Ramsey’s Ramblings!

Dear Kiwanians,

Many things are happening right now in Kiwanis, and I am so delighted that we are here at this moment in time. Dennis Oliver, Ame Oliver, Greg Beard, Nettles Brown and myself have recently returned from the Eliminate Project Training. You can go to www.TheEliminateProject.com and find out all kinds of information. Kiwanis International is co-sponsoring this project with UNICEF. We are just finishing our first year of our involvement in this project, and we are asked to raise $110 million. One baby dies every nine minutes because of tetanus. Three shots can be given to an expectant mother during her child bearing years, and her children will be born tetanus free. If a baby contracts tetanus, it attacks the child’s nervous system. The baby’s eyes must be taped shut, and ear plugs are put into the child’s ears, and the child can not even be held by its mother because it will be too painful. All of this can be prevented for a cost of $1.80 per mother to pay for the cost of the shots.

Dennis and Ame are currently assembling their team of leaders to assist our district in raising our share of the funds. Each club is being asked to consider making a donation of $2000 prior to the Geneva Convention, and the club will receive special recognition at the Geneva Convention. The board decided that the Talent Show at Tunicca would benefit the Eliminate project. Each vote for your favorite club act will determine which act will be the winning act, and all funds raised for this event will be sent to Kiwanis International as a donation made by the club that performed the acts. In this way, the district can help individual clubs raise money for the Eliminate Project.

May is Membership Madness Month, and I have asked the District Board of Trustees to share ideas that have worked in their clubs with you in this newsletter. In the Martin Club our membership committee decided to go with the B.A.G. (Bring A Guest) for our membership drive.

Ramblings continued on page 4

ROBERT BENOIT ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR GOVERNOR-ELECT

Greetings to my Kiwanis Family,

It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to announce my candidacy for Governor-Elect of the Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District. From the moment that I made the decision to accept the invitation to join Kiwanis, I made a commitment to serve the children of the world and have been active in fulfilling those objectives. Since 1997 to present, I have taken a lead role in serving on the executive board of my local club, been elected to and served in all of the officer positions at the club level, continued serving at Lt. Governor of my Division and then Trustee of my Region which were all very rewarding. This experience has taught me the true meaning of service and has enhanced my knowledge of what the Kiwanis family stands for.

Succession planning is a great thing and Governor Linda Ramsey is doing an outstanding job in representing the district, hence making it easy for Governor-Elect Greg Beard to carry the torch to the next level. If elected as your Governor-Elect, I pledge my full support to Governor Beard during his tenure to ensure that he accomplishes his goals and the objectives for the district. Our esteemed International President, Sylvester Neal, challenged us to light the fire for Kiwanis in an effort to keep us motivated in taking care of our kids and I am ready to carry the torch to the next level.

It is my desire to ensure that the flame continues to burn more brightly than ever before, by using every resource available to fulfill the objectives of Kiwanis by “Changing the World One Child and One Community at a Time’. It has been said that ‘it takes a village to raise a kid’; well I am that kid and you are that village that I will look to for support as we continue to “Educate Our Future Leaders”.

I humbly submit to you my official notice as Candidate for the office of Governor-Elect for the fiscal year 2011-2012. Sincerely grateful;

Robert

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT’ MESSAGE

Fellow Kiwanians
This month is **MAY …MEMBERSHIP MONTH!**
I, Kiwanis International President, Sylvester Neal challenge you to...

**IDENTIFY OTHERS**
Who have a burning passion for service!
Who give unselfishly of themselves and live the principles of Kiwanis!
And invite them to join the world’s greatest service organization!

**In order to change the world!**
Read the Kiwanis Magazine for fresh and fun May Membership Drive ideas.
*Thank You for your commitment and playing your part to the fullest!*

A MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR-ELECT

*By: Greg Beard, 2010-2011 Governor-Elect*

With the month of June, we begin summer and are working towards the final months of the 2010-11 Kiwanis year. We have already accomplished much this year but our work is not finished. We must not give up during these last months as we look forward to October 1st.

