Vicksburg Key Club Responds to Hurricane Harvey

Improving the world one child and one community at a time.
ON THE COVER:
Vicksburg High School Key Club members Sarah Daniels and Kami-ra Carter volunteered with the United Way and Randy Naylor Foundation to help pack goods for those devastated by Hurricane Harvey in the Houston area. See more on Page 10.

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A New Kiwanis Year: 2017-2018 Began!

“Oh, thank Heaven, for little girls ….”

In today's climate, such words coming from a man might conjure up thoughts of pedophiles or sexual perverts, but at the time Maurice Chevalier sang those words in the delightful musical “Gigi,” they were quite innocent and complimentary. It is in that spirit that I say, “Oh, thank Heaven, for women in Kiwanis.”

Women now make up a large portion of our district membership and play an invaluable role in Kiwanis throughout the world. But the reason I am so thankful now is for two special women of our district – Judy Couvillion and Eva Abate. At the district convention in June, Judy stepped forward to be elected Governor-Elect, even though she had reservations about what her doctor might say. Sure enough, her doctor said she could not endure the stress this would place on her shoulder following two rotator cuff surgeries, so Judy reluctantly submitted her resignation. Then in stepped Eva, who agreed to let us appoint her as Governor-Elect for 2017-2018. I am delighted that we have such well-qualified women as Judy and Eva who are willing to serve our district at the top levels.

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New club openings and existing club strengthening are the top priorities for KI President Jim Rochford, so naturally they must be the top priorities for the district governors; however, these should always be our top priorities, as it has been shown that each Kiwanian impacts the lives of 206 children. If our district increased its membership by 100, that would mean we would impact the lives of an additional 20,000 children of the world! My goal is to increase membership by at least 640. Meeting that goal would mean our district would be able to impact the lives of an additional 130,000 children!

In early October, I will be visiting the Dawn Busters Club in the New Orleans area and the Red Stick Club in the Baton Rouge area. President Jim Rochford wanted us to make EVERY visit a membership event, but we pointed out to him that there are certain traditions that we were not willing to give up. On the other hand, I want every official governor’s visit to a division to be related somehow to increasing membership. That can be a new club opening in a division, where potential members for that club or for other clubs in the division are invited to attend, or it can be a special membership event where all clubs in the division invite potential members to a divisional meeting.

The more we emphasize getting new Kiwanians, the better our world and especially our district will be. District Formula Chair Gary Graham has a list of several new club possibilities that we believe will become reality early this year. Lt. Governor Rogena Woods-Mitchell has been working hard on trying to get a couple of new clubs opened in her division. In fact, she has been so enthusiastic about it that International Counselor Lance Incitti has requested that we try to include him on one of Rogena’s new club events. The pressure is on you, Rogena! We really appreciate the effort that Rogena has and continues to put forth on this.

We have a great group of Lt. Governors and Trustees this year. Let’s make this a great year! And remember to plan now to attend our Mid-Winter Conference in Natchez and our 100th annual District Convention in Baton Rouge.
Message from the Immediate Past Governor

By R. Fred Pitts, Immediate Past Governor

I am writing this as your current Governor, but by the time you are reading this, I will be your immediate Past Governor. It makes no difference since we are all Kiwanian’s first, so we write about what we love.

Carol and I have enjoyed our year as Governor for 2016-2017 and have been welcomed, dined and entertained by many great Kiwanis Clubs in the La-Miss-Tenn District. I wish I could list everyone we have visited and apologize to those we did not visit. We will continue to visit clubs in the coming year.

Let me take this opportunity to ask clubs to let your Governor know your special meeting dates or projects dates as soon as you know these. Last minute request for a "Governor's visit" is almost impossible to schedule. Because of traveling costs, Governors try to schedule as many clubs as possible to visit on each trip.

I am keeping my fingers crossed that we finish this year with a growth for the first time in many years. If we do, then I will feel I have left our district better off than when I started, and a Governor cannot ask for much more than that. I know Governor Otha will keep this ball rolling, and for the sake of the Kids, we must continue to grow our membership to meet their needs. Remember, “It is all about the kids.”

I will leave you with a very simple request for 2017-2018. I ask every Kiwanis member to duplicate yourself at least once during the year. Just think what an additional 4,000 plus members would do to increase our service to the kids.

#kidsneedkiwanis

The District Welcomes New Governor-Elect

Eva Abate of Lake Charles, LA was appointed governor-elect of the LA-MISS-WTENN District of Kiwanis International during the District Board of Trustees meeting on August 25, 2017, in Baton Rouge, LA. Eva is a member of the Kiwanis Club of Southwest Contraband, and has served in several Kiwanis leadership positions including Club President, District Foundation Board President, Lieutenant Governor, and District Trustee. There are 123 clubs with more than 4,200 members in the LA-MISS-WTENN District of Kiwanis, all dedicated to improving the lives of children in their communities and in communities around the world.

“I became interested in Kiwanis when I saw my friends collecting baby items that were to be donated to local Pregnancy Counselling Centers and thought what a huge impact a service organization like Kiwanis is making,” said Eva. “Kids need Kiwanis, in my community and around the world, and being a part of a global service organization allows me to serve locally and be a part of a greater effort.”

Thank you Eva, for filling the position of Governor-Elect!

District Governor Otha Britton presents Eva Abate with the Governor-Elect banner at the District Board of Trustees meeting in Baton Rouge on August 25, 2017.
To be recognized as a “2017-2018 Distinguished Club,” your club must achieve criteria No. 1!

