Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.

THE GOVERNOR’S WORDS OF WISDOM!

What a grand and wonderful celebration we had in Indianapolis for the 100th birthday of the greatest service organization in the world! Susan and I enjoyed being with so many Kiwanians and guests from our great and historic district during our time together. Even the flash floods could not dampen people’s spirits to be with like-minded people from all over the world that have children at heart. Attendees certainly fulfilled the meaning of our name and made a lot of noise! From the opening session to the closing session, we celebrated our successes and acknowledged there is still work to be done. They played a video entitled, “What if?” and I encourage you to watch it. We just do not know what the children we serve may one day do for our world. What if 100 years ago in Detroit, two men, Joseph Prance and Allen Browne, had not started the Supreme Lodge Benevolent Order Brothers? Well, we certainly would not be here, but thank goodness they did! Countless children and communities have benefited for 100 years from generous and sincere Kiwanians - just like you.

From celebrating how far we have come in the Eliminate Project to celebrating the beginning successes with the Formula, the mood was upbeat and contagious. In the House of Delegates, we were able to discuss the business of Kiwanis and delegates were able to hear about the state of our organization. There was much discussion over the dues increase amendment and in turn, the amendment passed and international dues will increase $10 a year. Further business conducted in the House of Delegates included electing our new leaders. All of the candidates had Kiwanis at heart and we will be well served by those who were elected. We also retired one of our own - International Trustee Dennis Oliver was recognized as he goes off the Board. Thank you, Trustee Dennis and Ms. Ame for representing us in the manner that you did. The two of you are a great team and we are proud of you both!

In just a few short weeks, we will be coming together in Memphis to celebrate at our District Convention! Are you ready? You better be because there is a weekend of fun and learning planned for you and we

Governor’s Words continued on page 2
Governor’s Words continued from page 1

hope every club will be represented. There is even a 50’s Party planned and I guess that means I have to do something to my hair! In between the fun and fellowship, we too, will have business to conduct. In our House of Delegates, we will elect our officers and vote on amendments that affect our District. One of those amendments deals with a dues increase. Please know that your District Board has looked at the budget and determined the only way to continue to operate as we do today is to propose a $10 dues increase broken down over the next three years - first year, $5; second year, $3; and third year, $2. We understand coming off the heels of an increase of International dues this may hard to understand. However, the District Board has been discussing how to handle this financial situation for some time, but the time came that we could not put it off any longer. I encourage you to bring your questions and concerns over this to District Convention and then read in this newsletter other articles about the need for the district dues increase. Furthermore, one way to help combat this situation is to put the Formula to work in your club, which will also help the District. Therefore, we perform outstanding service and who do you know that could join us?

In closing, we hope that you will come and be part of our celebration in Memphis as we recognize our accomplishments over the past year! There is so much positive energy in Kiwanis right now that I am crazy enough to believe that enthusiasm is contagious! So, I want you to come and catch what several of us already have and let us make a positive difference in our community and world, especially in the lives of children. Thank you for all you do! Susan and I will see you in Memphis.

2014-2015 KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

WHAT WE KNOW NOW
A message from Kiwanis International President John Button

And we thought we were only eliminating maternal and neonatal tetanus. As it is turning out, we are doing so much more. When village leaders see that newborns and new mothers are no longer dying from tetanus because of immunization, they become receptive to other health initiatives. Programs such as integrated immunization and health education are being enthusiastically embraced. The Eliminate Project is having a far more profound impact on how whole societies function than anyone could have imagined. If a mother survives the neonatal period, 89 percent of her children live long enough to go to school. If she does not survive, that number plummets to 24 percent. If the mother survives, the family’s income is maintained, allowing her children to go to school. This is so important for girls. Educated girls are empowered girls. Empowered to say, “No.,” empowered to demand access to safe health care, empowered to take control of their bodies and empowered to demand their rightful place in society. Girls with no education are often forced by circumstance or their families into child marriage. This happens 39,000 times every day; 4 million times every year. Around the world 700 million women live in forced marriages, one-third of which took place before the girl was 15. I recently read a UN report of a 15-year-old girl who was “betrothed” by her family to a 75-year-old man. She was in school. She said, “No!” She rallied her schoolmates, and they said, “No!” They marched on the village elder’s home and with one voice said, “No!” There was no marriage. Empowerment. This young woman was empowered because she was in school. She was in school because her mother had survived the neonatal period and could afford an education. Her mother had received the tetanus vaccine. We never fully knew what we would start when we took up the fight against maternal and neonatal tetanus. We are not only making history. We are transforming societies.
GOVERNOR-ELECTS POST
By Gary Graham, Governor-Elect 2014-2015

ON TO DISTRICT .........................

The 100th Birthday celebration held at the International Kiwanis Convention in Indianapolis is over. For those who went it was a great experience. I hope you had as much fun learning a little more about Kiwanis and meeting Kiwanians from all over the world as I did. We elected our new leadership and voted on issues important to our organization. The experience was triply rewarding as the Key Club and CKI held their conventions in conjunction with us. The energy from them was electric.

But now we need to turn our attention to our own back yard. The LaMissTenn 97th Annual Convention will be held July 31-August 2 in Memphis. The host committee has a great program planned and I hope you can make it. It is the time to take care of some of the business of the District, but more importantly it is a time to learn about Kiwanis, have some fun and network with some of the greatest people you will ever get to know. There are some informative workshop sessions planned to give you more insight into how to make your club better and help you improve your community. Kiwanis is based on the individual club but there is so much to learn from networking with other Kiwanians and other clubs. There are some great events planned with a 1950’s dance, tours of Elvis’ Graceland for the spouses and a special time for the kids at the Memphis Zoo. This is a great family vacation to see the sights of Memphis and renew old friendships and make new friends too. We are back downtown for the first time in years. The hotel is newly refurbished and there are many sights to see with easy travel by foot or trolley. I hope you can make it. As they say here in south Louisiana come and pass a good time.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE
By Travis B. Moore, District Public Relations Chair

Guys, this has been a very exciting year! Kiwanis has been in the press and in the news everywhere, so thank you for getting the Kiwanis name out there!

