Dear Kiwanis Friends,

Greetings and Happy New You to Each of You! As I write, it is snowing outside for about the sixth or seventh time this season in Tennessee. We are expecting 3 to 6 inches tonight. I know many of you have had some unexpected weather this year. I just hope it isn’t icy as it has been in the past for our area is running of salt to prepare our roadways.

By the time you read this, we will have attended Mid-Winter and renewed old friendships and made new friends. We will all be refreshed and motivated and inspired by our International President, Sylvester Neal, our International Counselor, Sue Petrisin, and our Kiwanis International Area Growth Director, Rhonda Vrell. You will have learned lots of new information to share with your clubs when you return. You will have participated in our LAMISSWTENN Talent Show and become aware of how much talent we have in our wonderful District!

I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you who have promoted the conference, who assisted with the workshops and who attended and participated in the Mid-Winter Conference in Natchez, Mississippi. This is our first Mid-Winter in four years, so it’s good to have us all together more than once during the Kiwanis year.

As I write, we have two divisions who are working on new clubs, Division 4A is working on a new club in Slidell, Louisiana, and Division 14 is working on a Golden K Club in the Armed Forced Retirement Center in Biloxi. Congratulations to those two divisions for their outstanding work toward growth. It’s always good to keep in mind that we have stated in our District Strategic Plan that we will build 7 new clubs each year, and so we are almost one-third of the way there if these clubs come to fruition.

Friends in the Kiwanis year of fire we must open more clubs than we lose and have each district maintain its membership. And where there is room for more clubs we must establish a Kiwanis presence. Remember we have the power to rescue clubs before they are lost. I encourage you to make each club experience meaningful. Help new club members to immediately get involved on committees or on your board. Acknowledge the talents of everyone and make them feel welcome.

This month’s Kiwanis Magazine includes new ideas on how to enhance member experiences. Please check it out.

We are lighting a large flame this year my friends. And to be successful we need our own Kiwanis family to become united and strong. It’s time for everyone to throw their logs on the fire.

I also want to remind you that registration for Kiwanis International Convention in Geneva, Switzerland is open right now. We’re planning the experience of a lifetime and you don’t want to miss it. We’ll see you there!

**Syl Neal**

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**INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

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**Ramsey’s Ramblings!**
February is American Heart Month

February is American Heart Month. What a great time to place another AED in a school in your community and raise awareness about heart health.

Zoll has a promotion this month so register right now to win this AED for a school in your area. Also, I hope you continue providing AEDs for all the schools. Please consider schools in areas around you where there is no Kiwanis Club. Contact me if I can answer questions or help in any way. Off: 225/769-9233 Cell: 225/921-6032 aed@lamisstenn.org

The average survival rate of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest each year is 7%. If an AED is used by a bystander, the rate increases to 38%. Having AEDs in your community could be the difference between life and death.

Enter now, and ZOLL will award one winner an AED to donate. Help spread awareness of cardiac arrest in your community today! http://www.zoll.com/heartmonth/

GOVERNOR-ELECT TRAVELS AS PART OF HIS COMMITMENT

By: Greg Beard, Governor-Elect

Travel, travel, travel -

In January, I returned to Indianapolis for the Kiwanis Service Leadership Programs (SLP) conference. January in Indianapolis is no picnic - temperatures fell to -2 degrees, and that was without the wind chill. Our members in West Tennessee might be able to handle that but, South Louisiana and Mississippi probably not.

Over 300 district chairs and administrators from North America came together for a weekend to learn and develop their plan of action for their districts. Along with Kari Quinnelly, CKI Administrator, Brenda Eccelels, Key Leader District Chair and Neil Simmons, Young Children Priority One (YCPO) International Committee Member, we participated in seminars and workshops on how to make our programs the best for our district. Again, this trip proved to be a memorable experience. I was able to re-unite with my fellow Governor-Elects and establish new friendships with others - particular with the Kansas folk who surprised me with a giant slice of birthday cake.

Back at home to our District’s Mid-Winter Conference last week further allowed me to continue the great fellowship with district members. The Conference was a great success - many thanks to all, especially our Governor Linda Ramsey, Executive Director Charlie Ford and Administrative Assistant Beverly Ford.

I truly believe that attendance at conventions and conferences not only is informative and educational for Kiwanis purposes, but serves as a means of forming friendships in a family who have the common goal of making a difference in another’s life.

What’s next - continue with club visits getting to know our members. I “killed two birds with one stone” in Baton Rouge with visits to the Cortana and Downtown clubs; spoke at the Winfield club and later this month scheduled to help the Starkville club with their concessions at the LSU/Mississippi State basketball game (Can you guess who I will be pulling for). “…on the way back to Alexandria, a stop in Rayville for their Pancake Day fundraiser…” Next month, we will be attending the Circle K District Convention at the Cabot Lodge of Millaps in Jackson, Mississippi - a weekend with our future Kiwanis members and leaders.

Happy Valentine’s Day

Greg
Ramsey’s Ramblings!

Con’t. from page 1

As we have heard many times, we need to share the wonderful secret of Kiwanis by asking someone to come to a meeting to see what we’re all about. Think about the people you come in contact with each week, and invite someone to attend your club.

Whenever we have a membership drive, I always try to think about someone I would like to spend more time with each week. This way you get to share Kiwanis and also share your time.

There are several divisions that are showing signs of growth in their clubs at this time or working toward building new Kiwanis Clubs, Aktion Clubs, Key Clubs, Circle K’s and more, and this is great! We have improved in retention through-out the district in the reports that I am receiving. I want to thank this year’s team of Lt. Governors for all their efforts in making timely monthly reports and their involvement in monthly conference calls, and mostly for their devotion to their divisions and making sure that each Kiwanis Club has the information that they need to be a healthy successful club.

I now have all but one Region tentatively scheduled for Governor Visits, and I heard from that region that the visit is in the planning stages. Thanks to everyone who has or is helping make these visits possible. We need to thank Beverly Cain for our Outstanding Newsletter and District Directory. This is one of the goals that I set for this year, and I am so glad that Beverly has made it happen!!!! Many, many thanks Beverly. Thanks to Kevin Domingue for all his help with the LAMISSWTENN Facebook Page. This has been a wonderful way to share news in between newsletters.