OR, if your club does not sponsor or co-sponsor a new Kiwanis Club, it can still be a “2017-2018 Distinguished Club” by achieving item No. 2 AND 8 of the remaining 9 criteria (No. 3 through No. 10).

No. 2 Have a net increase in membership for 2017-2018.

No. 3 The 2017-2018 Club President shall participate in Club Leadership Education. (Either at a Divisional/Regional Retreat or using the On-Line Training)

No. 4 The 2017-2018 Club Secretary shall participate in Club Leadership Education. (Either at the District Convention, at a Divisional Training Session, or using the On-Line Training)

No. 5 The club shall be represented at the 2017-2018 Mid-Winter Conference in Natchez or at the 2017-2018 District Convention in Baton Rouge.

No. 6 The club shall provide at least two (2) service projects or programs for children of the community.

No. 7 The club shall actively participate in a Kiwanis One Day Project (Kiwanis One Day is Oct. 28, 2017).

No. 8 The club shall pay the International Dues and the District Dues by November 30, 2017.

No. 9 The club shall make a contribution to the Annual Club Giving Program of the Kiwanis Children’s Fund in the amount of at least $5 per member.

No. 10 The club shall make a contribution to the Annual Club Giving Program of the La.-Miss.-W. Tenn. Kiwanis District Foundation in the amount of $5 per member or $100 - whichever is greater.


To be recognized as a “2017-2018 District Distinguished Kiwanian,” a member must achieve all five (5) requirements listed below. Each “2017-2018 District Distinguished Kiwanian” will be recognized for their achievement.

No. 1 Recruit two (2) new members between 10/01/2017 and 9/30/2018.

No. 2 Participate in at least four (4) Service Projects during the 2017-2018 Kiwanis Year.

No. 3 Attend at least two (2) of the conventions and conferences for 2017-2018:

A.) Mid-Winter Conference, Natchez, Mississippi, or
B.) District Convention, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, or
C.) Kiwanis International Convention, Las Vegas, Nevada

No. 4 Support the La.-Tenn.-W. Tenn. District Foundation with a personal contribution by 9/30/18.

No. 5 Participate in the Kiwanis One Day Project with your club, or attend at least two (2) club meetings of club-sponsored SLP clubs.
### 2017-2018 Distinguished Awards Criteria

#### Distinguished Club Secretary Program

- To qualify as a **“2017-2018 Distinguished Club Secretary,”** a club secretary must achieve **70 points or more.**
- The **“2017-2018 Jay R. Broussard Outstanding Club Secretary,”** will be selected from the **“2017-2018 Distinguished Club Secretaries,”** based on required letters of recommendation from the Club President and the respective Lieutenant Governor.

| No. 1: Training | The Club Secretary is expected to be trained at a Club Secretary Training Conference held prior to the start of the 2017-2018 Kiwanis Year or use the KiwanisOne “On-Line CLE” program. (5 points for attending a CLE for 2017-2018 Club Officers) |
| No. 2: Membership Growth | Each Club Secretary is expected to personally sponsor new members into his/her home club during the 2017-2018 Kiwanis Year. (5 points for each new member sponsored by the Club Secretary during 2017-2018) |
| No. 3: Meetings & Convention Attendance | A.) The Club Secretary is expected to attend the Board of Directors Meetings of the Club. (3 points for 100% attendance; 2 points for 95-99% attendance; 1 point for 90-94% attendance; 0 points for less than 90% attendance)  
B.) The Club Secretary is expected to strive for perfect attendance at regular club meetings. (3 points for 100% attendance; 2 points for 90-99% attendance; 1 point for 80-89% attendance; 0 points for less than 80% attendance)  
C.) The Club Secretary is expected to attend the District Mid-Winter Conference in Natchez, Miss. (3 points for attending)  
D.) The Club Secretary is expected to attend the District Convention in Baton Rouge, La. (3 points for attending)  
E.) The Club Secretary is asked to attend the International Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. (3 points for attending) |
| No. 4: Reports & Dues | A.) The Club Secretary is expected to see that the Club’s Annual District & International Dues are paid promptly - no later than November 30, 2017. (5 points for paying dues on time)  
B.) The Club Secretary is expected to file all 12 of the Monthly Reports on time using the PortalBuzz (KiwanisOne) Reporting System. (3 points for each monthly report filed on time on PortalBuzz)  
C.) The Club Secretary is required to file the 2017-2018 Report of Club Elections by June 1, 2017 using the PortalBuzz Reporting System. (5 points for report filed on time on PortalBuzz) |
| No. 5: Foundation Contributions | The Club Secretary is asked to see that the Club’s contributions to both of the Annual Club Gift Campaigns are forwarded to the Kiwanis Children’s Fund (formerly the Kiwanis International Foundation) and to the Kiwanis District Foundation by the announced deadlines. (3 points for each) |
| No. 6: Service Leadership Organizations | As a club officer, the Club Secretary is asked to participate with any Kiwanis Family Service Leadership Programs sponsored by the club. The Club Secretary can either attend a meeting OR participate in a service project of the sponsored club. (3 points for actively participating with a Club sponsored Kiwanis Family Service Leadership Program(s)) |
This month we will start the new Kiwanis year. October 1 will see changes throughout the Kiwanis world. We will have a new Kiwanis International President, Jim Rochford. We will have a new Governor for the Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District, Otha Britton. And many of you will have a new President for your club. And the District’s Formula Team will continue to work to build and strengthen clubs. We will have our challenges and opportunities to leave our mark on our great organization. We all have our goals and objectives to make Kiwanis a more viable, exuberant, and impactful organization to improve the lives of children.