Our success stories have been shared throughout our communities, including stories and articles about our famous Pancake Days, Kiwanis One Day, youth scholarships, veteran & military projects, reading programs, Eliminate, Coats for Kids, school & community events, food drives, community clean-ups, park restorations, 5-K Runs, and many more very special events. We’ve seen these success stories in newspapers, social media, TV, radio, newsletters, and in other media campaigns. But we have also heard of these success stories from our members in our club meetings, and these stories have been talked about by our friends and neighbors on the street, in our schools, in our churches, in our city halls, at our kitchen tables, and at so many other social outings.

But more importantly, we have seen these success stories in the faces and smiles of our children and our youth. This is the true test for all Kiwanis members and for all Kiwanis Clubs. Yes, we accomplished so much, as we always do, but did we really make a difference in the lives of our children and our youth? Well, in this case and for this great year, the answer is obvious when we look into the faces of our young people, yes we did, and for that, we should be very proud!

Thank you so much for getting the Kiwanis name out there!

And lastly, thank you for all that you do and thank you for your dedication and commitment to Kiwanis, our mission and our purpose. Our success is a collection of the efforts of all of our Kiwanis members, and we have become so good at what we do because of everyone’s efforts. Thank you so very much.

And I hope to see everyone at our District Convention in Memphis!
SERVING ON THE BOARD
By Dr. H. D. (Bill) Gaddis, Trustee Region VII, Winnfield, La.

After being a Kiwanian for 36 plus years, the opportunity arose for a chance to serve as trustee for our great Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District for a three year term. “Opportunity to serve” - I would encourage everyone to seek the chance to serve your fellow Kiwanians as a Club President, Lt. Governor, and then seek a “seat on the board”, by serving as one of the seven trustees for our district. You’ll get an eye opening experience of what it really takes to keep our district on a smooth course. The times have changed in 39 years, legalities, membership, and leadership is continually changing.

The past three years went by fast as I recently spent two days with the board and the incoming Lt. Governors for training, discussions, and then the final board meeting of my 3 year term. You'll meet and form some lifetime friendships along with making some hard, difficult, yet interesting decisions. It is a changing world that Kiwanians serve, a world of which we had to adjust. Kiwanis has had to adjust to project alterations, to changing societies, and to deal with more in depth legal problems.

When I came on the Board three years ago, Chief Robert Benoit (Southwest Lafayette, La.) was Governor and Greg Beard, now Judge (Alexandria, La.) was serving his last year as immediate Past Governor. Robert was succeeded by Dr. Jeems White (Alexandria, La), who was succeeded by our present Governor, “the Reverend” John McCay, III (Orange Grove, Gulfport, Ms.). The board is cyclic, the first person I sat next to was Gary Graham (Baton Rouge, La.) now returning to the Board as our Governor Elect.

The statement has been made by our Executive Director, Mr. Charlie Ford (the “Dean” of Executive Directors of Kiwanis), “that no one ever leaves serving on the Board who doesn't express sadness when his/her time is over”, and I feel the same way. It is an experience and an honor to serve each and every Kiwanian in the great LaMissTenn District as a Trustee and member of the Board.

I had the privilege of hosting my successor, Mr. Paul Funderburk of Pineville, La., sitting in at my last meeting, to guide him into a slot that should be held in high esteem. The District started the Trustee Board format about 10 years ago. Judge Dee Drell (Alexandria Cenla) was the first elected Trustee to serve the N. Louisiana (Red River) district. He was followed by Lee Jeter (Shreveport, La.) and then myself, and on Oct 1, Paul. Make it your goal to serve as the member from your Region! Do you know the Trustee in your Region?

I leave with the full knowledge that the District is in good shape. Great men and women are leading our distinguished District; making the changes needed, recommending the policies needed, and selecting the right programs for our membership. Charlie Ford is the most Senior of Executive Directors in all of Kiwanis; therefore, our District is privileged to have him, his wisdom, and experience, and as well, his staff. I challenge all Kiwanians to seek a position on the Board to further serve our children and our communities, one child and one community at a time.
At the District Convention this summer in Memphis, the District Board of Trustees is proposing three (3) amendments to our District Bylaws. Please review these proposed changes, and share with the members of your club. These items will be presented for a vote during the House of Delegates on Saturday afternoon, August 1st. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact and discuss them with any of the members of the District Board.

**Amendment No. 1**

This proposed amendment will replace the entire set of District Bylaws. Kiwanis International has made an effort to streamline club and District Bylaws, and the District Board is mandated to propose an amendment which will replace the existing Bylaws. The District Board is looking upon this as a “housekeeping” amendment since we are required to change. But even still, the membership must adopt the changes. Are available at www.lamisstenn.org

**Amendments No. 2 & 3**

**Amendment No. 2:** The District Board of Trustees is proposing an increase in District Dues, with a total increase of $10 over a three-year period, raising the annual District Dues from $30 per member, to $40 per member by the 2017-2018 Kiwanis Year. In an effort to make the increase more tolerable, the Board is proposing that the increase be “staggered” in over a three-year period: An increase of $5 ($30 to $35) beginning October 1, 2015; another $3 ($35 to $38) effective October 1, 2016; and the final $2 ($38 to $40) as of October 1, 2017. The last dues increase of $5 was approved and implemented in 2008. The 2014-2015 Proposed Dues Increases and a detailed narrative, District Board Proposes Dues Increases, are available at www.lamisstenn.org

**Amendment No. 3:** The District Board of Trustees is also proposing a slight increase in the New Member Add Fee, the “dues” each club pays when bringing a new member into Kiwanis. This District Fee has always been $5 per new member (Kiwanis International’s fee was $50 per member, changed to a sliding scale with a high amount of $62, and now back to $50 per). With 20+ years of inflation and the increasing costs of operation, the Board felt that it was time to increase the New Member Add Fee from the $5 to $10 per new member. Both the proposed amendment and the justification also appear on the same available at www.lamisstenn.org as Amendment No. 2.

