 20 percent which made me eligible for a kidney transplant," he said.



Johnson has a special bond with his daughter Ashley, who donated one of her kidneys' to help him

After being on a waiting list for a while, Johnson reluctantly allowed his daughter, Ashley to be tested.

Continued on Page 20 . . .

Greater Covington's Dan Johnson Continued

By Barry Lemoine, The Times-Picayune Greater New Orleans

"Miraculously, Ashley was a perfect match," he said.

On Jan. 17, 2011 Ashley and her dad were admitted to the hospital for the successful transplant. Johnson said he and Ashley have had an annual birthday celebration for the kidney on Jan. 17 ever since.

"This was a special moment orchestrated by God from the very beginning," he said. "Ashley and I have a special bond now that rises above most father and daughter relationships because of this experience. We knew God had His hand in it all along and because of that our faith has grown even stronger."

Johnson has always been a man of faith. In fact, this Covington-based CPA holds a weekly Bible study in his satellite office in Chalmette. An Arabi resident for over 50 years, Johnson said moving after Katrina was a sort of spiritual catalyst.

"When we moved to the North Shore after Katrina, I discovered an opportunity to learn more about my faith by deeply delving into the Bible through independent study to small groups with other men or couple groups with my wife, Gloria," he said.

He said a year ago, he considered starting a Bible Study group

with some of his friends in St. Bernard Parish.

"Next thing I know many of the men and others in the parish who had heard about the conversation approached me as to when I was going to start the group," he said.

"That's when I knew it was a God moment - when men's hearts were being set aflame to get to know more about their faith."



Johnson is a CPA with offices in Covington and Chalmette who lives and works with this wife, Gloria.

Johnson said those Thursday mornings are his favorite day of the week.

"These men are more than relationships. It is indeed a fellowship that runs much deeper," he said.

"We give God credit every week for providing time on our busy schedules to meet and discuss what His plans and direction are for our lives. We always say that God has us in a crock pot on low. It's a pro-

cess that will take us the rest of our lives and we are very excited about this."

Johnson said he loves being in "the parish" each week, and reconnecting with old friends, but he said he also feels at home in Covington too.

"I am very grateful that everyone that I met embraced me, wholeheartedly," he said.

Johnson said whether he is teaching scripture or preparing financial statements, he sees himself as a sort of coach, helping others to grow.

He said witnessing personal growth in others truly makes him proud.

"I am most proud to see people run the race of life with a positive attitude and with a purpose to make a difference in the lives of others," Johnson said.

He said seeing others lead and inspire, in a humble, caring and kind way really touches him.

"When I see people exercise these traits in their circumstances or in the circumstances of others they touch, it can move me to tears. Yeah, it's an emotional moment for me and makes me proud," Johnson said.

A Record Setting Christmas Food Drive

By Vic Couvillion, Hammond Kiwanis Club

Continuing a long-standing tradition, the **Hammond Kiwanis Club** once again successfully completed its 2016 Christmas Food Drive and did so in a record setting manner. The club collected sufficient non-perishable food items to generously fill 80 boxes, the most ever by the club.

The club employs a highly successful formula for gathering the huge amount of food that generous residents of Hammond eagerly contribute. Days before the food drive, club members place notices in the mailboxes of residents in selected neighborhoods and subdivisions. The notices inform residents that if they wish, they can leave a box or bag of food on their doorsteps for the Kiwanis food drive.

“The invitations to donate food notes that the resident will not be disturbed, we won’t be ringing any doorbells...and we think that is important,” said Club President Joe Morris.

On Saturday, Dec. 17, club members, along with Key Club members from Hammond Magnet High School and St. Thomas Aquinas Regional Catholic High School, fanned out in the areas where the notices were placed and then picked up the food that had been left by home owners.



Club member Patrick Coudrain is loaded down with food items destined for boxes that will eventually be filled and given to needy families. Coudrain was one of about two dozen Kiwanians who participated in the drive.

Once all the collections were completed, the food was brought to a central location where it was sorted and then boxed. The club always adds a chicken and a loaf of bread to each box. The boxes are given to needy families in the community. Kiwanis Club members who know of families who are in need are given first choice for the donation of a box of food. The Kiwanis Club also works with the local United Way office to channel boxes of food to needy families.

The annual event is truly a “K-Day” happening because it involves dozens of Kiwanians and Key Club members.

“Our food drive is one of the best things we do as a Kiwanis Club. Not only are we helping needy families, but this service provides a great deal of joy for our members and Key Clubbers. It’s just amazing how much food we gather. This is a tribute to our citizens who are so generous...some of them even thank us for giving them the opportunity to participate in helping others by donating to our food drive. This is something we look forward to each year,” Morris concluded.

↓ (Left) Members of the Hammond Kiwanis Club, Key Club members from Hammond High Magnet School and St. Thomas Aquinas High School and some volunteers are all smiles as they pose for a picture behind the 80 boxes they filled with food items for needy families. With a wealth of volunteers, the work of gathering the food, sorting it and boxing it is quickly accomplished.