However, do you know who has the most opportunity to do this. It is YOU the member. I have had the opportunity to visit, teach, and train clubs throughout our District. I have also had the honor of interacting with Kiwanians from around the world. The structure of how Kiwanis operates is on the club level. The positions at Division, District, and International are there to assist the club. The club decides what projects they will do. The club decides what fund raisers they will hold. In addition, the club possesses the authority to make changes in what they want to do and how they want to do it. And who runs your club – YOU.

The Formula Team is one of those positions noted above that is here to assist you and your club. Things are changing fast in society and in Kiwanis too. Kiwanians are needed now more than ever. The Formula Team can assist with adapting to this change by helping you analyze your club, your community, and by suggesting some new things to consider. The goal is More Members, More Service, More Fun.

The Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District is fast approaching our 100th birthday. If you have a chance to review the history of the district you will see the good we have done over the past 99 years and you’ll see that we have made our communities and the lives of children better. But what was done before does not translate into what we can do or what we will do in the future. That is up to YOU to decide what will happen. Everyone plays a part no matter how little or how much in moving your club forward. So what should you do? Well, I would suggest what is done with every New Year. Make a resolution. Not to lose weight or exercise more, although that is fine if you start in October instead of January. What you can resolve to do is:

- Do some new or more service hours a month whether it is 1, 5, 10, or 50. Get involved with what Kiwanis is all about – Service.
- Bring a new member into your club. Growth = more service. Don’t just grow though. Also, make sure that new (and your old) members feel important and needed.
- Get out of your comfort zone. This is a hard one but get to know all of the members in your club and those in other clubs as well. Also, make your voice heard. Whether you are a new member of the Class of 2017 or a member who has been in the club for over 50 years add to the discussion on making your club better.
- And finally, resolve to have more fun. You’ll be surprised at how easy this last resolution is to keep especially if you do the others.

Things are changing. Sometimes it seems faster than we can adjust but adjust we must. There is always more that you, your club, and the Formula Team can do to address the needs of the children in LAMISSTENN in our second hundred years. So let’s do it together.

"The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit." As quoted in Under Whose Shade (1982), by Wesley Henderson.
Simmons Named Ambassador for Kiwanis Children’s Fund

The Kiwanis Children’s Fund has created a new volunteer position, and has named 14 Ambassadors to serve the Children’s Fund, worldwide. Congratulations to LaMissTenn’s very own, Cathy Simmons, for being named to this 3 year term!

Ambassadors are the key to the Children’s Fund continuing success. They are passionate advocates of our mission and are a critical connection between the District Volunteers and the International Organization. They are a resource in fundraising, they convene and help train volunteers, and they create a culture of mutual accountability between our members and the Children’s Fund that is necessary to build support for the children of the world. They will work closely the Districts in their Region in identifying, cultivating and soliciting financial support for the Children’s Fund, all while working closely with those Districts to inform them of the impact of the Children’s Fund and how we are providing meaningful service through disaster relief, Service Leadership Programs, District/Club grants, IDD elimination/sustainment and the Eliminate Project.

Cathy has been assigned Southeast USA, which consists of Alabama, Carolinas, Florida, Georgia and LaMissTenn.

Congratulations, Cathy!

About the Kiwanis Children’s Fund

To better reflect our mission of serving children, the Kiwanis International Foundation changed its name to the Kiwanis Children’s Fund in October 2016. Our new name better conveys the purpose of our organization: We serve children. And it describes how: We raise funds to support Kiwanis initiatives.

The Kiwanis Children’s Fund is where we extend our Kiwanis impact. When you give to the Children’s Fund, you can make a difference in your own hometown, and you can make a difference in lives a world away. With assistance from the Kiwanis Children’s Fund, your generosity has a positive impact near and far, today, tomorrow and forever.

The Kiwanis Children’s Fund partners with clubs and districts in all our Kiwanis nations to help children of the world through Kiwanis-led service projects promoting: Healthy Children, Educated Children, Leadership Development, and Priority Children’s Issues.
Sweet 16!!!

1. To a basketball fan this would mean the final 16 teams playing for the National Championship.

2. To a Kiwanis member it means great progress from 39 countries with Tetanus to now only 16!

You and I can be so proud of whatever our part was to make this happen!

Now: Let's take today to celebrate and share this wonderful news with all we come in contact.

Then rally around EVERY MEMBER committing to do all possible to reduce the 16 countries --- One By One!

I have 2 requests today:

1. Hug your children/grandchildren and thank God they were born in healthy conditions.

2. Dedicate the months ahead to be an advocate for special babies who can't say thanks!

As we begin this "backstretch" it will take us all -- $1.80 at a time!

WHAT A DAY THAT WILL BE!

FOR THEM I say THANK YOU FOR LIFE!
Kiwanis Clubs often begin and end their meetings or special events with Invocations to invoke the Lord’s blessings on the food, guidance for the club’s deliberations or planning or for our service to the children of our area.

Our Christian or spiritual foundation is essential to our successes and to attracting men and women who may see Kiwanis service as an extension of their personal ministries. When we offer prayers, the only caution we probably need to consider is that the identity of each person’s “God” may be different from our own.

We generally don’t have that dilemma here in our District, but we are an international organization and our membership can easily include people who are Jewish or other nationalities/religions. We never want to hesitate to express our spiritual tenants (see Objects 1 & 2) but we must never step on other Kiwanians’ beliefs, either.