Another goal for this year was for clubs to be more visible. There will be a Visibility Contest at District Convention. Criteria for becoming the most “Visible Kiwanis Club” is as follows:

* Articles and pictures of your Kiwanis Club events in the newspaper
* Public service spots on the radio for your Kiwanis Club events
* Video/DVD of events accomplished
* Published Announcements of upcoming Kiwanis Events
* Published Announcements on the LAMISSWTENN Face Book Page
* Published Announcement & Articles in the LAMISSWTENN Newsletter

*A successful working club website
*A regular club newsletter

All of the above information needs to be combined into a presentable packet of your choice, and brought to District Convention in Tunica. Bob Dever, Public Relations Chair, along with some additional committee members to be assigned to this special committee will determine the winner. The winner of the most “Visible Kiwanis Club” in LAMISSWTENN will be given an AED by Linda Ramsey, Governor, to put in the school of their choice.

We all know what Kiwanis is and does, but it is vital to let others know, and then everyone will hear about us and want to be a part of the great things we do on behalf of Kiwanis. Being more visible will assist us all in gaining more members and thus being able to provide more service to the children and communities of the world. Thanks for all you do for the sake of Kiwanis.

Yours in Service,

Linda

Linda Ramsey, Governor

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The Eliminate Project

Stay informed
Keep up-to-date on the latest news about Kiwanis’ new global campaign for children. Sign up to receive The Eliminate Project newsletter.

YOUNG CHILDREN/PRIORITY ONE
“KANS FOR HUNGRY KIDS WILL HELP YOUR CLUB SOLVE THE HUNGER PROBLEM!”

By: Neil Simmons, YCPO International Committee

Kans for Hungry Kids is a simple project that any Kiwanis Club can do. At each weekly meeting, the members bring a can of food to the meeting. The cans are collected by a member who keeps track of the amount collected and reports the totals at the next Club meeting.

After a number of cans are collected, the Club chooses a family with small children to donate the cans to, from a list at a local Church or social agency. The Kiwanians deliver the cans to the family and report back to the Club on their visit. Many times the members of the Club come back with wonderful stories of their delivery and other needs the Kiwanis Club can furnish the family, like clothing or shoes for the young children.

Some Clubs collect boxes of cereal at one meeting and baby food at another meeting. Some collect baby items like diapers, baby cereal, baby formula, etc at each meeting for a given month. At the end of the month, the members deliver them to a family with small children or to the Battered Women’s Home in their area.

One Club in Florida solicits food from all the grocery stores in their City, fill up an 18 wheeler truck and then delivers the food to their local food pantry. The truck is parked in the City’s town square with a big Kiwanis Banner announcing their efforts and people come to the truck and donate food, toys, and clothing for the poor. The event is covered by the local TV and newspapers.

This and other Young Children/Priority One projects can be fun for a Club and get them much need publicity.

For more information, please contact LaMissTenn District Chairman Lee A. Jeter, Sr. at 318-221-7474.

MEMBERSHIP EDUCATION AND CLUB DEVELOPMENT

By: Dee D. Drell, Membership Education & Club Development

DATES, LOCATIONS OF CLE ANNOUNCED! SAVE THE DATES!

The Certified Trainers under master trainer Dee Drell, met at the Mid-Winter Conference on February 12, 2011 and have set the dates for the 2012 Club Leadership Education training sessions. Please review the dates below and mark your calendars. There will be further information on the training sessions in the next newsletter.

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<td>Northshore Mandeville, La.</td>
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<td>August 5th</td>
<td>Tunica, Miss.</td>
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Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time.
COMMUNITY SERVICES
By: Richard “Woody” Wood, Community Services Chair
E-mail: rwood1500@aol.com

Service is the rent we pay for living. It is the very purpose of life and not something we do in our spare time. There are at least two benefits for doing community service. Clearly we can support each other with our efforts and initiatives; we can raise money for our new Kiwanis World Wide Service “Eliminate Project”: Kiwanis eliminating maternal/neonatal tetanus and we can make sure that hungry people are fed. The worst thing in the world is to feel alone. At least half of our service we do in our communities is simply letting others know that we’re here and we care.

Every day we are faced with the potential for service. Just stop for a moment and think about the last time you helped someone and no one knew about it; remember how great it made you feel? We, as individuals, can offer service to our community in so many different ways. Just think about the impact your own Kiwanis Club and its members could have on your community.

The following list gives some examples of Community Service Projects in which you and your club can become involved.

- Read and give books to children at a school or Head Start.
- Become involved with a senior citizen center or nursing home.
- Be a big brother or sister to a child.
- Start a Terrific Kids or Bug Program at a local school.
- Local community activities such as a canned food drive for the Salvation Army.
- Be a mentor at your local school.
- Start an AKTION CLUB in your community.

There are so many more Community Service Projects that can involve you and your club. Remember that the reward for service will always be yours whether it is a smile or a handshake or some other type of thanks.

Don’t forget to send me your nominations for Teacher, Firefighter, and Lawman of the year in your community. I must receive them by July 1, 2011

To quote International Kiwanis President Sylvester Neal; “Kiwanis has been carrying the torch of service for 95 years.”

I WANT US TO BUILD A RAGING BONFIRE.

COMMUNITY SERVICE IN ACTION

Helping

Mentoring
FINANCE AND FUNDRAISING
By: David Lindsey, Finance & Fundraising Committee Chair
Kiwanis Club Fund-raising Events

Each year, Kiwanis clubs require millions of dollars to complete their chosen community-service projects, and there are possibly as many fund-raising methods used as there are Kiwanis clubs. This bulletin includes various fund-raisers that have been undertaken by Kiwanis clubs, together with suggested contacts and tips on where to find further information. This information is supplied as a courtesy to Kiwanis clubs; Kiwanis International neither endorses nor recommends any particular fund-raiser. Also included are guidelines to follow when using professional talent that is purchased and when utilizing professional fund-raisers.

Upon receipt of your club’s request, the Club Services Department of Kiwanis International will provide a list of clubs that raised significant funds. The fund-raising activity or activities will be named, if known. If interested un specific details of conducting such a fund-raiser, your club may contact the Kiwanis club named. Remember: When conducting fund-raising activities, as with all activities of the club, be ever mindful of insurance liability, avoid potential for loss, restrict Kiwanis coverage to members of the Kiwanis family, and avoid bringing outsiders under the Kiwanis liability insurance umbrella. Practice risk management at all times.

The Kiwanis Risk Management kit is made available to North American clubs each administrative year. To obtain a copy of the kit: After December, check first with your club secretary or request one from the Human Resources Department of the International Office. See also the Kiwanis website at kiwanis.org/resources.html for further information.

Each time the Kiwanis club embarks upon a fund-raiser, consider the phases those members of Key Club, Circle K, Builders Club, K-Kids, AKtion Club and Kiwanis Junior can handle effectively and invite them to participate.