↓ (Right) Hammond Kiwanis Club members Jay Johnson, John Bergeron and Pat Settoon sort food items gathered from the front steps of homes in the community during the club’s annual Christmas Food Drive.



BRAIN POWER!

By Jim Clark, Martin Kiwanis Club

University of Tennessee at Martin staff members Mr. Andrew Morency and Kiwanis member Dr. Ann Gathers visited K-Kids and the after school group at Martin (TN) Elementary school on Oct. 6, and presented a program on the human brain, how to protect it from injury and the effects of alcohol and drugs on the brain. That's Andrew setting up a display of sheep brains to let the students have "hands on" examination of the various parts of the brain and their function. The most common question was "Where do you get these?" Answer: "From the internet!" One student noted that this was one of the coolest things that she had ever done! **Martin Kiwanis** members attending the meeting as guests included Mary Elizabeth Bell and Jim Clark.



1



2

1. Mr. Andrew sets up his display of sheep brains as K-Kids and after school students wait (somewhat) patiently.
2. Mr. Andrew explains "olfactory" -- think of "stinky old factory" with Kiwanis member and K-Kids mentor Anita Bell's help!
3. This is way cool!



3

A Partnership of Greatness

By Jeff Bryant Hub City Kiwanis Club

The Hub City Kiwanis Club partnered with the Hattiesburg Kiwanis Club, both of Hattiesburg, MS, for our Annual Pancake Day which was held at the Sigler Center on Saturday, December 3, 2016. This is each groups' largest fundraiser of the year to be able to provide for those children and children's organization we support. This is a heavily supported event from the Hattiesburg community and very much appreciated. Pancake Day has been around since 1962.

Both groups also participate yearly with the Hattiesburg Salvation Army Kettle Bell Ringing. Hattiesburg Kiwanis Club was presented with the Kettle Monday, December 5th at the Turtle Creek Mall and the Hub City Kiwanis Club was presented with the Kettle December 6th and 13th at Walmart Highway 49. Both clubs also support the Hattiesburg Salvation Army and its Boys and Girls Clubs.



Division 3 Lieutenant Governor Leighton Miller, Hub City Kiwanis Club member, says two forks up!

Kiwanis Kares!

By Catherine Simmons, New Orleans Kiwanis Club & Vic Couvillon, Hammond Kiwanis Club



(Center) La. Miss. W. Tenn. Kiwanis District Governor Fred Pitts and (left to right) Past La. Miss. W. Tenn. Kiwanis District Governors, Gary Graham, Leonard Simmons and Greg Beard, chip in at the Kiwanis Kares event in Walker, La. to assist flood victims.

On November 12th, over 65 Kiwanians from 14 different Kiwanis Clubs converged in the town of Walker, La., (population just a little over 6,000). Why? Because there was a need; a need to assist our neighbors of the Greater Baton Rouge community in the aftermath of the horrendous August floods that devastated their community with 4-9 feet of floodwaters!

Paying it forward ... At the first divisional council meeting of the new Kiwanis Year, Division 4A (Greater New Orleans) Lt. Governor Carole Nungesser asked her clubs for ideas of how we could help. After Hurricane Katrina flooded the City of New Orleans, many Kiwanians from the Greater Baton Rouge area came to help us - now it was

our turn to help them. We knew all too well the recovery time would be a long and arduous task. Many teams of Kiwanians were already gutting homes; we wanted to bring them some relief. What about a hot meal, and some games for the children?

We applied for, and received a grant from the Kiwanis International Foundation to feed 1,000 people a hot meal, and distribute 1,000 “Energy-to-Go” tote bags. These bags were filled with energy drinks, protein bars, cheese crackers, granola bars, mints, toothbrushes, oranges and baby wipes. Small stuffed animals would be given to the children. (Vendors from all over New Orleans area, as well as Walker, either donated or greatly discounted these items.)

We teamed up with the Walker Kiwanis Club to find a venue for this event. President, and former Mayor Travis Clark secured Walker High School as the venue; LaFleur’s Seafood Restaurant and the Livingston Parish Sheriff’s Office would cook 1,100 meals of fried fish, side dishes and dessert; and using the school’s Coca-Cola representative, would deliver over 5,000 drinks to the school for the event.

On the morning of the event, the staging area looked like a supermarket! We set up 6 assembly lines to stuff all the energy totes. WOW – 1,000 bags stuffed to the gills in 31 minutes!