Here is the prayer that KI published several years ago and is used by many Kiwanis clubs as their weekly benediction:

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 courage, with Thy help to face whatever the morrow shall bring.
And grant us peace. - Amen

Or, of course, each individual club can ask Kiwanians to give an invocation personally. At least one club wrote and now recites this prayer weekly. It may be a model for your club.

Dear Lord,
Thank you for this day that we gather here in Kiwanis fellowship.
Bless this food that we have before us.
Bless the efforts of this club to help the children of the world.
Hear our prayers, both spoken and unspoken.
Guide us in our Mission. - Amen

I encourage clubs to continue recognizing and honoring the first and second Objects of Kiwanis. They help make us unique among international service organizations.

Aspire to Inspire: Do the Hokey-Pokey

By Jeems White, III, Past Governor

Most of us remember when as children we did the Hokey-Pokey. It was a song and dance, perhaps during kindergarten or before… “You put your left foot in, you take your left foot out. You put your left foot in and you shake it all about. You do the Hokey Pokey and you turn yourself around. That’s what it’s all about.”

Historically the song and dance can be traced back to 1826 but it was mostly popularized in the United States during and after World War Two. There are other connotations of “hokey-pokey” besides the song and dance. It can mean magic and mysterious things as in “hokus-pokus.” Hokey Pokey is also the name of a popular flavor of ice cream in New Zealand, the second most popular flavor which contains small chunks of honeycomb toffee or butterscotch.

But the Hokey Pokey we know best is the catchy song and dance routine of childhood. By now you are probably remembering, maybe even humming or singing, the catchy tune which was and is the Hokey-Pokey song and dance game. The song and dance is perfect for young children because of the action and sing-along that promotes coordination, vocal/singing skills, teamwork and is fun in the process. The song proceeds through all your hands and feet, then finally “your whole self”… in and out, shake it all about, do the hokey-pokey, turn yourself around, that’s what it’s all about!

Therein lies the point of this little piece. As Kiwanians we do so many things for children … both small and large things (including maybe leading hokey-pokey song and dance groups.) We do these things for children as volunteers so our time and dedication may be limited. Maybe we just lend a hand to a group project or maybe we jump in with both feet and take on a leadership role. Maybe some of us don’t actively participate but just give financial help and emotional encouragement.

Regardless of the level or amount of your participation in “improving the world one child and one community at a time,” it is very important that you follow the last verse of the Hokey Pokey ditty and Put Your Whole Self in…. THAT’S WHAT IT’S ALL ABOUT!
CONGRATULATIONS!

We have four new K-Kids Clubs this quarter! Thanks to the Kenner-North Kiwanis Club for starting Clancey-Maggiore Elementary, GT Woods Elementary School, and Curtis Christian Lower School K-Kids programs. Well, we chartered a K-Kids program at Dogwood Elementary School, but my hat is off to Kenner-North. I am very proud of seeing growth in such a great program for the elementary schools. Hopefully, there are more clubs like Kenner-North that want to start a club. Thank you!

1. I thoroughly enjoy my job as Kiwanis K-Kids/Terrific Kids Advisor. The only problem is getting up after being on my knees long enough for the teacher to take a photo.

2. Rasil Khotea, District K-Kids District 2017 Speech Winner, speaks to the Germantown Kiwanis club regarding a charity race in October. He did not disappoint! His parents are grateful for Kiwanis because it has brought out the best in their son.

3. One of my favored activities is to conduct Terrific Kids programs at our local schools. When asked to tell what each letter in the word T E R R I F I C stands for, the answers are generally better than what KI thinks they should be. Of course, the letter “T” stands for “Terrific”- wrong! It stands for “Thoughtful.” The kids most often guess the “R”s...respectful and responsible. I think that is a good thing to hear from a child.
Vicksburg Key Club Responds to Hurricane Harvey

By Tom Osburn, Vicksburg Kiwanis Club

Working with the United Way of West-Central Mississippi and the Randy J. Naylor Foundation, Vicksburg High School Key Clubbers helped pack goods for the Houston area devastated by Hurricane Harvey. A tractor-trailer filled with donations from the Vicksburg community left on Friday, September 15, bound for Houston to help hurricane victims.

Special thanks to the Kiwanians and Key Clubbers who volunteered to pack goods for Hurricane Harvey relief!

Divisions 14A & 14B Fight Hunger

From the Pascagoula Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Key Clubbers from Divisions 14A and 14B helped legislative delegates fill more than 50,000 meal packets at the Southern Legislative Conference at the Coast Convention Center on Sunday, July 30. The meals were donated to the Mississippi Food Network, an organization that provides meals to hungry children, families and seniors in the community. Thanks Key Clubbers for helping the poor and impacting the community one child at a time!
Division 13B Cares for the Furry Ones

From the Northshore Mandeville Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

During August, members of Key Clubs from across Division 13B took time out of their summer break to volunteer at the St. Tammany Humane Society! Additionally, they made homemade dog toys to donate.