April and May were education months for both our Service Leadership Programs (SLP) of Key Club/Circle K and Kiwanis. Key Club and Circle K have completed their officer education conferences. In May, the 2011-12 Lt. Governor Education Conference was held in Baton Rouge with the incoming Lt. Governors meeting to learn their tasks for next year.

Also, the Club Leadership Education (CLE) conferences will be held throughout our District during June and July. These conferences are probably the most important meeting new club officers and club members can attend to prepare to serve their club. These conferences allow club leaders in the Division to come together. I urge not only officers but every club member to attend a conference. Please see the District website, [www.lamisstenn.org](http://www.lamisstenn.org), for dates and locations of the CLEs. I plan on attending two (2) CLE locations each Saturday. I hope to see you there.

In May, I was fortunate to have the opportunity to be a guest on a radio talk show called “Kiwanis Kalls” which is a live stream on [www.ktlr.com](http://www.ktlr.com). This 30-minute radio show is aired from Oklahoma City every Saturday at 8:30am and is hosted by Kiwanian Carl Sullivan. Each week, Carl is interviewing the current Governor-Elects from the Kiwanis Districts. During my time, we talked about our District events which included our District Project of AEDs and the struggles we are having with the Mississippi River flooding. Also, it seemed appropriate to talk about the 2012 International Convention to be held in New Orleans since Lisa and I were in the New Orleans/French Quarter at that time.

Coming in July, the 2011 International Convention in Geneva. There are several Kiwanians representing our clubs and District. Lisa and I are looking forward to traveling to Geneva not only to experience Europe but Kiwanis overseas. Also, this will be the 2nd phase of our Worldwide Service Project for the Global Campaign for Children: The Eliminate Project. Our task is to help eliminate Maternal and Neo-Natal Tetanus from the world. We look forward to bring back plans of how our clubs can help with this task. Remember we did it with it Iodine Deficiency Disorder (IDD) in the 1990s and we can do it again.

Again, I am continuing with traveling to clubs throughout our District. Next week, Pascagoula, Mississippi. If you would like for me to visit your club, please let me know.

*Greg*
The 93rd Annual Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District Convention will be held the weekend of August 4-7, 2011, at the Harrah’s Casino Resort in Tunica, Miss. All meetings will be held at the Harrah’s Mid-South Convention Center, and delegates are asked to make room reservations at the Veranda Hotel, located just next door to the convention center. Every Kiwanis Club in the District is encouraged to send a minimum of three delegates to represent your club at the convention.

Our Convention Host Co-Chairs Frank Davis of the East Memphis Kiwanis Club and Joe Keohane of the Germantown Kiwanis Club, and their Host Committee have put together a wonderful convention for you, with programs that will entertain, educate, and excite all Kiwanians and their families, and one that has been designed to take full advantage of facilities and services offered by Harrah’s Casino and Convention Center.

Frank, Joe, and the entire Convention Host Committee invite all Kiwanians to come and explore the northwest corner of Mississippi. Come to Tunica - park your car - relax - and learn more about what you can do for your community, and for our... Children & Communities... One At A Time!

The Veranda Hotel at Harrah’s Casino Resort will serve as the headquarters for the 93rd Annual District Convention, August 4-7, 2011. Special room rates for the District Convention will be $109 per night (plus tax) for Friday and Saturday nights and $59 per night (plus tax) for Wednesday and Thursday nights.

Call the Harrah’s Casino Reservations Line directly at 1-866-635-7095. Identify yourself as a member of the Kiwanis District Convention Group to get the special convention rates.

Reservations will be accepted by the Veranda Hotel until Monday, July 1, 2011. Any reservation requests after that date will be accepted on a space available basis only. The hotel cannot guarantee room availability or the special convention rate after this release date.