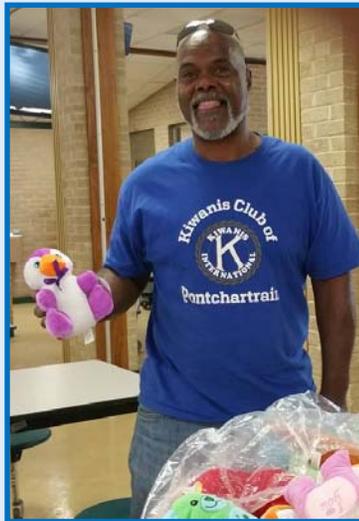
By 11:30 am, the lines of Walker residents were wrapping around the cafeteria, and were non-stop until 1:45pm. Most people took their meal as take out, so they could get back to working on their homes, while some stayed and visited in the cafeteria. There were children’s games and activities for those who stayed. By the end of the day, a little over 600 meals had been served to the community. The left-over food was donated to area churches and shelters. Extra totes with energy drinks and protein bars were distributed during the week to needy families in the 5 elementary schools of Walker. Remaining stuffed animals were given to the Walker Police and Fire Departments to be used for abused children and children in crisis.

A **HUGE** thanks goes out to the **Kiwanis International Foundation** and the following **Kiwanis clubs** for their assistance with this amazing event: **Algiers, Big Easy, New Orleans, Pontchartrain, St. Bernard-Arabi, Third District, Dawn Busters, Lakeside, Walker, Downtown Baton Rouge, Cortana, Denham Springs, Hammond** and **Alexandria**.

Pictures on pages 25 & 26 . . .

Kiwanis Kares! Snap Shots

By Catherine Simmons, New Orleans Kiwanis Club & Vic Couvillion, Hammond Kiwanis Club



More Pictures on page 26 . . .

Kiwanis Kares! Snap Shots

By Catherine Simmons, New Orleans Kiwanis Club & Vic Couvillion, Hammond Kiwanis Club



Fantastic Fall Book Walk

By Jim Clark, Martin Kiwanis Club



The fall Kiwanis One Day project for the **Kiwanis Club of Martin, Tennessee** brought together members of the local Key Club and K-Kids, their Kiwanis Club sponsors, and many children in the community.

In addition to several Kiwanis Club volunteers, district governor-elect Otha Britton and local Kiwanis Club president Jim Clark pitched in to help.

“The fall book walk was indeed a success,” said Jenny Claiborne, director of children’s and youth services at C. E. Weldon Library.

Approximately 30 children completed the book walk on Saturday, Oct. 29, from 10 – 11 a.m. at the Harrison Road Disc Golf Park. Parents, friends, and volunteers also enjoyed the beautiful day at one of Martin’s convenient and beautiful parks.

After registering and receiving a map and instruction sheet, groups of children and parents walked around the park to read signs with laminated copies of pages from the featured book, “The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything,” a popular seasonal story by author Linda Williams and colorfully illustrated by Megan Lloyd.

At six tables staffed by volunteers and located on the book walk path, children colored cutouts of shoes, pants, a shirt, hat, gloves, and a pumpkin, all items associated with this story about a brave woman who comes up with a creative solution to a problem. At the last table on the walk, children glued together the pieces collected from the activity tables in order to complete a scarecrow.

Children then returned to the registration table for refreshments, a bag of treats, and several free books. Included in the “goody” bag were cookies, a pen, a pencil, soap bubbles, candy, four bookmarks (one with the phrase “dig into reading” showed a delightful picture of a porcupine with glasses reading in a comfortable woody room), and important safety reminders about practicing home fire escape plans - crawling low below the smoke - in case of an emergency.

The three free books distributed to children and families were “F. A. C. T.: First Aid for Children Today”; “The Be Ready Book” about preparing families for emergencies such as home fires, winter storms, and earthquakes; and “All about Your Health,” a book of puzzles, games, and activities to raise health awareness. These books are also available free at C. E. Weldon Library.

The fall book walk was sponsored by the C. E. Weldon Public Library, the Kiwanis Club of Martin, and Martin Parks and Recreation. Alderman David Belote and his wife Dawn enjoyed walking with

children and others and chatting with the volunteers.

Kiwanis volunteers and friends included Otha Britton, Jim and Anna Clark, Ann Gathers, Sara Sieber (planning to join Kiwanis in November), and Linda Ramsey.

Westview Key Club volunteers were Ann Margaret Carithers, Taylor Hoffman, Wyatt Jones, Jordan Lybrook, and Johana Romero.

K-Kids volunteer from Martin Elementary School was Sadie Claiborne, president of the group for this school year.

Kiwanis President Jim Clark explained that this fall book walk was a “Kiwanis One Day” activity, a time when members of Kiwanis-sponsored youth groups come together with the Kiwanis Club to volunteer for a community project.

Clark said, “Everybody involved - children, parents, friends, and volunteers - had a great time!”