Making the Beach Beautiful

From the Pascagoula Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

This summer, Key Clubs from Pascagoula, Biloxi, Harrison Central, Resurrection, Gautier, and Stone County had a blast painting beach trash cans to make the beach beautiful for the divisional service project.
AKTION Club Supports Project Eliminate

By Judy Couvillion, Hammond Kiwanis Club

The Hammond Kiwanis AKtion Club joined with Kiwanians from throughout the world in support of Project Eliminate. Using funds raised by the AKtion Club, the group purchased a Walter Zeller Award. Pictured at a ceremony where the Zeller was presented, from left, were Sylvia Bush, president and CEO of Options; Judy Couvillion of the Hammond Kiwanis Club; Jason Belsome, president of the AKtion Club; and Terry King, AKtion Club advisor. With the purchase of a Zeller more than 690 women and their future babies were protected from maternal neonatal tetanus. If those women each gave birth to just one child, those 690 children could receive 251,850 goodnight kisses per year, give their parents 1 million hugs a year, form 62 soccer teams and fill 27 kindergarten classes. Currently 42 countries have eliminated maternal neonatal tetanus.

The Hammond Kiwanis AKtion Club was chartered five years ago and has since been active in the community through involvement with city cleanup efforts and assistance with fairs and festivals. The group has also enjoyed trips to Baby Cakes baseball games, the state Capitol, LSU, Audubon Park and the Aquarium of the Americas. AKtion Club members have also enjoyed instructive visits from local police and fire crews who presented programs involving their important roles in the community.

AKTION Club Collects Supplies for School

From the Lake Charles Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

AKtion Club members Perry, Shannon, Mike, Lannon, Jason, and David with advisor Kitty Liprie Roberts and Lake Charles Kiwanis members George Navarro, Libby Fernandez Leone, Mary McFatter, James Meyer, and Eddie Conner presented Henry Heights Elementary School with $500 worth of school supplies during the summer for the start of a new school year. The school supplies were collected through a Back to School Supply Drive sponsored by the AKtion Club.
Play It Again Terrebonne!

By Jennifer White, Houma Kiwanis Club

The Kiwanis Play It Again Terrebonne (PAT) program loans music instruments to students who could not participate in the music program without loaned instruments. The Kiwanis Club of Houma has been helping disadvantaged students participate in music education since 2012. The program refur-bishes used musical instruments that are donated to the program. Instruments are then loaned to students until they leave the music program. Donated instruments will help many students for years to come. Parents submit a detailed loan application to confirm that they need assistance.

Music education can make a big change in a disadvantaged student’s life. Studies have shown that participation in a music program makes students better students. Students become more focused, they learn perseverance, team work, discipline and develop a sense of accomplishment and pride. College band participation can help pay for education cost. For some students music will become a career.

We know that music can change lives. When Louis Armstrong was a young boy he was sent away to a home because of his behavior. In that institution he studied music and it changed his life and the lives of many others.

This year the PAT program loaned 37 instruments to students at 12 public schools. Since the program was established more than 130 students have received instrument loans.

The club was fortunate to have been awarded a grant from the LaMissTenn District Foundation. The grant will enable the club to expand the program and to purchase new instruments to be loaned to students that have excelled in their music education.

The program is a cooperative effort. The community donates instruments, the band director’s association and the Houma-Terrebonne Community Band help acquire instrument donations and Fabregas Music receives donated instrument, repairs, sterilizes and stores the instruments inventory.
Making False River Great Again

By Kenny St. Romain & Jeff Heaton, Pointe Coupee Kiwanis Club

Some said it was the near-perfect weather, some said it was the lake drawdown, some said it was the renewed passion by the fishermen and women, some even said it was the “Trump effect” - but all agreed it was an excellent day for catching fish at False River at the Kiwanis Club of Pointe Coupee’s Annual Fishing Tournament in March. More than 120 anglers competed for the prize money which was distributed with applause from the many families and friends present for the weigh-in.

Kenny St. Romain, fishing tournament chairperson, and Patricia Polar, Kiwanis Club president, thanked the several hundred onlookers for once again supporting this cause and enjoying a wonderful day. Patricia also emphasized that the tournament would not be possible without the generous and long-time support of Maggio Buick of GMC of New Roads.

For several years, volunteers of the Kiwanis of Pointe Coupee Club have also maintained more than 400 buoys in False River on behalf of the City of New Roads and the Parish Police Jury as a safety measure for all boaters and paddlers. The buoys contain GPS coordinates with physical addresses to help emergency responders locate distress calls. The buoys make it easier for help to arrive faster, greatly increasing the chances of saving those in dangerous situations.
Kiwanis of South Baton Rouge (SBR) hosted the Third Annual Regional Eliminate Fundraiser “Kiwanis Bowling for Babies” on Saturday, August 26, 2017 at Circle Bowl. A total of 16 teams participated in this FUNtastic event. Kiwanis was well represented by teams from Cortana (2), St. Gabriel (3), LSU (1), Zachary (1), Downtown (1), and SBR (8). The 8 teams representing SBR were AmeriHealth “Purple People,” AXA Advisors, Biscuits & Honey, Citizens Bank “Pin Heads,” McKinley Alumni “Big Blue Machine,” Just Fun Mixers, Sheago Cosmetics, and Splitz Happens. A total of 16 baskets were donated to our basket raffle by Cortana, LSU and SBR Kiwanis clubs.

Just Fun Mixers took home both 1st place and best team t-shirt. Second Place team was McKinley Alumni “Big Blue Machine” and Third Place went to Splitz Happens (a team that traveled from New Orleans). Best Team Name was awarded to St. Gabriel’s “Bayou Gators Bowlers.” We were also cheered on by members from the Southwest Lafayette club – Southwest Strikers. Special thanks to our sponsors: AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana, AXA Advisors, LLC, Citizens Bank & Trust, City of St. Gabriel, First Mt. Carmel BC, Fred’s Hwy 30 Truck Stop, and Iberville Christian Center.
Because It Never Gets Old …

being with our friends at Magnolia!