Harrah's remains committed to ensuring the safety of all operations, patrons and employees while combating rising Mississippi River stages. Due to these increased river levels, Harrah’s Casino closed its operation on May 1st. The hotels, spa, golf course and RV park remained open for business as usual. Harrah's Tunica Casino reopened for business at 2:00 pm on Friday, May 27, 2011.

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**CLUB ELECTION REPORT DUE JUNE 1, 2011 – NOW!**

All clubs using the Kiwanis One system can access the 2011-2012 club election report now. Please encourage your club to use the online system to report their election results. The online reporting became available on April 1, 2011. Clubs can also make changes for the current year, if needed. All club secretaries can complete this election report online, no paperwork. There is easy access via the secretary login to **www.KiwanisOne.org**

For more details, visit the online reporting overview page at **www.KiwanisOne.org/reporting** For those who are still not utilizing the Kiwanis One system, they may download the form from the Kiwanis website via this link, **http://community.kiwanisone.org/media/p/2390.aspx** This is on the website as of Wednesday, April 6, 2011. Please report your new 2011-2012 Club Officers to the District Office as well!!
We all were asked to invite a guest, and give them the paper bag we were given that had a membership application in it along with other information about Kiwanis. Misty Menees, our former Lt. Governor, did a power-point presentation on Kiwanis at the club, district and International Levels. She also included all the activities in which the Martin club participates. As a result of that meeting, we now have five new members.

In regard to membership we need to continue to recruit and retain our members. Please don’t forget about these incentives for membership that are being offered by Kiwanis International.

- If we save a club or bring a club back up to charter strength, and it’s maintained through December 2011, there will be some free registrations for the International Convention in New Orleans in 2012 given to the District Governors to determine who should receive them in the district. I’ll need your help with this one.

- You can become a Distinguished Member by providing two hours of service, bringing in two new members, and attending regional conferences. You will be invited to a special reception in New Orleans in 2012, and you will receive a special pin.

- Encourage Club Secretaries to please be on time…..real time with record keeping….when we lose or add members. Don’t wait until September 30 to drop your members for we’ll never achieve our goal that way.

- If a club increases their club membership by 25%, your club will get 25% of your dues given back to your club from Kiwanis International.

- CLEs (Club Leadership Education) are right around the corner. Please encourage your new club Presidents and Secretaries to attend. Also we are hoping that other members will attend and participate. It’s a great opportunity to learn more about Kiwanis and how the organization operates.

We are still trying to determine how many AEDs are in the schools whether they have placed there by Kiwanis or not. Please ask your clubs to report to Pam Morgan, District Administrator, if they know where AEDs may be located that we don’t know about at the District Office.

There will be some bylaw changes coming at the Tunica Convention. Most of these have already been passed the Kiwanis International Convention, and we need to make some adjustments in our district bylaws. Be sure to get your credentials submitted to the district office, if you are a delegate for the district convention. Tunica is high and dry by the way. The convention center and the convention hotel are perfectly dry. The casinos float, so they are also dry. The only areas that were flooded were the parking lots, so please don’t worry about what you read in the news.

We are going to host two Key Leader Weekends this year. There will be one the first weekend in November at Camp Istrouma, and in the spring we are going to host a joint Key Leader Weekend with the Kentucky-Tennessee District in Tennessee. Please check with your high school guidance counselors for some recommendations for the mind altering event. Also, please consider making it a line item in your budget so that we can help our future leaders develop into confident young people. Thanks so much for your service and for taking the time to make a difference in a child’s life.

Sincerely,

Linda Ramsey, Governor
Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District

MEMBERSHIP IDEAS

Article by: Linda Ramsey, Governor

This article is being written to help assist clubs with ideas for increasing membership. At our last board of trustees meeting, there was a sincere concern expressed about the need to increase membership. I asked the board members to submit ideas for this month’s district newsletter to assist clubs with ideas for May or June or July or whenever you decide to host an event to entice more members to join your clubs.