The La.-Miss.-W.Tenn. District Board of Trustees discussed all of these proposed amendments at length. Kiwanis International is telling us that the new Bylaws are necessary, so the Board asks for your positive consideration and approval of these.

As you look at the financial Information provided in the narratives supporting the proposed dues increases, you can see that the District Boards have stretched the last dues increase as long as possible, and there simply will not be enough funds to maintain the District operation without an increase. In the District’s case, we have lived off the reserve funds made available by the last increase in 2008, and have nearly exhausted that available money. The District Board asks for your positive consideration and approval of both of these financial amendments.

**DISTRICT BOARD PROPOSES A DUES INCREASE**

Facing increasing expenses, declining membership, and an evaporating reserve fund, the La.-Miss.-W.Tenn. District Board of Trustees is proposing a $10 increase to the annual member dues. This proposal will be discussed at the House of Delegates at the District Convention this summer in Memphis. If approved, the increase will become effective on October 1, 2015, for the 2015-2016 billing period.

The proposed $10 per member increase will be staggered over a 3-year period, with an increase of $5 per member effective October 1, 2015 (from $30 to $35 per member); another $3 increase will be added effective October 1, 2016 (from $35 to $38 per member); and the final $2 increase will be effective October 1, 2017 (from $38 to $40).
The District Board discussed this issue long and hard, and felt that a $10 increase is necessary to continue the workings of the District, with at least $5 needed immediately. The other $5 is necessary for the future, but the Board felt that staggering it would be easier on the members, and would still help re-build a solid financial foundation for a number of years to come.

The last District Dues increase of $5 per member was approved and enacted in 2008. The increase allowed the Boards to balance the budget and place a portion into reserves. Over the years, with membership declining (from 5,361 paid members in 2007-2008 as the last dues increase was approved, to a starting membership of 4,544 for this 2014-2015 year) the District realized a net loss of 817 members, and a substantial amount in dues income.

The following chart shows the member dues collected annually since the last dues increase was approved, as well as the total income and expenses, and the cash reserves in the bank at the end of each fiscal year. The projected year-end cash-in-bank balance based on the 2014-2015 Operating Budget would be less than $10,000.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Dues Collected:</td>
<td>$140,250</td>
<td>$135,210</td>
<td>$140,165</td>
<td>$143,144</td>
<td>$143,550</td>
<td>$144,300</td>
<td>$149,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc. other income*</td>
<td>$28,925</td>
<td>$23,048</td>
<td>$26,741</td>
<td>$28,788</td>
<td>$33,695</td>
<td>$29,572</td>
<td>$31,312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Income:</td>
<td>$169,175</td>
<td>$158,258</td>
<td>$166,906</td>
<td>$171,932</td>
<td>$177,245</td>
<td>$182,700</td>
<td>$180,592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses:</td>
<td>$182,975</td>
<td>$177,352</td>
<td>$179,148</td>
<td>$175,982</td>
<td>$182,245</td>
<td>$182,700</td>
<td>$189,298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/(Deficit):</td>
<td>-$13,800</td>
<td>-$19,094</td>
<td>-$12,242</td>
<td>-$4,049</td>
<td>-$5,000</td>
<td>-$8,828</td>
<td>-$8,706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve Funds utilized</td>
<td>$13,800</td>
<td>$19,094</td>
<td>$12,242</td>
<td>$4,049</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$8,828</td>
<td>$8,706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in bank, end of year</td>
<td>$7,784</td>
<td>$21,584</td>
<td>$40,678</td>
<td>$52,920</td>
<td>$55,969</td>
<td>$61,969</td>
<td>$70,797</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* - Misc. Income from New Member Dues, Conv. Mgr. allowance, office assistance; and misc. sources such as interest and non-budgeted items

The District Boards have been fiscally responsible but are now faced with a major shortfall to balance the 2015-2016 budget and a lack of reserve funds to utilize.

Solutions considered by the District Board:
1. **Increase Membership**
   The District does seem to be responding to The Formula, with a positive 79 members year to date. However, even if the District does maintain or even double this growth, it will not provide enough funds to balance the budget for 2015-2016, or into the future.

2. **Reduce Services of the District Office**
   The District Board is pleased with the operation of the District, mainly because of the hard and competent work of the office staff, and believes that the District should not eliminate the services provided. The operating budget has been cut to the minimum. If we want to have the District Office operational then more income is necessary.

3. **Raise Dues**
   A $5 increase will get the District through 2, maybe 3 years, and then the District Board will have to return and ask for another increase. A $10 increase will allow the District Board to balance the budget while building up a reserve fund to extend the operations over a number of years. The last increase of $5 carried the District for 7 years; hopefully a $10 increase will extend for 10 to 12 years.

   The La.-Miss.-W.Tenn. District is a model operation, which most districts envy. Let’s keep it that way!

**2ND PROPOSAL WOULD INCREASE NEW MEMBER ADD FEE**

While discussing the need for a dues increase, the Board also looked at the New Member Add Fee of $5 for each new member brought into Kiwanis during the year. With Kiwanis International charging $50 per new member, the Board felt that (1) the $5 was only a token amount to charge for a new member, and (2) it was time, after 20 years, to propose an increase here as well. The Board is also proposing a $5 increase in the New Member Add Fee, from $5 to $10 for each new member, and asks for the approval of the membership.
Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District of Kiwanis International
97th Annual District Convention, July 31 - August 2, 2015
at the

SHERATON DOWNTOWN HOTEL
250 North Main Street
Memphis, Tennessee
(901) 527-7300

The newly-renovated Sheraton Downtown Memphis Hotel is adjacent to the Memphis Cook Convention Center and offers superior city and river views from their 600 guest rooms. The Sheraton Memphis Downtown Hotel is located on an official stop of the Main Street trolley, which offers convenient access to the National Civil Rights Museum, Beale Street, the South Main Historic Arts District, and the brand new Bass Pro Shops at the Pyramid.