A Special Dance for Special Kids

By Catherine Simmons, New Orleans Kiwanis Club

The Annual Fall Dance for the High School students and adults of St. Michael Special School took on a “Tail-gating” theme, as members of the **Kiwanis Club of New Orleans** met with the Student Council to plan their dance. “Saints all the Way!” one student exclaimed, while others cheered for LSU. “Can we wear our Pelican Jerseys?” Absolutely. Tail-gating for ANY team was the order of the day. The menu

of Sliders, chips and cookies was decided. The art department got busy making a beautiful back drop of the Superdome for dance photos, as well as sports decorations for all the tables. Each member of the student council could pick their favorite song, and it would be produced into a CD playlist for the dance. There would be games of horseshoes, corn hole and bowling for those not wanting to dance.

On the day of the dance, students entered by way of a football field floor runner, and the LSU fight song. Fresh popcorn filled the air, music played and the feet started dancing like crazy! At times, it seemed as though everyone, even the Kiwanians, were on the dance floor line dancing to the Wobble or the Electric slide!



Annual Reelfoot Road Race

From Union City Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

On Saturday, November 12, **Union City Kiwanis Club** members were happy to help with the 38th Annual Reelfoot Road Race, the oldest 10K in Tennessee. It consists of a 10,000 meter race and a 5,000 meter race. The race began at Union City Elementary School. Race proceeds support both the Obion County and Union City High School Cross Country Teams and Union City Kiwanis Club.



Ringling Bells!

By Melanie Blakeney, Memphis Kiwanis Club

'Tis the Season! **Kiwanis Club of Memphis** rang the bells for the Salvation Army on Saturday, December 3rd and December 10th from 10 am to 4pm. The mission of the Salvation Army is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

← Pictured from left to right are Past Lt. Governor Dianne Polly, Cynthia Thomas, and Terry Blue.



Kiwanis Keeping Busy!

By Debbie Salvant, Cortana Kiwanis Club

The fall has been a busy time for **Cortana Kiwanis**. During this time the district shoe drive, Shoes for Shots, was wrapping up. Many Cortana members, led by Jeff Wittenbrink, donated many bags of shoes to raise money for The Eliminate Project. When the time came to sort the shoes and load them onto the Funds2orgs truck, several of our members spent hours volunteering. The funds Cortana received for this project put us over the top to complete our club's Eliminate Model Club pledge.

The Children's Miracle Network is always important to Kiwanis. Cortana's own Danny Fields headed the annual Radiothon held at Our Lady of the Lake (OLOL) Hospital. Not only did Cortana present a check to Danny in the amount of \$10,000 but several members manned phone lines during the Cortana Kiwanis Power Hour to accept pledges to benefit the children of our region.

November and December always mean working with families to provide food baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Cortana works with Catholic Charities through the Diocese of Baton Rouge to identify 24 families in need of assistance. Our members pick up 27 different food items to place in boxes for each family. The food is delivered to the families by our members as well. It has been a rewarding experience for our members to meet the families and visit for a while. Occasionally, members choose to bring small Christmas gifts for the children of the household.

Shoes for Shots ↓



← Our Lady of the Lake Hospital Radiothon ↓



Thanksgiving & Christmas Food Drive ↑

Granting Christmas Wishes

By Nathalie Laeoux, New Iberia-Cajun Kiwanis Club



Once again this year, **Cajun Kiwanis of New Iberia** presented the annual “Christmas Wishes” program. The event was held at Magnolia Elementary School on December 16th. Club members made Christmas a happier one for approximately 40 Magnolia Elementary students of ages four and five. Costumed characters told stories, students participated in balloon art and sang Christmas carols, and of course, everyone met Santa Claus. Each child was given an individually wrapped Christmas present at the conclusion of the program.

Cajun Kiwanis is a small club, and Christmas Wishes requires full membership participation. In fact, almost 100% of our members help with the project every year. The program has been presented at various venues for the past 30 years. For many years, the program was presented for developmentally challenged children. This year’s group of children, drawn from the general student population, received an age appropriate book, coloring book with colors and a balloon art as a Christmas gift.



A Club that Cares for All Ages!

By Doris Rappold, Kenner North Kiwanis Club



Kenner North Kiwanis (KNK) is a club whose activities transcend the ages of the recipients of its projects. Kenner North recently held its annual Christmas Party at Chateau Living Center, where residents were treated to food and drink, as well as to two wonderfully decorated Christmas cakes. All residents were invited and KNK's resident

song leader Frank Ellis led the group in singing Christmas songs. Special thanks goes to Mary North for chairing the Christmas party.

When it's not holiday time, Kenner North, under the supervision of chairperson Larry Sevenker, does a monthly fish fry for the gentleman residents, complete with fish, cold slaw, fries and O'Doul's beverage.

As part of KNK's adoption of Washington Montessori School, a holiday banquet was held by our club for the members of the newly sponsored K-Kids and Glee Club members and their parents. Members of the already established Student Council and their parents were also invited to encourage participa-

tion and leadership at the school. Chef John Proctor from New Orleans Mission donated and prepared the food. A recent award winner, Chef Proctor prepares 700 Mission meals a day.

The spirit of Christmas is alive and well with Kenner North Kiwanis.