Another successful venture that I remember the Martin Kiwanis Club doing was our membership committee divided our club members into baseball teams. We were the Yankees, the Cardinals, the Braves, the Astros, etc.
Membership Ideas continued from page 4

If you brought a guest, you got on base, and if you got a guest to join, then you scored a home run. This went on for a month, and the team that brought in the most members or scored the most runs, was the winner. We gave them a free meal or some type of reward for working so hard to bring in new members.

Kathy Webb suggests that you host an event that includes the parents of Key Club and Circle K members. Also have plenty of information available about Kiwanis, and have membership applications available.

Claudia Hall of the Southwest-Lafayette, La. club says that her club currently has adopted a new way to enhance their club, while also using this tool for a membership drive. They are currently an evening club, which meets weekly every Wednesday. They found themselves beginning to lose members and have not had any growth within the last two years. They now take their meeting to a restaurant for dinner once a quarter. This has been successful, and more members attend the quarterly meeting than every week. However, she says, “I must give credit to the Southwest Contraband, Lake Charles Club, who recently held a membership drive during their weekly business luncheon. I was invited by Lt. Gov. Betty Raglin, and decided to make this an official Trustee visit. I also had our Candidate for Governor-Elect, Robert Benoit, tag along. I was extremely impressed and decided to bring it back to our club.”

Hall says, “We had our first meeting in April at a nice restaurant, and invited two guests. I am proud to say that they are current Kiwanians today. We want to keep this fire burning, and because May, is Membership Madness month we, decided to make another run of this and this time put together a program about Kiwanis International/LaMissWTenn District, and our local club. I am truly excited about this concept and feel it will work in revitalizing our club, motivating our members, and growing our club. “

Bill Austin of the Kiwanis Club of Germantown, TN supplies its members with business card sized invitations to pass out to business associates, neighbors and/or anyone interested in visiting a Kiwanis meeting.

The card has club information and a contact name, email address and other information on the front with a place for additional information on the back.

For Administrators

Critical updates for Club Management System users

This is the second edition of a regular email update to our users! This update will be published every other month and contain tips, recent upgrades and outlines of upcoming features. Please pass this newsletter on to anyone in your club that needs it and have them subscribe at www.kiwanis.org/email. To remain on the mailing list, do nothing. You’ll be the first to hear about new rollouts!

Your Public Website

Introducing the ideal website: Save time, look good!

We have created an ideal club website to which you can refer when building and maintaining your site. Bookmark www.KiwanisOne.org/idealsite. This live model was created after some extensive research into how clubs are structuring and using their sites. The website example illustrates proper navigation, content and ways to highlight your club’s value to your community. While we know clubs won’t need to use every section created, we’ve included most of the major programs and options that clubs may want to showcase. Pick and choose what works best for your club.

Feel free to borrow our text and customize it for your club! That’s what it’s for!

NEW: Collect online with PayPal!

There is a new control in the public website admin area for using PayPal. Simply drop the control on any page and you instantly have the ability to collect funds for member dues, event tickets, raffle items, donations or anything else you need. You must create a PayPal account or use an existing one and the control will ask for your account number to complete the setup.

Note: Dues collection is not integrated with the Kiwanis International database and/or dues billing for your club.

Continued on page 6
Club Resource Continued from page 5

Webinar June 14

Hurry-this webinar recording expires in July!
Webinar: Part 2 of club website best practices coming up June 14, 8 p.m. EST.

Can your home page pass the 1-2-3 test?
Make sure these three areas of your home page are current (nothing older than 30 days):
1. Club news
2. Events calendar
3. Welcome message or details about your club, club meetings

Need help with fresh content? Get ready-to-run news briefs at KiwanisOne.org/readytorun. Schedule at least 1 event per month and put your meeting dates on your calendar. Post a welcome message and a little info about your club front and center on your home page. See www.KiwanisOne.org/idealsite for an example.