Locality plays a vital role, of course, and a fund-raising activity or technique that works in one locality may not work in another.

Sale of Commercial Products

The sale of commercial products is one type of fund-raising activity utilized by many clubs whose members are enthusiastic about selling products. Some commercial products may be available through local or nearby manufacturers or agents. Many commercial products are available from manufacturers in a special organizational fund-raising plan containing complete instructions and promotional materials.

Advertisements in each issue of the KIWANIS Magazine offer information on a variety of such fund-raising plans. The August issue of the magazine is the annual fund-raising issue. It is devoted exclusively to fund-raising ideas, and this issue generally carries a large number of fund-raiser advertisers.

Attractively packaged candies and nuts are good sales items, as is citrus fruit, especially in areas where fruit is not grown. Fruitcakes are excellent for holiday gifts, and club members may wish to purchase quantities for their own companies or organizations (some clubs develop a customer list for repeat sales). Popcorn is a product that can be sold at any time of the year or on a continuing basis.

Peanuts for Kiwanis Peanut Day may be obtained from local sources or purchased from national firms such as Kiwanis Peanut Day Inc., 900 Jorie Blvd., Oak Brook, IL 60523. Telephone: 1-888-768-8386. Web address: Kiwanispeanutday.com

Gum and candy vending machines involves the club’s negotiating for location sites and being paid an agreed-upon percentage of the receipts by the company that owns, places and services the vending machines. (Exercise extreme care in selecting a gum machine firm. Beware of high-pressure salesmen suggesting that the club purchase a machine, which the club must place and service. The potential return of such an investment should be carefully checked.) More than 2000 clubs are presently using the Fordway Plan. For details, call toll-free 1-800-225-5535, or see their advertisement in the KIWANIS Magazine.

Other commercial products sold by Kiwanis clubs:

- Apples
- Light bulbs
- Cheese
- Cookies
- Desk pads
- Calendars
- Sausage
- Soap
- Flags
- Pickles
- Pizzas
- Candles
- Flowers
- Pumpkins
- Dried fruit
- Trash bags
- Christmas cards
- Smoke alarms
- Coupon books
- Christmas trees
- Bumper stickers
- Coloring books

Member resources page, finance and fundraising.

www.kiwanisone.org
dlindsey@bankonresource.com
FOUNDATION LAUNCHES 2010-2011 CAMPAIGN

By: Eva Abate, District Foundation President

The Foundation has launched a campaign for individual financial support from Kiwanis members and Foundation members throughout the District. This is Your Foundation and every Kiwanis member is also a member of the Foundation. The Foundation is the fundraising arm of our District, established as a non-profit, charitable corporation 501(c)(3).

Your financial support allows us to award Key Club and Circle K Scholarships. Your funds provide for leadership training, AED grants, and other Community Service grants. The Foundation also recognizes the Lawman of the Year, Teacher of the Year, Firefighter of the Year and Layman of the Year. As you can see we are busy awarding monies throughout the District for a variety of accomplishments. I have included a copy of the contribution form for all members to discern their personal contribution.

Eva B. Abate
2010-2011 Foundation Board President

DISTRICT FOUNDATION HOLDS SUCCESSFUL FUND-RAISERS AT MW'11

Your District Foundation Board of Directors conducted 3 major fund-raising programs at the Mid-Winter Conference in Natchez:

Gift Basket Raffle - Over 60 baskets of varying themes, contents, and sizes were "raffled off" on Saturday, raising over $3,400 for the Foundation. Thanks to all of the clubs and members who spent time creating their baskets, and then donating them to the Foundation. Additionally, thanks to all of the Kiwanians and guests at the conference who purchased the 3,400+ $1 tickets to take a chance on these fantastic baskets.

Kiwanis Store - Many Kiwanians took advantage of the Kiwanis Store to purchase the Kiwanis-branded jewelry, clothing, and office supplies. The Foundation will receive about $200 in commission for conducting this sale.

Sustaining Member Campaign - In keeping with the campaign (see above) to increase individual donations, the Foundation made a pitch at lunch for the membership to make voluntary donations and pledges to support the programs of the Foundation. Over $3,100 was raised at Mid-Winter, combining that with the $400 raised prior to the conference. Additional contributions can still be made using the form below - or by contacting the District Office. A list of Sustaining Members will be published in the next issue of The La.-Miss.-W.Tenn. News -- so get your donation in soon!

Thanks to all for your continued support of the La.-Miss.-W.Tenn. Kiwanis District Foundation!

Clip Coupon and Return to Foundation District Office, 5319-B Didesse Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808-6401

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KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION ALSO GIVES

By: Julia S. Carter, District Chair Kiwanis International Foundation

Many of your clubs are doing extraordinary things for your communities, many original projects that are greatly improving the lives of children. Your clubs are not only putting in many service hours, but also many thousands of dollars of funding. Have you considered filling out a request for a GRANT from your Kiwanis International Foundation? There are many clubs with projects that are tailor made to receive a grant. Yes, your KIF gives grants and does not just ask for money from your clubs.

KIF has a certain amount of funding to help clubs, divisions, or districts with their mission to help kids. Over $82,000,000 in grants have been awarded. Please go to the Kiwanis International Foundation Web Site and see if you can meet the Grant Application guidelines as well as viewing some of the grants that have been approved. Our grant committee can award grants up to $50,000. Do keep in mind that we receive grant requests that usually triple the amount of funding available.

The committee looks for good, worthwhile projects that help children that are Kiwanis Club initiated – projects that your board voted on and that your club promotes with member involvement and funding from the club. Also the grants Committee looks at the impact of the project and the sustainability of the project; some Disaster Relief Grants can be disbursed almost immediately.

Not favored are projects that involve capital improvements such as land purchases, bricks and mortar, a lot of salary expenses, or grants for an organization that just uses a Kiwanis club as a pass through.

The Grant Committee reviews grant applications two times a year at Board Meetings in January and June. The deadlines for any applications are April 15 and November 15.
HUMAN AND SPIRITUAL VALUES
By: Court Crow. Human and Spiritual Values Chair

MAKE YOUR CLUB MORE HUMAN AND SPIRITUAL VALUES – CONSCIOUS

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 2010-2011 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 builds up 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 exam-

pies of Kiwanians using this object in their personal or business experiences.