Fresh from a multi-million dollar renovation, the Sheraton Downtown Memphis hotel provides an even more inviting atmosphere for you to relax and connect with your friends in Kiwanis. Experience the beautifully redesigned guestrooms, the intimate seating areas in our public spaces, a new glittering bar & restaurant and a refreshed Sheraton Club.

Convention Rates (valid until June 29th):
$119 per night, single or double, plus tax

Parking:
On-site valet parking: $18 per day
Off-site parking is available across No. 2nd St. at the St. Mary’s Catholic Church lot. Be aware, though, that you pay each time you come and go, and the lot is not secured. Park at your own risk!

Hotel Reservations:
To make your convention reservations
Call In: 1-800-325-3535 – Group Code: KIGO7A
On-Line: Use the StarGroups Website Link: Kiwanis Convention 2015

Do it today so you don’t forget!!
TENTATIVE PROGRAM-AT-A-GLANCE
Sheraton Downtown, Memphis, Tenn. * July 31 - August, 2015

Thursday, July 30th
3:00-6:00 pm Registration Desk open

Friday, July 31st
7:30 am ** Kiwanis District Golf Tournament
7:30 am District Foundation Board Breakfast Meeting (by invitation only)
8:00 am-6:00 pm Registration & Credentials
9:00 am-5:00 pm Exhibits; Convention Service Project; Gift Basket Raffle
10:00 am-3:00 pm Optional: Explore downtown Memphis via Trolley
12:00-3:00 pm Lt. Governors-Designate Training
1:30-4:00 pm Club President Education (CPE) for the 2015-2016 Club Presidents
1:30-4:00 pm Club Secretary Training
1:30-3:00 pm Meeting of the Past District Governors
1:30-3:00 pm Meeting of the Past District Officers Org. Executive Committee
1:30-3:15 pm Informative Workshops
3:00-4:30 pm Past District Officers’ Welcome Reception (“No-Host” bar)
5:00 pm Opening Session of the Convention evening Dinner on your own in Memphis

Saturday, August 1st – Show your “K” Day!
8:00-11:00 am Morning Refreshments
8:00-11:00 am Registration & Credentials
8:00 am-12:00 n Foundation Fund-Raiser: Gift Basket Raffle
8:00 am-12:00 n Exhibits; Convention Service Project
8:15 am-2:00 pm Optional: Youth Activities
8:30 am Saturday Morning General Session
10:00-2:00 pm Optional: Spouses’ Program: Tour of Graceland & Lunch
9:45 am-12:05 pm Educational Workshops
12:15 pm ** Fellowship Luncheon
2:00 pm Meeting of the Certified Instructors
2:00-3:00 pm Q&A’s about the
3:30 pm Regional Caucuses (if necessary)
5:00 pm House of Delegates & Foundation Annual Meeting
Following ** Governor John’s Celebration of the 2014-2015 Year: “It’s a 50’s Party!”
(Come in your best 50's attire!)

Sunday, August 2nd
8:30 am ** Prayer Breakfast & Closing Session
10:30 am 2014-2015 District Board Review of Convention

** - Denotes “ticketed” functions
It’s A 1950’s Dinner/Dance Party!!

A Celebration of the 2014-2015 Year of Service

Dust off your blue suede shoes, spruce up those poodle dresses, pull out the leather jackets and prepare to have a rockin’ good time!
When: Saturday, August 1, 2015
Time: 6:30pm until 10:00pm
Where: Heritage Ballroom
** Be sure to register on the convention registration form **

DJ Bob will be spinnin’ hits on the 1’s and 2’s

1950s Attire is encouraged!!
1st, 2nd, 3rd place awarded to best costume!

See You in Memphis!

Come Play!!
The Links at Galloway
3815 Walnut Grove Rd
Memphis, TN 38111

One of Memphis’ premier municipal courses!
http://thelinksatgalloway.com/

Friday, July 31, 2015
Registration – 8am
Tee time – 9am
Only $50!
Includes greens/cart fees, lunch, and awards
* Sign up with the convention registration form

For more information, contact Steve Jackson at sjackson100@comcast.net or Chuck Strong at pianosflowersgift@bellsouth.net

This year’s convention service project:
Mid-South Food Bank
http://www.midsouthfoodbank.org/
Encourage your clubs to donate nonperishable canned food products and of course, CASH!!
Every $1 provides for three wholesome meals

Estella Mayhue-Greer, President & CEO, will be on-hand to accept our generous contribution, so let’s show Memphis that the Kiwanians of the great LaMissTN District cares about its kids and its community!!
FUNDRAISING
By Stephanie Crow, District Fundraising Chairman

**BACK-TO-SCHOOL FUNDRAISING IDEAS**

- **School Supply Kit** – Buy in bulk and make your own or submit your supply list and have the kits premade. Parents will love the low hassle and ease.  

- **Jam and Jelly Sales** – Get your club’s cooks involved. Make homemade jams and jellies. Use fall and winter fruits and berries found at your local Farmers’ Markets.

- **Dinner and a Movie Discount Cards** – Quick and Easy because the companies are already involved. No need to solicit business to participate. The cards are used at 100,000 restaurants, movie theaters, and stores nationwide. They’re good for 15 months. The minimum order is 50 cards. If you get really ambitious…you can get personalized cards for orders of 500+. 

- **Reusable Shopping Bags** – Personalize the bags for your club. They’re fun and great for the environment. The Dodo Bag Company is a great place to start. You make 40% on each bag you sell. They also offer different kinds of bags and totes. [www.dodobag.com](http://www.dodobag.com)

- **World’s Finest Chocolate**© – Put a box of the individual bars on your desk or reception area at work. The wrappings on each bar can be personalized for Kiwanis or Eliminate. Or buy a case of the specialty boxes to sell to people you know. This is one of the most popular fundraisers for school and organizations. [www.worldsfinestchocolates.com](http://www.worldsfinestchocolates.com)

- **Family Fun Night** – Have a children’s band perform or show a movie. Sell concessions and have people bring picnic blankets. Depending on the type of Family Fund Night, you could maybe even have games, a clown making balloons, or have face painting.
ALEXANDRIA TERRIFIC KIDS EARN LONG-AWAITED FIELD TRIP

By Barett Byrd, President Kiwanis of Alexandria, Louisiana

Kiwanis of Alexandria, Louisiana’s Camp was filled with laughter and smiles on two special days in May 2015 as the Terrific Kids® from two Alexandria Elementary Schools exited their bus for their long-awaited field trip for earning Terrific Kid® status for the year. Club TK® leader Darren Green says, “It’s really their reward for working hard all year.”