Ready to use content
You asked for it, you got it! A new Ready-to-Run page has been created on KiwanisOne with content for you to use in your district and club newsletters, websites, e-mails and more. Find news briefs, print & Web ads and more. Find what you need at www.KiwanisOne.org/readytorun. Content will be updated monthly. Simply click the orange RSS icon next to the particular content you’re interested in and you’ll receive automatic alerts when a new file is posted.

Club locator crisis
Is your club findable on the Kiwanis International public website, Kiwanis.org, in the club locator? A random audit of clubs in the club locator shows that upwards of 65% of club listings have a website address in the system that is either broken or doesn’t exist (domain expired). Are you sure your club website is correctly listed in the club locator (and by default, the Kiwanis International database)? Better check just in case. If you find a problem, it’s easy to fix:
1. Go to www.Kiwanis.org and click on “Find a Club”
2. Search for your own club
3. Make sure your information is correct
4. Be sure your club’s website is listed

Edit if necessary. Go to www.KiwanisOne.org/login and edit via the link in top right of the secretary dashboard.

Club management 101
Training videos updated
All of the training videos have been refreshed and we’ve added a few new ones as well. The new training videos can be accessed in the Home menu once you are logged in. Go to www.KiwanisOne.org/login or bookmark this online tutorial page.

STILL FAIRLY NEW: Managing members online
Club secretaries now have the option to add, edit and delete members online under Member Management on the secretary dashboard or via Member Management from the “Secretary” menu on left after logging into the Club Management System via www.KiwanisOne.org/login. This process puts your new members immediately into the Kiwanis International database.

Bonus: You can generate the invoice to send with payment instead of the typical procedure of waiting to receive the invoice from Kiwanis International.

New club formats
As Kiwanis continues to reflect its members and communities, clubs have taken on new formats like Internet-based clubs, young professionals clubs and other flexible options to meet changing needs. But Internet clubs that don’t meet in person don’t have much use for gongs, gavels and banners, so gifts for chartering new clubs have changed too. Kiwanis International now offers each new club a “Kiwanis Kash” certificate, which can be redeemed in a one-time purchase of either the traditional new-club charter gifts (including the gong, gavel, banner and flag) or a total retail value of US$350 of merchandise. All new clubs will still receive member pins, membership certificates and other items not considered “gifts” and would be eligible to redeem offers for one free international convention registration and a free BUG or Terrific Kids kit in addition to redeeming the Kiwanis Kash certificate.

Questions? Contact Member Services at helpline@kiwanis.org.

Looking ahead
May | June | July 2011
- Monthly club reports due 10th of every month
- May is Membership Month
- Happy Anniversary Key Club! (May)
- Time to submit club election results
- International Convention: Online & mail-in registration deadline is May 25

Webinar: Part 2 of club website best practices coming up June 14 at 8 p.m. EST

Support
For help with the KiwanisOne Club Management System or online reporting, email kiwanisone@kiwanis.org or call +1-317-663-4561 (worldwide). Ask a direct question or provide feedback via www.KiwanisOne.org/gethelp (fill out the form for a quick response). You also can access a support overview page with links to video tutorials, helpful downloads and how-tos at www.KiwanisOne.org/support. Thanks for using the system and providing great feedback!
While it was formally launched with three signatures, a few words and a couple of handshakes, the Army's partnership with Kiwanis International is more than a signed memorandum of understanding - it is about collaboration and positive action for the future of the nation.

It's a great opportunity because all three organizations are invested in the same thing: developing leaders for America, said Maj. Gen. Mark McDonald, commanding general of U.S. Army Cadet Command. McDonald, along with Maj. Gen. David L. Mann, commanding general of the U.S. Army Recruiting Command, signed the partnership agreement with Kiwanis International April 20 at USAREC's Fort Knox, Ky., Headquarters.