The Kiwanis Club of New Orleans sponsored a BINGO night for the residents of Magnolia Community Center, a service center for adults with developmental disabilities. The theme of the night was “Geaux Saints!” Most of the residents were decked out in their finest Saints gear.

The AKTION Club of Magnolia assisted with setting up the tables and getting the hall ready for the games. Caller Mark Firmin got the crowd rocking with “Stand up and get Crunk,” then settled in for some serious gaming. Each table had a Kiwanian assisting the residents in marking their cards.

The prizes donated by Gordon’s of Metairie were all about the Saints theme, and included sequined scarves, Saints baseball caps, black and gold water jugs, and so much more!

“Halftime” included dancing to Saints music and snacks of brownies, chips and pink lemonade.

By the end of the event, the residents were ready to kick off the Saints football season and had a great time playing the BINGO games. The Kiwanis volunteers distributed Saints cuff bracelets with Fleur de Lis on them. Yes, Because It Never Gets Old being with our friends at Magnolia and having a great time!

Pontchartrain and Big Easy Wrap Up Tornado Relief

By Myra Lewis, Pontchartrain Kiwanis Club

On Saturday, September 23rd, members of Kiwanis Club of Pontchartrain met with applicants to distribute $25 Visa gift cards to assist with their needs for household goods as a result of the February 7th tornado event. Forty New Orleans East residents had applied for assistance at the June 3rd luncheon hosted by a collaborative effort by Kiwanis Clubs of Big Easy and Pontchartrain. New Orleans Bible Fellowship Baptist Church again offered its facilities as a distribution point. All of the residents expressed their appreciation for the cards. Each card bore the Kiwanis logo. The funds for this effort were acquired through a LaMissTenn District grant.

← On June 3, a resident of New Orleans East completes an application for further tornado devastation relief at the New Orleans Bible Fellowship Baptist Church where hot lunches were served by the Pontchartrain & Big Easy Kiwanis Clubs.
Members of the Algiers Kiwanis Club volunteered with the United Methodist Committee on Relief, its church members, youth group and friends to fill 100 flood or “Love” buckets with cleaning supplies valued at about $65 each. The supplies were purchased through donations by church members and others. Kiwanis members Gary Bair, Bobbie & David Whiddon, Irene Burras, Lois Blatter and Linda Leger showed up to lend a helping hand. This project was very well organized and ran very smoothly. Volunteers worked in an efficient assembly line to fill the buckets, label them and hammer a lid on when completed. The buckets were loaded onto a trailer by the youth and were driven to a church in Sulphur, La. where they were distributed to those in need. Thanks to Kathy & John Powers, members of Aurora Methodist and of Algiers Kiwanis for inviting us to take part in this special event.
Teaming up for Back-to-School

By Gary Graham, Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club

Nearing the end of summertime, the Dawn Busters Kiwanis Club from Kenner and the Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club teamed up with the 922nd Engineer Company to put on a back-to-school program for kids in the Gonzales area. There were hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, popcorn, ice cream and drinks galore. Downtown Kiwanis supplied the hamburgers and hotdogs and fixin’s and assisted the Dawn Buster’s cooking team as everything was prepared. There were school supplies to be given out as well as free haircuts for the kids. Helping from Downtown were Bruce Hammatt and Gary Graham.

Dawn Busters Visit 100th Inter Club Event

By Sal La Rock, Dawn Busters Kiwanis Club

The Dawn Busters Kiwanis Club visited their 100th inter club event on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at the Grace King Key club. Dan McCormick has transformed an interclub visit from a social event to a collective collaboration of clubs networking and tapping into each other’s assets and resources.

Bottom row: Sal La Rock, Dawn Busters member; Tracy Bullington, Grace King faculty advisor; Dan McCormick, inter club chairman; and Meladie Munch, in-coming Dawn Busters Kiwanis Club president.

Top row: Sonny Romero, Dawn Busters board member; Gordon Hosch, Dawn Busters faculty advisor; Mike Haffner, LaMissTenn Division 4B lieutenant governor; and Lee Ayo, Dawn Busters Kiwanis Club 2016-17 president.
First Responders Honored

By Doris Rappold, Kenner North Kiwanis Club

At a recent meeting, Kenner North Kiwanis (KNK) featured a special program recognizing the “Kenner Police Officer of the Year” and the “Kenner Fire Fighter of the Year.” Honoring our First Responders has long been a tradition of KNK.

Pictured from left to right are: Det. Nicholas Engler, Kenner North Kiwanis Club Vice-President Regina Koorie, and Kenner Police Chief Mike Glaser.

Pictured are from left to right are: Fire Driver Kevin Lafleur, Kenner Fire Chief John Hellmers, and Kenner North Kiwanis Club Vice-President Regina Koorie.

The Kiwanis Beat Goes On

By Jim Clark, Martin Kiwanis Club

As part of a 5-Wednesday month, in which one Martin Kiwanis Club weekly meeting is highlighted as “something different,” member Danelle Fabianich arranged a “lunch and learn” meeting in the percussion studio at the University of Tennessee at Martin at which Drs. Julie Hill and Shane Jones, presented a hands-on lesson in which members and guests became “budding percussionists.” Junior music major John Beale also assisted in the presentation.