In September of 2014, Club representatives visited both schools and previewed the program to students. Hadnot-Hayes has participated for the past eight years (K-thru 6th), and first-year participant Alma Redwine utilized TK® in K-thru 3rd grades.

“Our main focus has been increasing academic achievement regarding reading. It’s such a deficiency at our school so this was their incentive; that if they were to work really hard to read on grade level, they could come.” said Alma Redwine Assistant Principal Valeece Davis.

Students enjoyed non-stop fun including fishing, basketball, kickball, tetherball, arts and crafts, water balloons, donut eating contests, and pizza for lunch.

Children are individually recognized with their Terrific Kid® Certificate receiving a K-bag filled with donated treats and family passes to the Alexandria Museum of Art. TK® Volunteer Donna Caferra-ta notes, “Their excitement is amazing!” Terrific Kids®, Believe and Achieve®!
A NEW KEY CLUB YEAR

By Jean Benoit, District Key Club Administrator

Recently, the newly elected Key Club District Officer Board met for a training weekend. Governor Emma Bourgeois did an outstanding job organizing and leading the training. Board members were joined by Governor-elect Gary Graham, Kiwanians Ricky Currier, and Mike Benoit. The presence of additional Kiwanians allowed board members to work in smaller groups and cover more ground at their training weekend. Board members Patrick Woods (Division 1C), Daniel Loving (Division 13), and Aleynah DeLeon (Division 14) helped to develop new boundaries for the splitting of their divisions; these three large divisions had grown to the point that a single Lt. Governor was unable to effectively serve them. Along with reviewing the duties of their offices, board members discussed their goals for the upcoming year and laid out plans for achieving them. Their goals included additional improvements to the district website, a further exploration of using technology to more efficiently complete committee work, development of resources for Kiwanis advisors, and...a re-envisioned monthly newsletter.

The Board enthusiastically collaborated with District Executive Assistant, Kaori Keyser, to develop the layout of the District Board's monthly publication. Previously, each Lt. Governor and the Governor sent out separate newsletters, as well as updates from Key Club International. Add to that occasional updates from the Secretary-Treasurer, the International Trustee, and assorted others—it was an unnecessary duplication of efforts in divisions with representation. For other divisions, the ones without Lt. Governors, information reaching them was spotty. The District Board researched this issue and reached the conclusion that the members could be better served by their combining efforts and sending one, magazine style publication to the entire district each month. Each Board member will contribute a monthly column with information specific to their division and will contribute Key Club related articles as well. The inaugural issue of LAMISTENN's publication, Jean Claw's Crawfish Tales, should be released to area Key Clubs in mid-July.

Several Lt. Governors were appointed at the District's Board meeting; these members had been unable to attend the District's Convention held in April. While this filled the majority of the Key Club Board, several divisions remain unrepresented. These divisions are: 1A, 1B, 2, 3, 5, 8B, and the newly formed 13B (Mandeville-Covington area). Applications for these positions are being taken now.

Club member education

- Have your club officers been educated in their leadership positions yet? Don’t worry it’s not too late or too early. But it is a responsibility that needs to be taken care of...and the sooner the better for your club!
- Kiwanis offers many opportunities for education, such as online modules, classroom sessions and tutorial videos. No matter if you’re a brand new member or seasoned veteran; Kiwanis education resources help you make the most of your club experience.
- In addition to tutorials and videos, self-paced modules in our online learning system will lead you through resources, orientation and more. Log in and start learning today!
- These self-guided learning modules will prepare you for your new responsibilities as a club or district leader. Screen-by-screen you will be guided through critical concepts and need-to-knows for your position. There is no limit to the number of times you can use these modules. Please consider it a handy reference for anytime use. Thank you for making club excellence a priority!
- Modules are included for the positions of President, Secretary, Committee Chair, Membership Committee, Youth Protection Guidelines, Club Board Member, Club Opener and Club Counselor all have modules for training.
- Did you know that Leadership Education is a requirement of the 2014–15 Distinguished Programs Members/Clubs/Divisions/Districts?

https://reporting.kiwanisone.org/OnlineEducation
BUG’S AT J. W. FAULK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

By Brenda Eccles, BUG’s Chairperson, Southwest Lafayette Kiwanis Club

38 students were recognized at the J. W. Faulk Elementary School because they love BUGs (Bring Up Grades)!

Each of the 38 students brought up one grade while maintaining grades in other subject areas during each nine week session grading period. There were seventeen (15) recipient names places on the BUG Honor Roll and twenty-five (23) recipient names places on the Improved Student Grade Achievement list. All students were recognized at a special award ceremony on May 26, 2015.

The Kiwanis southwest Lafayette Club sponsors the program and presented each student with a certificate, BUG pin, pencils, T-shirt, bookmark and back-to-school supplies for next school year. Honor Roll students also received an “Honor Roll” bumper sticker. All 38 students name went in a drawing for a boy and girl bike with accessories.

The SAM’s Club and Walmart (North Evangeline Thruway) supports the BUG program by providing financial funding so students are honored in style.

A bulletin board displaying all the BUG recipients proudly brags about all the students who love BUGs (Bringing Up Grades)!

To learn more about this program visit the Bring Up Grades web site at www.bringupgrades.org

AKTION CLUB OF HAMMOND CELEBRATES 3RD ANNIVERSARY

By Vic Couvillion, Hammond Kiwanis Club

The Aktion Club of Hammond recently celebrated its third anniversary and the club’s leaders and members, as well as the Hammond Kiwanis Club group that helped charter the Aktion club, are excited by the progress that has been accomplished since the chartering.