Just a quick reminder of other suggestions:

a. 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 “fall-in-a-rut” while a different person shares that responsibility or privilege.

b. Be sure to end each meeting with the 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”

c. 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 2011 started on the right spiritual foot. Your civic leaders will always show up and invite two or three different religious leaders to lead.

d. 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 next summer and I hope we have several recommendations from clubs throughout the District.

Please don’t make this committee 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 2010-2011 a year we can remember for our reigniting our love for Human and Spiritual Values.

SIGNATURE CLUB PROJECTS
Read Around the World

Every child should experience the joy of reading. Kiwanis members believe this, and have long been dedicated to Kiwanis’ Read Around the World program. But reading projects deserve more than a month long observance. That’s why Kiwanis International now urges the entire Kiwanis family to implement Read Around the World projects throughout the entire year.

More reading projects touch more kids’ lives. What can you do? Read to children. Then give them books they can cherish again and again.

www.lamisstenn.org    February – March Issue
DISTRIBUTION GROWTH
By: Dennis Oliver, District Growth Chair Email: DMOKiwans@aol.com Phone: 228-832-6786

"ONE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE"

My LAMISSTENN friends, there has never been a time when your Kiwanis Club was more needed in your community than today. So many children down the street from us are waiting for a dose of the Kiwanis Experience. I know I am speaking to a membership that has somehow come through the challenges and personal situations of a Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Rita, Rough Economic Conditions, and yes, even the Oil Spill.

"COULD YOU SAY LAMISSTENN IS BATTLE TESTED?!!"

Now, it is no secret that our District along with others has faced losing some members. I guess if you want to analyze, we could come up with a reason or two. In comparison with other Districts and considering the "bumps in the road" mentioned above, LAMISSTENN remains in the middle of the pack. The journey before us is to return to No. 1 where we were just a few years ago.

Today the challenge is before nearly 5000 LAMISSTENN members to rally around "I will be the one to make a difference." I am really excited about what our future holds.

I am only one--------What can I do?
I am glad you asked.
You can:
1. Recruit 1-2-3 new members for your club.
2. Be a part of making every meeting fun/exciting.
3. Get more involved in club projects.
4. Be involved in the fund raising activities.
5. Seek a position on the Board & be a candidate for office.
6. Have fun!
7. Have fun!!!

My friends someone asked us and gave us the privilege to belong to the greatest service club in the world. This carries a very awesome responsibility. Every one of us is the most important person in Kiwanis, because we hold the key to the success of our Club, Division, and District.

Will you wear your Kiwanis pin proudly, be the best member possible, and celebrate your club's successes on 9/30/11?

I LIKE OUR CHANCES!!!!!

Do we ever really know when that "Magic Kiwanis Moment" touches a child's life in a most special way?

Dennis Oliver, District Growth Chair

JANE GOODALL TO SPEAK AT OPENING SESSION

British primatologist and UN Messenger of Peace Jane Goodall, known for her extensive work with chimpanzees in Tanzania’s Gombe Stream National Park, will speak to Kiwanians and guests at the Opening Session of the 2011 Kiwanis International Convention in Geneva, Switzerland.

In 1977, Goodall established the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), which continues her Gombe research, and is a global leader in the effort to protect chimpanzees and their habitats. Today, the institute is widely recognized for establishing innovative, community-centered conservation and development programs in Africa, and Roots & Shoots, JGI’s global environmental and humanitarian youth network, which has groups in more than 120 countries. Goodall will speak to Kiwanians during Opening Session.

AMERICAN ACTRESS JAMIE LEE CURTIS TO SPEAK AT CLOSING SESSION

American actress Jamie Lee Curtis will speak to Kiwanians and guests at the 96th Annual Kiwanis International Convention in Geneva, Switzerland. Don’t miss out!

American actress and activist Jamie Lee Curtis will serve as keynote speaker for the Closing Session. Known for her roles in such films as Halloween, True Lies, A Fish Called Wanda, Trading Places and Freaky Friday, Curtis is also an AIDS activist and has a deep and active connection to many children’s charities. She also is a best-selling children’s author, including titles “Tell Me Again About the Night I Was Born,” “Today I Feel Silly and Other Moods That Make My Day” and “Is There Really a Human Race?”

Curtis is married to actor/director Christopher Guest and has two children

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In Memoriam

He left us quietly, His thoughts unknown, But left us a memory, We are proud to own; So treasure him Lord, In Your garden of rest, For when on earth, He was one of the best.

Charles Driver – Vernon, La.
W. S. Howard – Millington, Tenn.

William T. O'Brien, Jr. – The Natchez Trace, Miss.
Bernal E. Smith – Memphis, Tenn.
John O. Wagner, Germantown, Tenn.