The instruments that 19 Kiwanis members and guests played under Dr. Jones’ direction were from West Africa, Cuba, and Brazil. “We call these places with origins in Africa the African Diaspora,” Jones said. He introduced the following instruments: Djembe (West Africa), Conga (Cuba/Haiti), Surdo (Brazil), and Azatse/Shakere (West Africa/Cuba).

In her introduction to the program, Dr. Hill stressed the power of music and the arts to enhance tolerance, diversity, and change. In addition, she was thrilled to see longtime member Mary Elizabeth Bell, Julie’s first grade teacher. Julie indicated that the “percussion box” that was kept in Mrs. Bell’s first grade classroom just might have been the impetus for Julie’s first interest in percussion instruments. It was Shane’s second day on campus, and he was already working with the Kiwanis group and outreach to the community.

A short video is available at www.icloud.com/sharedalbum/#B0f5fk75vG6W60S
Cortana Kiwanis Club members hit the road on Friday, September 22, to deliver supplies and meals of their world famous jambalaya to victims of Hurricane Harvey. Members traveled to Port Aransas, Texas to cook and serve lunch for residents rebuilding after the devastating hurricane.

Here’s what Daryle Gauthier had to say in a video posted on the club’s Facebook page: “This is Daryle with Sean, Terrell, and Joe. We’re in Port Aransas, TX doing some relief cooking for Hurricane Harvey. We’re cooking a big pot of jambalaya. We’re going to cook about 750 servings today and tomorrow. We can help these people for sure. And, we also brought a bunch of supplies with us as well. We’re going to be spending Saturday and Sunday here and we’ll be back in Baton Rouge on Sunday evening.”

That’s a lot of jambalaya! The club’s members also presented a gift check from Cortana Kiwanis to Trinity by the Sea Episcopal Church in Port Aransas, Texas.

→ From left to right: Cortana Kiwanis Club members Sean McDonald, Joe Del Vecchio, Terrell Martin, and Daryle Gauthier prepare jambalaya to feed victims of Hurricane Harvey in Port Aransas, Texas. The crew spent two days cooking and serving residents.

Terrell Martin presents a check from Cortana Kiwanis to Trinity by the Sea Episcopal Church in Port Aransas, Texas to further help with Hurricane Harvey relief efforts.
Camellia City Gives Back to the Community

Camellia City, Slidell Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Replenishing Classroom Libraries

The floods of 2016 were devastating to the Baton Rouge area. After a year of collecting, sorting, stamping and packing, the Camellia City Kiwanis Club was able to donate over 4,000 children’s books to the East Baton Rouge school district to replenish the teachers’ classroom libraries. Thank you to our community for helping make this project so successful!

Feeding the Hungry

Kiwanis Club of Camellia City, Slidell held a summer food drive in June to benefit the local Community Christian Concern’s (CCC) organization. With Winn-Dixie's help, Kiwanis members collected donations from the amazing community to help the CCC restock their food pantry in preparation for lots of hungry kids during the summer. The club collected 750 pounds of food for the CCC’s pantry! Thank you to all who participated! It was another great day of realizing how wonderful our community is! #Kiwanis#JoinUs

The Kiwanis Club of Camellia City, Slidell members pictured at the summer food drive at a local grocery store on June 24. Left to right: Dave Soroe, Sophie Parker, Lauren Robinson, Richard Glad, Jonna Turner, Barb Hogan, Amber Andre, and Miranda Parker.
Members of the **Kiwanis Club of Columbia** came together with others in the community on Saturday, August 5th, for Operation Clean Sweep. Kiwanis tackled several buildings around town, cutting down bushes, vines, picking up trash, and doing whatever was needed to help beautify the community. It was a gorgeous day to work outside!
On June 30, the de Pont Breaux Kiwanis Club volunteered with the Breaux Bridge Summer Enrichment Program for children to provide classes on keeping Bayou Teche clean, and canoe and kayak lessons at Parc Des Ponts. Thru the combined efforts of the City of Breaux Bridge, T.E.C.H.E. Project, City of Breaux Bridge Police Department, Tour du Teche and Kiwanis de Pont Breaux, everyone enjoyed a morning of smiles and learning new adventures in nature. We are so thrilled to put the youth of our area on the water to learn about the importance of our most historic waterway! #GeauxPaddle #bayouteche
On August 28, the Pascagoula Kiwanis Club inducted 28 new members into the AKtion Club of South Mississippi! Words can't express the joy of being a Kiwanian! Kiwanis is for every age and every ability!

Rogena Woods Mitchell, Lieutenant Governor of Division 14 and Immediate Past President of the Pascagoula Kiwanis Club, delivered a new automated external defibrillator (AED) to Resurrection Catholic Elementary School on September 13. An AED is a portable device that checks the heart rhythm and can send an electric shock to the heart to try to restore a normal rhythm. AEDs are used to treat sudden cardiac arrest (SCA). SCA is a condition in which the heart suddenly and unexpectedly stops beating. An AED can save a student’s or faculty member’s life when first responders are not able to get there immediately.

Rogena presents the AED to Noah Hamilton, Headmaster of Resurrection Catholic School.
Pontchartrain: A Plethora of Service!

Pontchartrain Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Bikes for Books Summer Reading

Hope Community Resource Center in partnership with Kiwanis Pontchartrain and the Norman Mayer Library in Gentilly conducted a Bikes for Books Summer Reading Program. The six week program encouraged reading and assisted the students in completing book reports, emphasizing sentence structure, spelling, grammar, and dictionary skills. Eighteen students began the program. At the closing ceremony on July 26th, seven students received certificates for participation and book bags with study kits, dictionaries, and books. Two students, Jariyah and Hannah won bikes, bike helmets, and bike locks as the top readers. They also won prizes from the library for having read more than 800 pages.