On June 18, 2012, Hammond Kiwanians Terry King and Judy Couvillion who spearheaded establishment of the Aktion Club, carefully explained to 19 Aktion Club charter members what the organization was all about, what was expected of the members and what rewards could accrue from being part of the organization.

At their first meeting two weeks after the club’s chartering ceremony, the officers did not know how to conduct a meeting. Jason Belsome, the first president, who still relishes that position now, had to be coaxed by King on what procedures to follow and what to say.

All that has changed now. The Aktion Club has not only survived, it has thrived. Belsome and his fellow officers can now run their meetings without much prompting from King and other Kiwanians who attend their bi-monthly gatherings. The group has participated in community projects, has enjoyed trips to various events and places of interest and have enjoyed social get-togethers.

“It’s amazing to see how this club has grown over the past three years,” King said, adding, “the Aktion Club members have embraced the aims and purposes of the organization and I know that it has added a new dimension to their lives. The members realize that they are part of a special group and this has given them a sense of belonging…of being part of a team. It’s all been most rewarding to the Aktion Club”
One of the objects of a Kiwanis Aktion club is to serve the community and the Aktion Club of Hammond is doing that. The Aktion Club has participated in numerous trash pick-up days sponsored by the Keep Hammond Beautiful Committee. The club also plays a role in Hammond’s Celebrate America Day on July 4. Aktion Clubbers are responsible for keeping the grounds where the event was held free of litter. Two years ago the Aktion Club volunteered to be part of Community Builds Day. Volunteers from throughout Hammond gathered for two separate days to assemble modern playground equipment. Aktion Club members helped clean up Hammond’s Zemurray Park and then served lunch to the volunteer workers.

Aktion Club members have become an important part of the Hammond Kiwanis Club’s annual Tour de Tangipahoa Bicycle Ride, the club’s largest fundraiser. Aktion Clubbers serve the jambalaya meal the riders enjoy at the conclusion of the event and help out in other ways when asked to do so.

The group has embraced the idea of serving others to the extent that they now make it a point of telling potential new Aktion Club members that they must be willing to perform community service if they also plan to enjoy some of the social activities connected with being a member. Belsome, who never fails to volunteer his services when called upon to do so, is quick to inform the members that they have an obligation to do service.

But there’s much more to the Aktion Club than serving the community. Under the leadership of the Hammond Kiwanis Club, Aktion Club members have been treated to a number of educational and “fun” trips. Their very first travel venture was a trip to Baton Rouge to visit the football and basketball training areas. Highlights of the trip included receiving souvenir caps signed by LSU football coach Les Miles and the opportunity to walk out on the field at Tiger Stadium.

The group has also attended three Zephyrs baseball games in New Orleans. Both were exciting events for club members. Last year the group also visited the Aquarium of the Americas in New Orleans and enjoyed a picnic lunch in Waldenburg Park. The Aktion Club visited Audubon Zoo in New Orleans on June 27.

The outings are both educational and enjoyable for the members. When the group was returning from a Zephyrs game last at night, one Aktion club member was heard to remark, “You see, we can stay out late at night and still be safe.”

On the social side, the Aktion Club has enjoyed two barbecues and a Christmas party every year since the chartering. The group enjoyed singing Christmas carols for guests at their holiday gathering in December.

Aktion club members have also raised funds for some of their activities. They have held two car washes and have had cupcake and bakery item sales that have netted them a profit.

Hammond Kiwanian Judy Couvillion, who works closely with the Aktion club along with King and other Kiwanians, says of her affiliation with the group, “I call them my kids, even though they are adults with disabilities. They are wonderful individuals who are caring and devoted to each other and to those with whom they become friends. When I see an Aktion Club member out in the public or at their jobs, they can’t wait to come running up to me to say hello. Seeing them grow as individuals and as a group is one of the most rewarding things I have experience during my 17 years of membership in Kiwanis. Chartering an Aktion Club was one of the greatest things our club has done and I’m sure that most of the members of the group would agree with that.”

King and other Kiwanians who have come to know a very special bond with Aktion Club members urge other Kiwanis Clubs to explore the possibility of chartering an Aktion club in their respective communities. “I assure you, you will not regret it,” King concluded.
ONE DAY CLOSER TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT WILL ROCK THE WORLD!!!!!!

No more MNT - what a day that will be!
61 million mothers and their babies say “Thank you, Kiwanis”!
I, like you, have been given this "once in a lifetime" privilege to directly save the lives of precious babies. Each will have an opportunity of blessings like we take for granted.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:
Governor John McCay and the District Board recently signed a pledge that LAMISSTENN would do all possible to reach its' 2.3 million goal by 2020! GREAT NEWS!

SO: This is the challenge for 4980 members and 130 clubs--Will each of us do all possible to reach the 2.3 million? I surely hope so!

There are so many ways to get involved personally. Your gifts become part of your club goal.

1. Purchase/pledge a Zeller.
2. Purchase/pledge a Centennial. (The most elegant beautiful award offered.)
3. Ask your cub about becoming a Model Club, if you are not one already.
4. If you are a Model Club, ask your club to upgrade. (Don't miss the 20% reduction.)

CURRENT UPDATE:
Kiwanis International at $85 million!
LAMISSTENN at $1.8 million!
From 39 to 21 countries tetanus free! (3 more soon!!)

Call, if I can help in any way!!!
"KIWANIS FOCUSES ON THE NEEDS OF ORDINARY PEOPLE AND CHILDREN TO CREATE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE-CHANGING MOMENTS!!"

DISTRICT ELIMINATE FUNDRAISER! AGAIN!

DEAR WONDERFUL FRIENDS!!
Again, we need your help and support to participate in the FUNDRAISER at District Convention in Memphis!
Again, we want the fundraiser/fundraisers to be fun and make lots of money for ELIMINATE!
AGAIN, WE WILL HAVE A RAFFLE! THIS TIME FOR A CENTENNIAL AWARD----- IF WE HAVE $1500 IN CHANCES SOLD! This is a beautiful award and one that you can be proud to have in your home or office. Just think----100 years of celebrating Kiwanis and $1500 toward saving/protecting mothers and babies against tetanus!