Dyersburg Charters New Key Club

By Danny Walden, Dyersburg Kiwanis Club

At their regular Wednesday meeting, the **Dyersburg Kiwanis Club** presented the charter to the newly formed Key Club of Dyer County High School (DCHS). Led by club member Heather McFarland, the Dyersburg club has helped organize Key Clubs in both area high schools. The Dyersburg High School (DHS) charter will be presented at a later date.

Lieutenant Governor John Fry assisted with the presentation, followed by an introduction of DCHS Key Club officers and representatives from each class. Will Studdard, Key Club president, led a presentation that outlined the first service project that the club plans to undertake. Seeing the need to help less privileged young people, the club is organizing itself to collect non-perishable food items to be distributed prior to spring break. Members will be working to collect snacks and individual food portions that will be given to the principals of county elementary and middle schools for distribution. Only the principals will know the identity of

the recipients.

“It’s our goal to provide food to young people during spring break because we feel there is a need,” said Studdard. “This fits the goals of Key Clubs world wide. We intend to have an impact on our local

community by serving others.”

Those wanting to support the Dyer County Key Club can contact the sponsors, Hilary Norrid and Todd Ross at DCHS. The club accepts donations of nonperishable food and money.



Seated from left to right: Gracie Brock, club editor; Haylee Petty, junior representative; Victoria Travis, senior representative; Rebecca Clemmer, freshman representative; and Isabella Trasolini, sophomore representative

Standing from left to right: Will Studdard, president; Heather McFarland, Dyersburg Kiwanis Club member; Grace Anne Deal, vice president; Hilary Norrid, sponsor; Lindsay Maupin, secretary; Todd Ross, sponsor; and Javen Loveless, treasurer

Helping the Methodist Children’s Home of Mississippi

By John L. Dugan, Starkville Kiwanis Club

The Kiwanis Club of Starkville assisted the Methodist Children’s Home of Mississippi (MCHM) by converting an old administrative building into a desperately needed medical and therapy clinic at the Clinton, MS facility. Originally, the facility had a bland courtyard in the center which has now been transformed into a visitor center to be used by the fifty plus resident children at MCHM when they have family, relatives or other friends visiting.

All children and staff of MCHM will benefit from having a quiet, private place for such visits. This 2016 project was accomplished by crafting a cypress and cedar wood trestle table with two matching benches and installing these pieces in the courtyard. We also cleared the surrounding property of debris and

landscaped four areas at the site, which included new plants, soil amendments and mulch.

Additionally, one Saturday was spent cleaning a newly renovated residence, which was occupied by 10 young boys and their house parents. Dr. Clint Graves, a long-time member of our club and former Spiritual Aims Committee chair, was our inspiration for the project.

Our club donated \$950 and expended approximately 80 man hours of service through 8 members including the 125-mile drive each way to and from the site. We partnered with a plant nursery in Semmes, AL, the local Coop and a Starkville frame shop. Each of these organizations donated plants, landscape materials and/or other supplies and services.

The table and benches, which were shown to Dr. Graves before he died on August 6, 2016, were installed in the courtyard prior to the dedication of the Clinic on September 20, 2016. The project was completed as a memorial to Dr. Graves, and his name will be appropriately displayed on a ceramic mosaic with the KI emblem in the MCHM courtyard.

The mosaic will also depict biblical scenes of faith and hope, and it is our expectation that this Center will thrive and be able to provide the much needed services to the area children.



↑ On August 6, 2016, Dr. Graves is shown the table and benches that were built for the courtyard of the Methodist Children’s Home of Mississippi.

← Before and after pictures taken of the courtyard of the Methodist Children’s Home of Mississippi.



Celebrating K-Kids

By Stacey Simpson, Southern Hills Kiwanis Club

On December 6, 2016, the **Kiwanis Club of Southern Hills** held an Installation Banquet and Celebration for the K-Kids of Southern Hills Elementary School (SHES) at Safety Town in Shreveport, Louisiana. After a meal of delicious salad, baked ziti, macaroni and cheese, bread, and various desserts, the celebration included an Eliminate Project video presenta-

tion by Stephanie Crow, Past Lt. Governor, Division 9 of the LA-MISS-W TENN District and current treasurer of Kiwanis Club of Southern Hills, followed by the induction of members and the installation of officers by current Division 9 Lt. Governor, Rebecca Huff. Mrs. Huff is also the secretary of the Kiwanis Club of Southern Hills, and the SHES K-Kids sponsor.

Mrs. Huff presented newly elected SHES K-Kids President, Kyerin Gilbert, with his own gavel. SHES K-Kids Faculty Advisors, Nicole Howard-Francis and Lamesa K. Fleury, discussed some of the projects the club has planned for the year, including selling poinsettias to give the profits to the Eliminate Project.