WELCOME TO LA.-MISS.-W.TENN. DISTRICT’S NEWEST MEMBERS

Abide, Dr. David - Greenville, Miss.
Adsit, Aimee R. - Stone County, Miss.
Albritton, Stace - West Monroe, La.
Aquino, Sanders - South Baton Rouge, La.
Bacon, Toni L. - West Monroe, La.
Barnes, Paul V. - Vicksburg, Miss.
Barnes, Jennifer - Hammond, La.
Barron, Castella W. - Ponchatoula, La.
Basile, Daniell T. - St. Bernard-Arab, La.
Baumgartner, Mary Lynn - Northshore Mandeville, La.
Bechac, Andrew - Hammond, La.
Bergeron, Belinda - Houma, La.
Bergmann, Charlotte - Germantown, Tenn.
Bloodworth, Mary Catherine - Biloxi, Miss.
Broady, Delois E. - Whitehaven, Tenn.
Burns, Kathy - Gulfport, Miss.
Campbell, Laura K. - Memphis, Tenn.
Campos, Stephanie - Denham Springs, La.
Carlton, Victoria - Jena, La.
Catholic High School - New Iberia, La.
Chutz, Michael B. - St. Bernard-Arab, La.
Cooksey, Clint - Jena, La.
Cooley, Jeremy J. - DeRidder, La.
Cunningham, Kevin E. - South Baton Rouge, La.
Durbin, Melissa - Northshore Mandeville, La.
Edmond, David C. - Lafayette, La.
Feibelman, Katie F. - Vicksburg, Miss.
Fry, John - Union City, Tenn.
Gam Tire Company - New Iberia, La.
Gaspard, Scotty - Abbeville, La.
Hammatt, Joy - Baton Rouge, La.
Hart, Danny - Denham Springs, La.
Hayman, Chris - Grenada, Miss.
Hendry, Joe B. - Petal, Miss.
Hines, Susan - Alexandria, La.
Hood, Jr., George W. - Greenville, Miss.
Huffman, Jason - Pineville, La.
Johnson, Velma - St. Martinville, La.
Jones, Kenneth P. - Memphis, Tenn.
Juneau, Michael - Denham Springs, La.
Kendrick, Thomas N. - Jena, La.
Kirkland, Joe - New Albany, Miss.
Knight, Vinson J. - Dawn Busters, Metairie, La.
Lamarche, George A. - Pointe Coupee, New Roads, La.
Lambrecht, Kristen - West Monroe, La.
Lenoir, David C. - Memphis, Tenn.
Livingston, James - Gulfport, Miss.
Maddox, Rocky - Shreveport, La.
Magar, Kristian - New Iberia, La.
Magee, Erby L. - Zachary, La.
Marcelin, Cynthia - South Baton Rouge, La.
Merchant, Kimberly F. - Greenville, Miss.
Mock, Clint D. - Cortana, B.R., La.
Moore, David - The Natchez Trace, Miss.
Neuenhaus, Sr., Carl H. - Dawn Busters, Metairie, La.
New Orleans Fair Ground - Dawn Busters, Metairie, La.
O’Connor, Aubrey - Memphis, Tenn.
Parker, Melville G. - Starkville, Miss.
Parker, Rozelyn Nicole - South Baton Rouge, La.
Perreault, Mark D. - Pascagoula, Miss.
Phillips, Pat - Northshore Mandeville, La.
Pierce, Kayne J. - Southeast Shreveport, La.
Rhenberg, Seth - Union City, Tenn.
Robine, Jr., Charles F. - Laurel, Miss.
Rouse, Tammy - The Natchez Trace, Miss.
Roy, Monika - Dawn Busters, Metairie, La. (Correction)
Spaulding, Rick M. - Pascagoula, Miss.
Tannehill, William S. - Olla, La.
Thigpen, Jeremy S. - Walker, La.
Thomas, Suzanne - Ponchatoula, La.
Walters, Judy L. - Amory, Miss.
Warwick, Maryanne - Houma, La.
Wells, Bill - Memphis, Tenn.
Western Sizzler - Stone County, Miss.
Whitehead, Josh - Memphis, Tenn.
Williams, James F. - Rayville, La.
Wilson, Andy – New Albany, Miss.
Wood, Lillian – Greater Covington, La.
Young, Darla – Whitehaven, Tenn.
YOUR FOUNDATION @ WORK ...

Thank you and the Kiwanis Clubs of the Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District for YOUR support of YOUR District Foundation. Through personal donations as well as the Annual Gift Campaign from Kiwanis Clubs, YOUR District Foundation is able to assist clubs in the District with COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANTS for such projects as:

Each month the Kiwanis Club of West Jefferson (KCWJ) hosts a bingo at the Maison De Ville Nursing Home. KCWJ members, along with members of two Key Clubs entertain and assist patients of the nursing home. Since many of the patients have limited faculties, Kiwanians and Key Club members provide the assistance with cards and the bingo. Patients enjoy the company of both Kiwanians and Key Clubbers. They seem to enjoy being around youth and youthful folks. Project cost: $367. Grant awarded: $150.

The Kiwanis Club of Winnfield worked with their community, Winnfield Elementary School and the Winnfield Parish School Board to raise funds to build a playground at the Winnfield Primary School. The school, which serves children in grades 1-3, was thrilled when this project was completed recently. “Healthy bodies lead to healthy minds”, stated Claudia Franks, Principal of Winnfield School, then added, “These students are the future of our Parish, and we believe they deserve the best we can offer.” Project cost: $4,000. Grant awarded: $1,000.

IT’S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Early registration for convention has closed as of Jan. 31. Visit www.KiwanisOne.org/convention to register, explore tour descriptions and plan your trip. Convention registration includes full access to the Exhibit Hall, Kiwanis Family Store, regular and feature forums and general sessions. Meals are not included.
BUILDERS CLUB

Builders Club Contest Details – View online: http://bit.ly/einjiY
Contest time is right around the corner and Builders Clubs should be preparing their 2010-2011 entries, you might want to send them a quick reminder email. Clubs are asked to mail contest entries to district administrators by April 1 for judging. District administrators then judge contests and send 1st place winners from each category to Kiwanis International for judging by April 30th. Kiwanis International staff judge 1st place district winners and award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place overall winners for each category. Contest entries include: Speech, Leadership Award, Builders Club Book, Scrapbook and Club Single Service Award.

Annual Achievement Report – (Distinguished and Honor Club status)
Have your advisors use the new Annual Achievement Report to identify their club’s successes throughout the year. To apply simply print the Annual Achievement Report, complete and mail to Kiwanis International. Deadline is May 1. Submit to Kiwanis International.

Recognition for participants
Kiwanis International staff mail recognition items to district administrators to present to the overall international winners at Kiwanis district conventions. The following items will be provided:
- Speech: Medallion & certificate
- Leadership Award: Plaque & savings bond
- Builders Club Book: Medallion & certificate
- Scrapbook: Trophy & certificate
- Single Service: Trophy & certificate

Distinguished /Honor clubs: Banner patches are mailed to the Builders Club faculty advisor for presentation.

Contestants can select any of the following speech themes:
1. Suggestions for a fun Builders Club service project.
2. My checklist for creating a service project.
3. How to assess community needs.
4. My advice to a new Builder Club.

Want more information? Contest Booklet is attached and here is the link to Builders Club Contests: http://slp.kiwanis.org/BuildersClub/ClubManagement/ContestsAndAwards.aspx

Join Facebook Group: http://www.facebook.com/BuildersClub

In service,
Meghan

Meghan Ward-Bopp • Kiwanis International Builders Club Specialist mwardbopp@KIWANIS.ORG

KEY CLUB... To Infinity and beyond!

Friday evening to Saturday noon, March 18-19, 2011 at the Crowne Plaza - Baton Rouge, La., 4728 Constitution Avenue - at the College Dr. exit off I-10. To download registration packet go to www.lamisstennkeyclub.org

Welcome to the Whitehaven High School Key Club sponsored by the Whitehaven Kiwanis Club. The club was recently chartered on January 3, 2011. The Faculty Advisor is Darla Young, youngdd@mesk12.net and the Kiwanis Advisor is Jami Flick, jamiflick@yahoo.com

CIRCLE K UPCOMING CONVENTION

Kari Quinnelly, Circle K Administrator districtadmin@lmtcirclek.org

The LaMissTenn Circle K Convention is approaching fast, so mark your calendars. The 2011 Circle K District Convention will be held on March 11-13 in Jackson, Miss. at the Cabot Lodge.