"It's an unbelievable fit that we put these organizations together, gathering the synergy from them so that we can help develop the leaders as best we can to help take care of this country, because there's no doubt about it - this country is worth taking care of," McDonald said.

Kiwanis International Executive Director Stan D. Soderstrom said as he was preparing that morning for the signing ceremony, he felt very humbled that "those of you who wear this uniform and represent all that uniform stands for think highly enough of us to be our partners. We appreciate that." Over the past several months, Recruiting Command has been taking a look at its education engagement strategy and identifying the key areas that will allow the Army to establish and sustain connectivity in the community and schools, according to Ward Wood, USAREC director of marketing, education and outreach.

Soderstrom called the partnership "a natural fit," and all three leaders echoed comments on the organizations' common core values, shared sense of purpose and strong desire to improve the strength and future of the nation.

This partnership is just one more illustration of how "we [the Army] take education very seriously. Through our partnership we can expand our reach to a group of students who are steeped in the same values we hold dear and are already on a positive leadership path," said USAREC Deputy Commanding General Brig. Gen. Bryan Roberts, who's met with Kiwanis leaders both here and at their headquarters in Indianapolis during the partnership planning process. "At the same time, our Soldiers can teach the leadership skills they gained from the Army and mentor future leaders in their communities - whether they choose to serve as Soldiers or citizens, we can help make them stronger leaders."

Kiwanis International, a global community service organization, has been involved in development of youth leaders since 1925, according to John Shertzer, senior director of programs. The organization operates several hands-on service leadership programs for youth, including Key Club and Key Leader programs for high school students and Circle K at the university level. All the programs are sponsored by the local Kiwanis organization, which helps the Army further establish community ties.

"I think we all recognize that identifying, enabling, equipping and engaging the next generation of leaders is essential for this nation's future, and the future of the entire planet," Soderstrom said. After all the talk about what the organizations can do working hand-in-hand, Soderstrom said the only thing left to do is to "get to work."

Mann said the task now is to ensure Army leaders know and learn about the Kiwanis organizations and leadership programs in their footprints so they can find mutually beneficial ways to get involved at the local level. The command has already identified several opportunities for Soldiers to get involved in Key Leader weekend leadership camps held across the country beginning this month.
**AKTION CLUBS**
*By: Evelyn Blythe, Aktion Clubs Co-Chair*

In 1995, when Ernie Blythe was the District Governor, his club, the Martin Kiwanis Club, sponsored an Aktion Club in his honor. One of Ernie’s sons, Roger, is intellectually disabled. The club is still going strong, providing many learning and leadership opportunities for the membership. It is run just as a Kiwanis Club, electing officers, planning programs and holding fundraisers. It is our only Leadership Service Club that consistently has an interclub when they meet.

They meet twice each month at a church near the agency, Community Developmental Services (CDS). A club needs a co-sponsor such as a community based facility or a program serving individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities. I was not a Kiwanian at the time but I was very excited about this because I was the executive director at CDS.

These adults have had things done for them all their lives. They truly enjoy giving back to their communities just as each of us enjoys helping others. There were many Aktion Clubs in our district until Katrina. Now there are two chartered clubs (the Martin Club and the Starc Club in Mandeville, Louisiana). A third is in the process of being chartered now by the Germantown Club at the Madonna Learning Center, a private special education school. There are 23 chartered members and they have elected officers. After a year, it will open up to other adults in their community. It is my understanding that there are some unchartered clubs in our district but I have been unable to get any information on these.