Bingo and BBQ

In August, Kiwanis Pontchartrain members and volunteer friends prepared and served hot dogs, hamburgers and cake to the residents at Delille Inn and St. John Berchmans Manor prior to their monthly Bingos. These annual events are always greatly appreciated by both facilities and Kiwanis Pontchartrain members enjoy putting them on each year. It is a true pleasure to serve those who are so appreciative of our offerings.

Fitness Matters

The Daughters of Charity reached out to Kiwanis Pontchartrain to help with the electrical work needed for the exercise equipment they purchased for St. John Berchmans Manor through a grant. KCP was happy to pay for the needed electrical work so that the residents can be trained to use the equipment in the near future. A resident is shown with the treadmills and Larry Turner, President Elect is shown with an exercise bicycle.

More from Pontchartrain on Page 25...
Appreciating Our Educators

Ponchatoula Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

The Ponchatoula Kiwanis Club loves and appreciates all teachers! The club’s annual Teacher’s Prayer Breakfast was another huge success on the morning of August 9th. The club thanked all of the teachers and staff for joining them and for all they do on a daily basis to enrich the lives and educate the children in the community.

A special thank you to the Key Club members that helped during the breakfast, Laura Capadona, Luke Daniels, and Ashley DiFranco. We know it wasn't easy to get up so early on your last day before school starts. We pray that all teachers and students have a blessed year ahead!

Pontchartrain: A Plethora of Service! Continued . . .

Pontchartrain Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Gifting Books to Students

Pontchartrain Club members gathered at the September 16th meeting to label books and dictionaries that will be distributed at this year’s Bikes for Books and Bringing Up Grades programs. Each book/dictionary bears a label that shows that it is a donation from Kiwanis Club of Pontchartrain. Special thanks to the Pontchartrain Club members for their service to children!
On August 13th, the Kiwanis Club of Moisant and Vanguard College of Cosmetology held a “Day at the Fair” style event where children in need were able to receive free hair cuts before the start of school. Sponsors and volunteers provided a fun atmosphere which included face painting by Annabelle & Friends, magical entertainment by Jack Magic DJ, hot dogs and all the snow balls kids could eat from Mobile Sno-Balls! Special thanks to the amazing folks at Paul Mitchell! Moisant Kiwanis is grateful for those stylists who gave up their Sunday to volunteer their services for free to children in the community!
International Hospitality

Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club members Robert Collins, Bob Downing, Joy Hammatt, and Bruce Hammatt helped serve drinks at the Louisiana State University International Hospitality Foundation welcome party on Friday, August 11. Member Jude Bourque was a greeter. A jambalaya dinner along with Cajun dancing was enjoyed by students from all over the world. A good time was had by all!

Inspiring Children through Reading

Members of the Lake Charles Kiwanis Club had a wonderful day on Friday, September 8, reading books to Pre-Kindergarteners at Henry Heights Elementary School. It looks as if reading to the students put a smile on every child’s face! Afterwards, members attended lunch with the students and their grandparents. What a fantastic way to serve the needs of children! Thank you Lake Charles Kiwanis!

← Lake Charles Kiwanis Club member Libby Fernandez Leone enjoys spending time with and getting to know the students at Henry Heights Elementary School.
Books Donated to Those in Need
Kiwanis Club of LSU Facebook Page

On Tuesday, September 5th, the Kiwanis Club of LSU delivered about 350 books to the Capital Area Alliance for the Homeless, with children's books going to the women's shelter. Thanks to everyone who donated books!

Pictured is Executive Director of the Capital Area Alliance for the Homeless Randy Nichols with the cart full of books.

Service for the Children
Northshore Mandeville Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

On Saturday, August 12, the Northshore Mandeville Kiwanis Club had a busy day working at the Marigny Elementary School garden and volunteering at the Methodist Children's Home in Mandeville.

Thanks to all of our club members who were out serving in the community this weekend! #KidsNeedKiwanis

Pictured are members of the Lake Charles Kiwanis Club building a fence for the Marigny Elementary School garden.
Supporting the Arts

Thibodaux Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

The Kiwanis Club of Thibodaux continues to serve the children of our community. In June, club treasurer Nathan Braud and immediate past president Buddy Ledet presented a check for $3000 to the Thibodaux Playhouse. The money was used to assist with the production of Mulan Jr. Accepting on behalf of the playhouse were members of the cast along with Director Amy Good.

Community Teamwork

Southern Hills-Shreveport Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Members of the Southern Hills-Shreveport Kiwanis Club enjoyed being a part of the Renesting Project's move to their new, larger location on August 12th. The purpose of the Renesting Project, is to gather and provide reclaimed furniture and household goods to those transitioning from homelessness within our community.

Terrific Kids Kick-Off a New Year

Gulfport Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

The first group of Terrific Kids for 2017-18 school year at Bayou View Elementary School sponsored by the Gulfport Kiwanis Club pictured on August 31, 2017.
Get ready for Las Vegas!
103rd Annual Convention

June 28 - July 1, 2018 ★ www.kiwansis.org

100th Annual La.-Miss.-W. Tenn. District Convention

August 3 - 5, 2018

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 is the deadline for the remainder of the 2017-2018 Kiwanis Year:

January-February-March 2018 Deadline = December 17, 2017
April-May-June 2018 Deadline = March 17, 2018
July-August-September = June 16, 2018

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!