Again, we have a Zeller that will be awarded. You still have to buy a chance to win, but it is a given that we have this award for someone!
Again, the spinning wheel will be done, but we will have to work it a little different, since we do not have any prizes to award for each slot, and footing the $5.00 jackpot each time got expensive!
You will still buy a spinning chance for $2.00. ($1.80 toward Eliminate and $.20 toward the jackpot). A chip will be put in the bowl for each spin. The jackpot winner will win however many chips ($2.00 times number of chips) each time. Not quite as much money in the jackpot, but we still fun.

Raffle tickets can be bought at each club, and someone can bring the money, name, and club name to me in Memphis. Tickets will also be sold at the Eliminate table in Memphis.
If any of you have any clever new ideas, we are open to suggestions.

Again, club will be given credit for whatever money is spent from each member of their club---raffle tickets or spinning wheel. You just have to fill out necessary slips telling me name of person and name of club.
We are looking forward to seeing all of you in Memphis.

Dennis and Ame
KIWANIS CLUB OF COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI RAISES FUNDS, RECOGNIZES AND DOES SERVICE!
By Christian Heinkel, District Trustee for Region II

The Kiwanis Club of Columbus, Mississippi, recently held its annual pancake breakfast fundraiser on May 2nd at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. For many years now the pancake breakfast has coincided with the Market Street Festival in Columbus, which is an annual celebration put on by the Main Street Association, featuring a vast array of arts & crafts and food vendors, as well as dozens of special events, musical acts, and activities for kids. This year the club raised $1,660, and a good time was had by all involved. A second fundraiser took place that day, as Kiwanians manned a token booth for the children’s activities, for which the club is paid $500 by the Main Street Association.

On May 6th the club presented long-time Kiwanian and City Councilman Charles Box with a Zeller Award for his many years of service to Kiwanis and our community. Charles epitomizes what Kiwanis stands for and has served as an example for all members of our club to emulate. Charles was President for the year 1977-1978, earning Distinguished Club President honors, having established a Kiwanis Club, a Circle K Club, and a Builders Club, all within his tenure. For this incredible feat, Councilman Box became the first member in the club, which was founded in 1921, to be awarded Life Member status, which was bestowed upon him in 1978. Charles later served as Lt. Governor for Division 10 for 1981-1982, and is a member of the Legion of Honor.

On June 19th the club, led by long-time Kiwanian Will Cooper, provided breakfast to the children of Camp Rising Sun, which is a camp for children who have been or are currently being treated for cancer. The goal of Camp Rising Sun is to provide these children with a traditional camp experience while recognizing and meeting their health needs. Everyone involved with the breakfast always says it’s a terrific experience, and they feel really good about adding a little bit of sunshine into these children’s lives.
HAMMOND KIWANIS JOINS QUILT TRAIL
By Vic Couvillion, Hammond Kiwanis Club

The Hammond Kiwanis Club recently erected an outdoor quilt square that will be part of the Louisiana Quilt Trail Northshore which now counts more than 100 such squares in Tangipahoa, St. Tammany, St. Helena, Washington and Livingston Parishes. The Kiwanis quilt square was installed on the West Morris Street side of the TADAC Building where the club holds its monthly board meetings.

The square, designed by artist Kim Howes Zabbia, the moving force behind the quilt trail, is rich in symbolic emblems associated with the Hammond Kiwanis Club. The ten stars on the square represent the 100th birthday of Kiwanis International which is being celebrated this year. During those years, countless millions of hours of community service have been rendered by Kiwanians throughout the world.

The golden rope in the center of the square represents the international nature of Kiwanis. Kiwanis counts clubs around the globe with new clubs being formed on a regular basis. Golden bands inside the square are symbolic of the positive aspirations that Kiwanis members have as they strive to “improve the world one child and once community at a time.”

Also central to the square’s theme is the stylistic depiction of children. Kiwanis has as one of its principal aims service to children and at one time had as one of its mottos, “Young Children: Priority One.” The Hammond Kiwanis Club is very active in the schools sponsoring Terrific Kids and Bringing Up Grades (BUGs) programs at four schools, a Perfect Attendance Program at another school, and the Kiwanis Happy Pack Program that provides weekend food items for 75 young students who might otherwise have little to eat on weekends.

Green trees worked into the design symbolize the Christmas trees that were sold by members of the Hammond Kiwanis Club for many, many years in Downtown Hammond. Across the bottom of the square a stylistic train is incorporated into the design. Long-time residents of Hammond remember that for many years the Kiwanis Club ran the little train in Zemurray Park on weekends and special holidays.

At the center of the square is a head-on view of a bicycle rider, a tribute to the annual Tour de Tangipahoa Bicycle Ride, the club’s major fund raiser.

The Hammond Kiwanis Club will celebrate 75 years of community service in the fall.

The Louisiana Quilt Trail Northshore is an exhibition of artistic interpretations of quilt blocks. The blocks are all mounted outdoors on homes, businesses, sheds, fences, barns, posts and in yards, fields pastures and flower beds.

Zabbia said that the quilt squares have become a tourist attraction and that visitors from other areas are now making trips to Southeast Louisiana specifically to follow the quilt trail and view the art that is on display over a wide area.

“We are very proud of this initiative to bring meaningful art to the region. The quilt square movement is growing more popular all the time and we welcome the Hammond Kiwanis Club’s entry to the trial,” Zabbia said.
ALEXANDRIA KIWANIS CELEBRATES 21ST ANNUAL RAFFLE-CRAWFISH BOIL

By Barett Byrd, President Kiwanis of Alexandria, Louisiana

Kiwanis of Alexandria, Louisiana celebrated their 21st Annual Raffle and Crawfish Boil, April 18th at their Kiwanis Camp. The 154-acre Camp, located across the Red River from Alexandria, is a welcoming place for youth since its dedication in 1947.

The Crawfish Boil, a springtime get-together for friends and family in Louisiana, is a natural fit as a fundraiser. Five cash prizes are drawn, with a Grand Prize of $10,000! With $13,000 in prizes, how do you make money? By selling $100 tickets that are good for two guests, with all you can eat crawfish on-site, along with soft drinks, beer and wine to wash it all down!