Coats for Kids

By Steven Ek, Lake Charles Kiwanis Club



Club President Randy Fuerst

More than 1,000 newly donated coats are now in the hands of those who need them, thanks to a civic club's project. Just in time for the cold weather, the **Kiwanis Club of Lake Charles**

is making its first delivery of warm coats to those who can't afford one. The Coats for Kids program asks for donations from schools in the fall.

This is the 29th year," said Kiwanis Club member Steve Ek. "We average about a thousand coats a year. So times 29, about 29,000 coats. This year, we collected 1,050 coats, distributed to eight different agencies."

Abraham's Tent director Pearl Cole says the coats are much needed. "As soon as the weather starts getting cooler, well of course people start looking for coats," said Cole. "So this answers the problem right here. This takes care of all of them."

"This was given to you by someone you don't know and I don't know, but they wanted you to stay warm," Ek told one man.

Robert Guilott with Triple A Cleaners offers to clean the donated coats each year. "We've been asked by the Kiwanis Club to help and over the years we've taken it on."

Coats collected in the Kiwanis program were given to eight different agencies who handed them out to those in need. They were given to both children and adults.

Paying it Forward

By Myra Lewis, Pontchartrain Kiwanis Club

Adia Wallace is a former member of the Google Community Leaders Program (CLP) in New Orleans. The CLP was founded by Google's Jennifer Holland after her visit to New Orleans in 2011. Recognizing a significant technological gap in the operation of businesses and nonprofits in New Orleans, the CLP was founded to bridge the digital divide in the New Orleans community by connecting the community with local talent. Adia volunteered with High Voltage Youth Camp with the goal of increasing web literacy. Through her volunteer work, she helped High Voltage to build an online presence and to improve digital literacy and access in the community. She also created High Voltage's GiveNOLA



Adia Wallace

Day, a social media campaign designed to raise additional funds for community projects.

Adia graduated in 2014 from Xavier University of Louisiana with a B.A. in Philosophy. She went on to study at Harvard University and now holds an Ed.M. from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. During her ma-

trication at Harvard, her former mentor from High Voltage reached out to the **Kiwanis Club of Pontchartrain** (KCP) to assist Adia with money for books. KCP was happy to do so.

While living in Boston, Adia helped with several youth STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) programs, nonprofits and early startup ventures on a variety of projects from education and designing curricula to facilitating social media and communications.

Adia is currently a program assistant with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Office of Engineering's Outreach Programs (OEOP).

Kiwanis Kids Day

By LaCarsha Babers, Natchitoches Kiwanis Club



All the planning and preparing was worth it when the **Kiwanis Club of Natchitoches** saw smiles stretch across the faces of dozens of children at Kiwanis Kids Day Saturday, Oct. 29 at Turpin Stadium on Northwestern State University's Campus. Kiwanis of Natchitoches and Northwestern State University Vic's Kids Club came together to host a Halloween themed Tailgate Party at a Division I football game against Nicholls State University.

One of two service projects completed in October, the club took advantage of the beautiful fall weather the month provides in Louisiana. At the private tailgate, costumed children played games and enjoyed food and drinks. They burned off energy after trick or treating in Donald's Demon Alley by bouncing around in inflatable houses.



"I love to see the young children from other towns come together," said LaCarsha Babers. "When I was looking at them I thought about the potential impact they might make as future Kiwanians."

As the game grew closer the children were reminded that they were going on the field. They got together and formed a tunnel for the Northwestern State University Demons to run through.



"My favorite part of the whole day was seeing how much the kids liked the tunnel," said Club Treasurer Richard Rose. "They were all reaching their hands out as far as they could to get a high five from the players as they ran by."

Since all the children were accompanied by an adult the event had a family feel to it that grew into community togetherness once the game started.

"I brought my children to Kiwanis Kids Day I have to say I really loved seeing the community come together," said Club Member Ali Rhodes.

Spreading Some Holiday Cheer

By Lillian Grossley, South Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club

South Baton Rouge Kiwanis held its annual Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway at the Leo S. Butler Community Center on Wednesday, November 16, 2016. The lucky winners were Ms. Gloria Johnson, Mr. Joe Johnson and Ms. Serena Mack. The club also blessed all the seniors with a fruit bag as well.

→ Front: Gayle Raby, Lillian Grossley, Ms. Gloria Johnson, Mr. Joe Johnson, Ms. Serena Mack and Jessica Johnson. Back: Mrs. Eula Franklin, Bridgette Hardy and Clarissa Preston.



Also, South Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club held its annual toy giveaway at the Freeman-Matthews Head start Center on Tuesday, December 13, 2016. Fun was had by all who attended!

← Santa (Marlon Ford) treated over 189 good little girls and boys to an assortment of toys. Santa was helped by SBR Elves Lillian Grossley, Clarissa Preston, Mrs. Eula Franklin, Jessica Johnson and Bridgette Hardy.