The 2011 Circle K International Convention will be held June 22-26 in Virginia Beach, Virginia. All Kiwanians are invited to attend these conventions. What can you do at a Circle K convention? Kiwanians can assist with set ups, judging contest, chaperoning, working with Circle K’er’s on their convention service project, attending their workshops and learning more about Circle K’s operations, etc. If you and your club members are interested please contact me, Kari, at districtadmin@lmtcirclek.org I look forward to hearing from you.

Kari

www.lamisstenn.org
KIWANIS CLUB OF MEMPHIS SERVES FAMILY SHELTER

Story submitted by: Dianne Polly, President, Downtown Memphis Kiwanis

Candy sprinkles litter the floor around one table. Empty ice cream cartons sit atop the table still sticky with fudge sauce. At a nearby table, children are racing to complete their homemade Valentine cards. Some children are proudly showing their completed cards to their moms and siblings and one little girl declares, “this has been the best cookout ever.”

In an hour and half’s time, the Kiwanis Club of Memphis has served lunch to fifty residents of this downtown Memphis family shelter, providing the makings for ice cream sundaes and helped the children to make Valentine’s cards for the upcoming holiday.

This luncheon has been an ongoing service project of the downtown club for more than a year. Each month, a group of dedicated volunteers purchase and grill hot dogs and hamburgers for all the mothers and children living in the transitional housing facility. Other Kiwanians bring, prepare and serve desserts and side dishes. There is often friendly competition amongst the grill masters to see who cooks the perfect burger. We grill in both sunny or rainy weather. Members also organize activities for all the children including making crowns, decorating cup cakes and playing games. The project is ideal because it accommodates all levels of involvement. Members can be on the purchasing team and simply drop off items at the shelter. Other members who want more hands on involvement can cook, serve food, help the children with their activities, or help with clean up.

For the second year in a row, one of our own donned a Santa Clause outfit and allowed all the children to talk with him about what they wanted for Christmas. He answered all the Santa questions and even explained that his sled and reindeer were perched on the roof where they could not be seen. Pictures were taken of all the children and afterwards everyone (children and mothers) received Wal-Mart gift cards donated by our members. We are glad our members are committed to changing our community by changing the life of one child at a time.

K.A.M.P. KIWANIS

Story Submitted by: Dennis Oliver

On June 25-27, 2011, Division 14 will host K.A.M.P. (Kids Are My Priority) Kiwanis Number 9! This is the only camp in Mississippi for children with arthritis. JRA (Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis) affects over 300,000 children. For so many years this debilitating disease was misdiagnosed as simply "growing pains." Children require expensive drugs, special baths and rubdowns.

Past 3 day camps have had 25-30 families with up to 110 children. These families come from Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. For several years one family came from Texas.

Children form close friendships by sharing with other children going through the same hurts and pains. Parents form bonds with others, as they receive the latest information from the doctors on site.

Elaine Beckham, Past President from the Stone County Club and Camp Director, promises a fun filled 3 days with swimming, canoeing, bowling, crafts, fishing and some fine eating.

This year’s camp will be in Wiggins, Mississippi at the Girl Scout Camp, Itta Kana. For information contact Dennis Oliver. Phone: 228-832-6786 or Email: DMOKiwannis@aol.com. If you know of any children with JRA, please pass this information on to them. Families of the arthritis child are also invited to join our camp.

Parent's Comments: "This camp allows my child to completely relax and not feel different."

"You Kiwanians are like angels the way you love our children."
KIWANIS MAKING A DIFFERENCE AT SAFE HARBOR IN SLIDELL LOUISIANA

*Story submitted by: Cynthia Bentley, Pontchartrain Kiwanis Club*

The Kiwanis Club of Pontchartrain and The Kiwanis Club of Bank Konnection are changing the lives of the children at Safe Harbor in Slidell Louisiana. Cynthia Bentley, President, Kiwanis Club of Pontchartrain states, the motto of Kiwanis International is, "Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time", and with our annual toy drive the Kiwanis Clubs in Division 4A are seeking to reinforce our mission statement by trying to insure that each and every child have a joyful and memorable Christmas. This small act of kindness can and will make a difference in the children lives!

(pictured) Cynthia Bentley (left) Colleen LeBlanc (right)

GERMANTOWN KIWANIS CLUB SUPPORTS THE YOUTH IN THEIR COMMUNITY!

*Story submitted by: Bill Austin, Germantown Kiwanis Club*

The members of the Kiwanis Club of Germantown, TN are actively involved with the youth of the community. In addition to supporting COMEC, CASA, and Brinkley Heights Academy, the club sponsors three Key Clubs, two Builders Clubs, two Kids programs and two Terrific Kids programs.

The members are also involved with the community youth in other ways by helping build playgrounds and supporting youth activities such as visits to the zoo and picnics for Day Campers.

Germantown Mayor and Kiwanian Sharon Goldworthy recently met with the Builders Clubs to explain the duties and activities of the Mayor.

The club recognizes and supports community youth by holding its annual Young Artist Concert where the talented youth are presented in concert. School support activities include the Read Across America program and judging speech contests, and Science Fairs. Recently seven members judged the Germantown Elementary School Science Fair.

The members of the Kiwanis Club of Germantown are dedicated to supporting the youth of the community.

(pictured) Kiwanians Wally Simpson and Don Eye judge the Germantown Elementary School Science Fair.

“TERRIFIC KIDS” AT RUGG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN ALEXANDRIA, LA

*Story submitted by: Robert "Bob" Tillie, Central Louisiana Kiwanis Club*

About 150 students at Rugg Elementary School were recognized recently for reaching their academic and behavior goals. Terrific Kids is one of Central Louisiana Kiwanis Clubs “signature” projects for the last several years. We recognize students and their teachers in the true spirit of Kiwanis. The faces of the students say it all...they are really Terrific Kids!

Adults back row are left to right: Vickie Smith, Principal, Rugg Elementary School; Rita Klock, Central Louisiana Kiwanis; Dee Drell, Central Louisiana Kiwanis; and Haywood Joiner, Central Louisiana Kiwanis.