In 2014, the Club set a record with 4,200 lbs. of crawfish consumed, but continuous rain prior to this year’s event, and an 80% forecast the day of, drew a much smaller crowd which consumed 2,200 lbs. of crawfish in 2 hours. Between 3 PM – 7 PM, one hour before and after the event, the rain held off. To date, the largely outdoor event has never been rained out. Club President and Chief Mudbug Wrangler Barett Byrd says, “God smiles on those that live to help children”.

THE TUPELO KIWANIS CLUB HAS BEEN VERY BUSY LATELY!

By Jim Goodwin, Tupelo Kiwanis Club

1. We recently hosted our annual Pancake Breakfast. We had over 40 members volunteer time at the event and we achieved our best financial results, ever. We had to move from early December to mid-May on the calendar based on some conflicts out of our control but our members rallied and we were pleased with the event and our opportunities for the future.

2. For the first eight months of this fiscal year we are averaging almost 63 Members in attendance each week and we are averaging about three guests/week.

3. So far this year we have added 16 New Members. We have institutionalized recruiting and retention as core activities for the club. We have an organized and engaged Recruiting Committee and across the Club members are bringing and converting guests. For each of the last two years we have held a reception for invitees to let them meet some of the Club Members and learn more about the Tupelo Kiwanis Club and Kiwanis International.

4. We have done three Inter-Club visits: to Amory Columbus, and Starkville.

5. The Club will be hosting our biggest fundraiser-a drawdown- on Friday, August 7. We have netted over $20,000 from this event for the past couple of years and we are looking to make it bigger and better in 2015. We would welcome any Kiwanis neighbors who would like to see the event to visit us in Tupelo on Friday, August 7 at 6:30 at the BancorpSouth Conference Center.
A CELEBRATION ON THE BAYOU!

By Doris Rappold, New Orleans Kiwanis

On Saturday, May 16, Divisions 4A and 4B came together for a Celebration on the Bayou and the Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee Governor’s visit. Each club had an opportunity to brag on signature projects and short presentations were made which include topics relating to grants, membership, and kids programs. Governor McCay and Mrs. McCay were in attendance and the governor received a Kiwanis nutcracker as a gift from the divisions. All in all, it was Great Kiwanis Family Reunion!

GERMANTOWN KIWANIS MAKES DONATION TO BOOKS FOR BIRTH

By Bill Austin, Past member of Germantown Kiwanis Club

At a recent meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Germantown the guest speaker was Peter Abell, Executive Director of Books from Birth. Books from Birth is the largest Imagination Library affiliate in the world, sending nearly 40,000 books every month to about 60% of children under age five in Shelby County. He told the club members and guests about a new program that is a first in the nation for Shelby County, Universal Parenting Places. In the same way children have "well-care" visits to their pediatrician; families will have the opportunity for "well-parenting check-ups" at the centers at no cost to the parents.

The Kiwanis Club made a donation of $1,500 to Books for Birth in keeping with the Kiwanis creed, Young Children-Priority One.

Pictured are Kiwanis President Sylverna Ford and Peter Abell.

Youth Protection Week September 13–19, 2015

Nothing is more important than the safety of those we serve. That’s why Kiwanis is committed to protecting children—and your club members. In fact, that’s what Youth Protection Week is all about. From September 13–19, 2015, Kiwanis clubs around the world will focus on member education, important safeguards and more.

Get informed. Get inspired.

- **Review the Kiwanis Youth Protection Guidelines.** Youth Protection Week is the best time to share this important document.
- **Offer youth protection training.** Train members on youth protection at that week’s Kiwanis club meeting.
  
  You have a couple of options for training:
  
  - For the facilitator of training at a club meeting, the [PowerPoint, facilitator guide and handout](#) are easy to use, providing a guide that helps walk through the policies with members.
  
  - Individual members can get the [online Youth Protection Training](#). (This is also an effective way for the training facilitator at a club meeting to prepare.)
  
  Once the training is completed for the Kiwanis year, the Kiwanis secretary should indicate this on the Kiwanis One dashboard.

- **Criminal history background checks.** In addition to annual education regarding the Kiwanis Youth Protection Guidelines, each Kiwanis-club advisor to each Service Leadership Program your club sponsors (K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, Circle K and/or Aktion Club) must have a clear criminal history background check.

**Thanks for participating!**

Your club’s efforts during Youth Protection Week are important to the commitment that all Kiwanians must share. Thank you for strengthening the Kiwanis family’s continuing status as a leader in building the next generation of service.
Results of the proposed amendments and resolutions from the 2015-16 House
of Delegates at the 100th Annual Kiwanis International Convention

1. Allow greater flexibility in club meeting frequency and clarify provisions regarding club satellites. 
   PASSED

2. Provide that, if a governor cannot attend a council meeting, the district may select any district officer to
   attend in the governor’s place. PASSED

3. Provide that the final date for district conventions will be September 25, rather than September 15. 
   PASSED

4. Allow district vice governors to be delegates-at-large at Kiwanis International convention PASSED

5. Permanently adopt corporate membership. PASSED

6. Provide that voting for Kiwanis International business (elections, amendments, resolutions) will be con-
   ducted online rather than at the Kiwanis International convention. FAILED

7. Adjust Kiwanis International dues to be US$52 per member in Tier A, US$34 per member in Tier B, 
   and US$23 per member in Tier C (effective Oct. 1, 2015). Get details. PASSED

8. Provide that Kiwanis International dues may be adjusted annually by no more than five percent (5%) of 
   the previous year’s amount (effective Oct. 1, 2016). Get details. FAILED

9. Provide that Kiwanis International will approve and oversee foundations, charitable funds, and other en-
   tities affiliated with Kiwanis International. FAILED

Election Results

President: Sue Petrisin
President-elect: Jane Erickson
Vice-president: James M. Rochford

Trustee—United States and Pacific Canada

John E. DeVilbiss
Lance M. Incitti
Terry A. White