Thanksgiving Meal Distribution

By Karen Boudreaux, West Jefferson Kiwanis Club

Members of the **Kiwanis Club of West Jefferson**, Division 4A, located in Harvey, Louisiana and Key Clubs from West Jefferson, Thomas Jefferson, Helen Cox, Fisher, Ehret and Academy of Our Lady High Schools joined together on Thanksgiving morning to deliver holiday meals to 230 elderly residents of Wynhoven Living Center. We had over 70 Kiwanis & Key Club members, family & friends – including many former Key Clubbers now attending college, who went from apartment to apartment spending time with the residents as they delivered the meals and wished

them a happy Thanksgiving. It's such a great feeling to have volunteers take time away from their family celebrations to make someone else's day do special. The residents

appreciate the time and attention and look forward to Christmas when they will be visited again by their K Family for the Christmas meal distribution.



Sending Aids to Flood Victims

By Eva Abate, Southwest Contraband Kiwanis Club

The Southwest Contraband Kiwanis Club applied for an emergency grant from Kiwanis International Foundation (The Children’s Fund) and received \$5,000. The purpose for the grant was to aid the flood victims in the Denham Springs area. The club provided first aid kits to two churches in the area.

Eva and V J Abate were the goodwill ambassadors that delivered the kits. First they arrived at Jessica Black’s home. All of her neighborhood homes had flooded. Many are still waiting for a decision from their insurance company. Jessica works for Parkview Baptist Church and stated that everyone needs to have a first aid kit so distribution would be easy. As you can see from the pictures, Jessica is not living in her home at this time but in a camper instead. It is difficult to find contractors, so you do what you can when you can while raising a family and working.

The next delivery was to Elaine Matherne at Immaculate Conception

Catholic Church. Elaine’s home flooded with only one inch of water and she is grateful. The home of Denise, the receptionist, flooded and she is living in different places around Denham Springs while waiting for a decision from her insurance company. Many of the church buildings flooded as well as the church itself. When Elaine saw the first aid kits she was very pleased and has already selected

the most needed area that the church serves for distribution.

Southwest Contraband Kiwanis Club is fortunate to be able to help over 150 children and the community of Denham Springs, fulfilling our mission.

Jessica Black’s temporary home since the Great August Flood of 2016 ↓



VJ Abate delivers first aid kits to Elaine Matherne at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Denham Springs.



Eva Abate delivers first aid kits to Jessica Black, an employee of Parkview Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, and her son Bowen.

Santa Fun Run Kicks off Christmas Parade

By Charlie Ford, The Oaks Kiwanis Club & Terrell Martin, Cortana Kiwanis Club



On the evening of Saturday, December 10, 2016, in the freezing weather, nearly one hundred Santas lead the way for the Annual **Cortana Kiwanis** Christmas Parade in Downtown Baton Rouge. The parade route served as a 1.25 mile race course for **The Oaks Kiwanis** 5th Annual Santa Fun Run. Thousands of parade spectators cheered on the running Santas. After completing the run, many Santas stuck around to watch the parade in the Special Santa VIP viewing stands where they enjoyed popcorn and refreshments. All registered fun run participants received a full Santa suit and finisher medal. Also, some participants came bearing Christmas gifts for St. Vincent de Paul.

Thanks to the hard work of the

Cortana Kiwanians and parade chair, Heather Folks-Givens, a successful 66th annual Cortana Kiwanis Christmas Parade is in the books. After a difficult year for our community we are proud that the Cortana Kiwanis Club could provide the city with a joyous event for all to enjoy.



A very special part of this year's parade was having the families of the fallen law enforcement officers **Corporal Montrell Jackson**, **Police Officer Matthew Gerald** and **Deputy Brad Garofola** ride on a float memorializing their brave loved ones. This will be a difficult Christmas season for those families and we believe our parade provided some comfort to them.



There were approximately 75 parade entries consisting of floats, dignitaries, bands and dance groups. In addition to marching in the parade, six of the nine bands from area high and middle schools participated in the Battle of the Bands which took place before the parade. Escorts from the Youth Challenge program provided help with crowd control. And a **big shout out** to the Key Clubbers from Baton Rouge Magnet High, McKinley High and Sherwood Middle who assisted with Registration, VIP Area and the Battle of the Bands.



Club Launches Multiplication Program

From Lucedale Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Money raised from the **Lucedale Kiwanis Club's** annual Masquerade Ball & Drawdown fundraiser went to a new service project for 2016 with student achievement as its focus.

Club members distributed packs of multiplication flash cards to every 3rd grade child in each elementary school in the county. Learning multiplication facts becomes important in the 3rd grade as students

begin the Mississippi Assessment Program (MAP), which measures academic growth.

“We wanted to begin a service program that would touch as many children’s lives in our community as possible,” explains Stephanie Chisholm, president of the Lucedale Kiwanis Club.

This year’s fundraiser profited almost \$6,000. The majority of

those funds went to printing and packaging the cards for the 300 plus 3rd grade children in the county.