KIWANIS CLUBS TO PRODUCE REGIONAL SPELLING BEE

*The Kiwanis Club of Lafayette and the Kiwanis Club of Acadia will be hosting a regional Spelling Bee on February 26 - a bridge to the Scripps National Spelling Bee held annually in Washington DC. Students from several parishes will be participating who have won spelling bees at their local schools, and have moved up to this regional level of competition. Bees will be held for 3-4 grades, 5-6 grades & 7-8 grades. The champion of the 7-8 grades bee will represent the parishes of Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary and Vermilion at the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington DC, with expenses for the speller and 1 parent or guardian paid by the 2 Kiwanis Clubs. Last year, there was only 1 other Kiwanis-sponsored Scripps bee in the country. Kevin Domingue with the Kiwanis Club of Lafayette says "This is a great event that concentrates on improving spelling, increasing vocabulary, and developing proper English usage. We are excited to see that so many schools (34) have registered for the bee and have worked so hard at putting on their school bees. Congratulations go out to all of the school winners who will be at our bee in February - they are all champions"*

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February – March Issue 15
KIWANIS CLUB OF ST. BERNARD HOLDS OFFICER TRAINING FOR K-KIDS AND BUILDER CLUBS

The Kiwanis Club of St. Bernard has come a long way since the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. St. Bernard Parish is a small community located just down river from New Orleans and Hurricane Katrina flooded every single home and business in the parish. Shortly after Katrina, the Kiwanis Club of St. Bernard re-organized and started helping with the recovery of St. Bernard Parish. Everywhere you look on rebuilding committees, you had Kiwanians leading the way.

Due to the relocation of many of our members, the Kiwanis Club of St. Bernard lost 35 members of its pre-Katrina number of 61. Today the club has worked itself up to 63 members and has a more energized membership.

John Collins, sponsored youth chairman, approached the board and requested a special K-Kids and Builders Club officer training. Since Katrina, the Kiwanis Club of St. Bernard has built 5 K-Kids and 3 Builder Clubs. Collins said, “We have officer training for Kiwanis Clubs and Key Clubs, but none for the K-Kids and Builders Club”. The board immediately approved this and on Saturday, January 15th, 2011, at Joseph Davies Elementary School in Meraux, an official K-Kids/Builders Club officer training took place. In attendance were 35 officers, Kiwanis advisers and School Advisers.

There was a general education presentation followed by the officers being broken down by office and trained by a Kiwanian. Judge Robert Buckley, past President, gave a session for the Presidents and Vice Presidents. Polly Campbell, President Elect, gave a session for the Secretaries. Robby Showalter, past President and current Treasurer trained the Treasurers. John Collins, sponsored youth chairman, trained the sergeants at arms.

The spirit in the training was great with all attendees having a good time and at the same time learning more about their positions with their clubs. A strong connection was made between the sponsored youth and the Kiwanis Club and these students now have a better understanding of what Kiwanis does and a more understanding of their responsibilities. The seed has been planted to keep these young people in the Kiwanis family for a long time.

“K-KIDS” AT McKENZIE, TENN. ELEMENTARY

*Story submitted by: Myrna Johnson, McKenzie, Tenn. Kiwanis Club*

McKenzie, TN Elementary Kiwanis K-Kids recently had some indoor fun making a snowman with a roll of toilet paper. The K-Kids meet monthly at 7:30 a.m. with about 45 members.

A K-Kids Club provides children in the third and fourth grade with an opportunity to work together to give service to their community, to develop pride in their ability to contribute and help others, to encourage loyalty to school, community, and nation.

Their service projects include a “Share your Love” kit for children entering foster care with the Department of Children’s Services, a food drive for United Neighbors, a beverage can tab drive to help families stay at the Ronald McDonald House in Memphis and a Teacher Appreciation project. The entire student body is involved with the food drive and tab top collection.
MID-WINTER CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS!

AWARDS

2009-2010 L.A.-MISS.-W.TENN. DISTRICT ANNUAL CLUB REPORT AWARDS

SINGLE SERVICE

WINNER: Baton Rouge, La.
Honorable Mention: West Jefferson, Harvey, La.

MULTIPLE SERVICES

WINNER: Stone County, Miss.
Honorable Mentions: St. Bernard-Arabi, La.,
Southern Hills, Shreveport, La.

2009-2010 L.A.-MISS.-W.TENN. DISTRICT DISTINGUISHED CLUBS

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<td>Alexandria, La.</td>
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<td>Winnfield, La.</td>
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<td>Stone County, Miss.</td>
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2009-2010 L.A.-MISS.-W.TENN. DISTRICT OUTSTANDING CLUB SECRETARIES

2009-2010 Jay R. Broussard Memorial Outstanding Club Secretary
Barbara C. Johnson, Laurel, Miss.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Div.</th>
<th>Secretary &amp; Club</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Barbara C. Johnson, Laurel</td>
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<tr>
<td>4B</td>
<td>David Rafidi, Dawn Busters, Metairie, La.</td>
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<td>8B</td>
<td>Margaret Hodges, Cortana, Baton Rouge, La.</td>
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<td>Jim Leggett, Alexandria, La.</td>
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2009-2010 L.A.-MISS.-W.TENN. DISTRICT CLUB NEWSLETTER AWARDS

Gold Section (101 members or more)

Winner: Kiwanis Club of Memphis, Tenn.
Editor: Beth Haag

Silver Section (71-100 members)

Winner: Downtown Builder-Upper
Kiwanis Club of Baton Rouge, La.
Editor: Gary Graham

Honorable Mention: Natchitoches Weekly Newsletter
Kiwanis Club of Natchitoches, La.
Editor: Lorita Lovemore

Orange Section (46-71 members)

Winner: CORK!
Kiwanis Club of Cortana, La.
Editor: Michael Doyle

Honorable Mention: The Builder
Kiwanis Club of Vicksburg, Miss.
Editor: Tom Osburn

Blue Section (31-45 Members)

Winner: Kiwanis Konnection
Kiwanis Club of Acadiana-Lafayette, La.
Editor: Jeanean Wood

White Section (30 or fewer members)

Winner: “In A Nutshell”
Kiwanis Club The Oaks, Baton Rouge, La.
Editor: Beverly Cain

Monthly Newsletter

Winner: Germantown Kiwanian
Kiwanis Club of Germantown, Tenn.
Editor: Bill Austin

Scrapbook Contest

Winner: Kiwanis Club of Martin, Tenn.
Scrapbook Editor: Mary Elizabeth Bell

2009-2010 L.A.-MISS.-W.TENN. DISTRICT INTER-CLUB CONTEST

The following clubs are being recognized for their outstanding efforts in Inter-Club Relations during the 2009-2010 Kiwanis Year.

GOVERNOR’S AWARDS - Recognizing the Kiwanis Club that made the most Inter-Clubs in 2009-2010

Diamond Sections: Dawn Busters, Metairie, La.
Ruby Section: Cortana, Baton Rouge, La.
Emerald Section: Acadiana-Lafayette, La.
Coral Section: Kener North, La.

37 Inter-Club Meetings
31 Inter-Club Meetings
18 Inter-Club Meetings
27 Inter-Club Meetings

COMMITTEE CHAIR’S AWARD - Recognizing clubs that made some special inter-club visits in 2009-2010

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<td>The Oaks, B.R., La.</td>
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<td>Stone County, Miss.</td>
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LT. GOVERNOR’S AWARD - Recognizing clubs that reported inter-club visits with allother Kiwanis Clubs within their division in 2009-2010

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<td>Southwest Lafayette, La.</td>
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<td>Lake Charles, La.</td>
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<td>Southeast Shreveport, La.</td>
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2009-2010 KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL Distinguished Lieutenants Governors

Recognized with the Governor’s Citation as a Distinguished Division for having 50% + of the clubs in the division achieve Distinguished Recognition.

**Division 4A** - Cynthia Bentley, Ponchartrain, New Orleans, La. & West Jefferson, Harvey, La.

**Division 11** - Greg Beard, Alexandria, La.

**Division 13** - John Pearson, Hammond, La.

**Division 18** - Kari Quinnelly, Ruston, La.

2009-2010 KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL DISTINGUISHED CLUBS

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<td>Paris-Lakeway, Tenn.</td>
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<td>St. Gabriel, La.</td>
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<td>Orange Grove, Gulfport, Miss.</td>
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FOUNDATION GRANT WINNERS!

Congratulations to the following clubs for receiving community and AED grants from YOUR District Foundation. It is through YOUR continued support and donations to the District Foundation, that enable the Foundation to provide financial assistance for Kiwanis projects and programs within our District.

Community Grants were awarded to:
The Oaks, for timing clocks for Special Olympics;
Columbus, MS Club, for Patriot Park - a community park for all children, including those with disabilities;
Southwest Lafayette, for starting up their first B.U.G. program at an inner city school.

AED Grants were awarded to: 
Amite Kiwanis Club and Southwest Contraband.

The funds for these grants were matched 50% or greater from the participating club. Congratulations to the recipients!

Kiwanians gather in Natchez

*Story by: The Natchez Democrat*

Kiwanians gather in Natchez

The 2011 Mid-Winter Conference was rated as a tremendous success by all that attending. Nearly 300 Kiwanians eagerly participated in the conference, held at the Natchez Convention Center. With unbelievable weather, a fantastic facility to meet in, some meaningful educational experiences, an opportunity to see old friends and meet new ones, plus plenty of motivation supplied by International President Sylvester Neal -- it all added up to a "can't miss event!"

The Mid-Winter Conference started off on Friday afternoon with meetings of the District Council (joint meeting of the District Board of Trustees and the 2010-2011 Team of Lt. Governors), the District Foundation Board of Directors, and the Past District Officers Organization Executive Committee. All 3 groups had meaningful discussions, and made plans for the future.

Friday night was time to present the District and International Awards for 2009-2010, and to wrap up Greg Stevens' year as Governor. The awards were presented, Greg's Team of Lt. Governors spent a few minutes helping him remember some of the funnier experiences of his year, and to say thanks for being the team leader. All business finished, Governor Linda Ramsey served as emcee of a District "Talent Show" which brought the house down. Elvis (a.k.a., Bill Austin) was there, along with Johnny and June Carter Cash (a.k.a., Clay Davis and Jan Robertson) took us back to Jackson, while Stephanie Crow did a modern dance and Fred Banks sang about a beautiful world. Members of our host club, Natchez Trace, performed a Village People melody. And then there were the "Bathing Beauties!" The winners of the talent show - who braved to cold weather outside, and warmed every-one up inside with their "Synchronized Swimming" demonstration. The hit of the show!!

Following an early meeting between the 2010-2011 Club Presidents and Governor Linda, President Syl, and other District & International Officers, the Mid-Winter Conference was officially called to order. International Trustee Sue Petrisin brought the District up-to-date on the ELIMINATE Project, which will officially kick-off in Geneva, and the Governors of Circle K, Tenaj Jackson, and Key Club, Maryfrances Johnson, brought greetings from their respective organizations.

Eight workshops in the morning provided club officers and members plenty of information on various Kiwanis subjects. Governor Linda assigned her District Committee Chairs to relay this important information. Governor Linda also planned a few workshops in the afternoon to cover additional topics. The critique sheets all came back positive as to content and presentation.

President Sylvester Neal took center stage as the keynote speaker for the Saturday luncheon. His motivational message re-ignited the fire in everyone in attendance, as everyone was buzzing afterwards about doing more to improve their clubs. Now it is up to those members present to get their clubs moving, and fellow members excited about doing more service within their communities.

All in all, everyone had a great time at Mid-Winter. The city of Natchez provided a great venue for the Kiwanis District to meet, and the conference provided the motivation and education to help our clubs grow. Thanks to all who came to Mid-Winter! We hope that you enjoyed your time at the Conference.
“The talent show was a hoot. Hats off to St. Martinville, the winners. They were the best and all I can say is WOW. President Sylvester Neal was very inspiring. I was in three sessions with him and learned something new in each one. We had a good turnout from our club with 10 total including spouses. I just wish more had been there to "Catch Fire for Kiwanis Service".”

Nancy Wertz
Cortana Kiwanis
Lt. Governor, Div. 8B

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- **March 11-13:** Circle K District Convention, Jackson, Miss. - Cabot Lodge Hotel on State St.
- **March 18-19:** Key Club New Officer Training, Baton Rouge, La. – Crown Plaza
- **April 15-17:** Key Club District Convention, Natchez Convention Center
- **May 13-15:** Lt. Governor Training Conference, Baton Rouge, La. – Holiday Inn South
- **July 7-10:** 96th Annual Kiwanis International Convention, Geneva, Switzerland
- **August 4-7:** Kiwanis District Convention, Tunica, Miss. – Harrah’s Resort

As the District Bulletin Editor, I aim to give you the most up to date information happening in the District and at Kiwanis International. I don’t always have all the information. So if you have club news or you are a committee chair, Trustee or Lt. Governor, please send me your exclusive information or updates, or messages to editor@lamisstenn.org

I want to thank the many contributors to the February-March Issue of “The La-Miss-WTenn District News”. I was so pleased and impressed with you and the very wonderful articles that you sent. Please keep up the good work!

Wising you a Happy Mardi Gras and St. Patricks Day!

Sincerely,

Beverly Cain

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