“We want all of the children in this county to succeed academically. Handing out these packets of cards really made those children feel special - something just for them. Our members had a great time presenting the cards. This will be an ongoing service project for our club,” Chisholm said.



Pictured are (front row): Stephanie Chisholm, Kiwanis; Wade Chisholm; Katie Fineburg; Gracie Mitchell; Kelsey McCardle; William Mayo; and Bradyn Havard. (back row): Amy Delcambre, Kiwanis; Kelly Reeves, Kiwanis; Misty McDonald, Kiwanis; Pam Touchard, George County Superintendent of Education; Deborah Webb, teacher; Avery Robinson, Sheila Spencer, teacher; Elizabeth Kirkwood, Lindsey Faggard, teacher; Tonia MacDougall, teacher; and Courtney Weatherford. Kiwanis.

The World's Largest Turkey Fry

From Dawn Busters Kiwanis Club Facebook Page and Website, www.dawnbusters.org

The Dawn Busters Kiwanis Club has been frying hundreds of turkeys every Thanksgiving for the past 14 years. The turkey fry fundraiser has been so successful that it has set the record for the largest turkey fry in the world.

On November 23, 900 birds weighing 12-14 pounds hit the grease for hundreds of families to enjoy for Thanksgiving dinner. Some turkeys were even purchased to be donated to needy families, homeless shelters or churches.

All 900 birds were sold to benefit the club's plethora of programs for children and the community such as its Rewards for Reading Program and feeding the homeless.

Rewards for Reading Program:

The Dawn Buster's award winning Rewards for Reading Program is now in 20 Jefferson Parish schools. When a child reads a book and passes a test on it, he or she receives a ticket for a drawing to win amazing prizes at awards assemblies that are held twice a



year at each school. Special guests, the club's member mascots, Boudreaux from the New Orleans Zephyrs and Katie the Duck from Acadian Plumbing make an appearance at each assembly.

To date the club has awarded over 300 new bikes, Zephyr Baseball passes worth more than \$250,000, 80,000 AMF Bowling "free game" passes (many good for 4 children to bowl two free games per day for the entire summer), 40,000 passes to Adventure Quest Lazer Tag, 30,000 free buffets from CiCi's Pizza, 3,000 kid's meals from Raising Canes, 3,000 Domino's "free" Pizza cards, 300 Dot's Diner certificates, 200 MP4 Players, plus many more. And Most Importantly, the children in the reading program have read well over 1 million

books! And their grades have gone up dramatically!

Feeding the homeless:

Three times per month members of the Dawn Busters provide and serve hot meals to the homeless at the Lantern Light shelter located behind St. Joseph's Church on Tulane in New Orleans. The club has provided over 30,000 hot meals to men, women and children in need.

Once a month the club prepares and serves meals to the needy families at the Ronal McDonal House.

Also, the club serves lunch to the homeless at the Ozanam Inn the fourth Friday of every month and do other projects throughout the year as well, including the Christmas Toy Drive.

Continued on page 43 . . .

Turkey Fry Snap Shots

From Dawn Busters Kiwanis Club Facebook Page and Website, www.dawnbusters.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 rest of this Kiwanis year:

April-May-June 2017 Deadline = March 18, 2017

July-August-September 2017 Deadline = June 17, 2017

October-November-December 2017 Deadline = September 17, 2017

Include this information:

CLUB: Club, City, State, and Division Number

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 or backs of heads. 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 that show 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.

2016-2017 LA.-MISS.-W. TENN. DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Governor Fred Pitts

Governor - Elect Otha Britton

Immediate Past Governor Gary Graham

Executive Director Charles H. Ford

DISTRICT TRUSTEES:

Region I

Claude Vinson, *Germantown, Tenn.*

Region II

Jason Spears, *Columbus, Miss.*

Region III

Travis B. Moore, *Hub-City, Hattiesburg, Miss.*

Region IV

Patrice Cusimano, *St. Bernard-Arabi, La.*

Region V

R. Bruce Hammatt, *Baton Rouge, La.*

Region VI

Richard Latiolais, *Acadiana, Lafayette, La.*

Region VII

Paul Funderburk, *Pineville, La.*

DISTRICT OFFICE INFORMATION:

Charles Ford, Executive Director: charlie@lamisstenn.org

Tiffany Domingue, Administrative Assistant:

tiffany@lamisstenn.org

Phone: 225-769-9233 * Toll Free: 866-526-7986 (LAMSWTN)

Fax: 225-769-9215 * Toll Free Fax: 866-669-9215

districtoffice@lamisstenn.org * www.lamisstenn.org

MAILING ADDRESS:

La.-Miss.-W. Tenn. Kiwanis District Office

5319-B Didesse Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808-6401

HOURS: Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL

PARIS

ANNUAL CONVENTION

❖ 2017 ❖

102nd CONVENTION

July 13–16, 2017

www.kiwanis.org



Let's rendezvous! See you in the City of Light!