International Kiwanis has a new website to help clubs start an Aktion Club, describing service projects, growth and fundraising goals at [www.aktionclub.org](http://www.aktionclub.org) Our Ernie Blythe Aktion Club currently has 19 members meeting on the second and fourth Tuesday each month except summer months (June, July, August) when we meet only once on the second Tuesday. Some examples of programs and activities: A Kiwanian, Bill Austin, who helps us sponsor a 5K run gave a program. Now, some of our members want to participate in this activity. At our next meeting we toured WLJT-TV. A member of our club, Sue Lasky, works at WLJT, the public broadcasting station for West Tennessee outside Memphis. Many had never been on the UTM campus where the station is located and they really enjoyed it. We have an annual talent contest where everyone who attends CDS can participate. The three top winners receive money awards and then perform at our Kiwanis meeting. They make Christmas cards and visit nursing homes giving out their cards. We also play bingo about once each year with lots of fun prizes. Our district Governor, Linda Ramsey teaches line dancing and they love this.

The first annual Aktion Club Training and Leadership Conference will be held September 9-11 at the Kiwanis International Office in Indianapolis. Each district can send six Aktion Club members, caregivers or advisors. If you are interested in going, please let Dennis Oliver (228-832-6786 dmokiwanis@aol.com or me (731-587-6665 ebllythe@frontiernet.net) know or if you are interesting in starting an Aktion Club, we are available. We hope to start 6-8 new clubs during this next year.

Many Kiwanians are concerned because they have had no experience working with individuals who are intellectually/developmentally disabled. I assure you it is much fun to learn and to see them learning and enjoying life.

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**OVERSIGHTS**
- Howard Lock from the Kiwanis Club of Orange Grove is recognized by Kiwanis International as a distinguished member for the 2009-2010 year. He recruited Sherry Washburn and Heather Blenden.
- The Kiwanis Club of Lafayette was recognized as a distinguished club by Kiwanis International.
- The Kiwanis Club of Germantown was recognized as a distinguished club by the La.-Miss.-W. Tenn. District.
COMMUNITY SERVICE
By: Richard “Woody” Wood, District Chairman

One of the most satisfying, fun, and productive ways to unite your club is volunteering for community service projects. Simple things can bring a club closer together – reading books to school children, visiting a nursing home, mentoring a child, are just a very few community service ideas.

WHY SHOULD YOUR CLUB GET INVOLVED?

• It feels good. The satisfaction and pride that comes from helping others are important reasons to volunteer. When your club commits its time and effort to a Service Project, or a cause they feel strong about, the feeling of fulfillment can be endless.
• It strengthens your community. Your Kiwanis Club is providing important services at low or no cost to those who need them. When a community is doing well as a whole, its individuals are better off, too.

• It can strengthen your club. Community Service is a great way for clubs to have fun and bring its members closer together. Many club members say they don’t have time to volunteer for Community Service Projects after fulfilling work and family commitments. If this is the case in your club ask them to select just one or two service projects for the year that they can help with.
• The reward for service is yours. A smile or a handshake or some other type of thanks.

Please get your club involved in our Worldwide Service Project
“Eliminate Project”; Kiwanis eliminating maternal/neonatal tetanus

*If you have not started preparing your nominations for Lawman, Firefighter, and Teacher of the year you still have some time. However I must receive your nomination by JULY 1, 2011*

Richard “Woody” Wood, 3507 Woodcrest Drive, Pascagoula, MS 39581-4455

MEMBERSHIP EDUCATION AND CLUB DEVELOPMENT
By: Dee D. Drell, Membership Education & Club Development

DATES, LOCATIONS OF 2011 CLEs ANNOUNCED! SAVE THE DATES!
All 2011-2012 Club President’s & Secretaries are required to be trained in advance of the 2011-2012 Kiwanis Year. Register through your incoming Lt. Governor (listed as "Contact" for each event). If you cannot attend the CLE Conference closest to your home club, you may attend any other scheduled conference.

TIME: If not otherwise noted, the CLE Conference will begin at 9:00 am, with the REGISTRATION open at 8:30 am. The CLE Conference will include lunch - and conclude no later than 3:00 pm.

COST: There will be a nominal fee to attend the CLE, mainly to cover the cost of lunch. Your Lt. Governor (Contact Person) will provide you with that information.

WHO IS INVITED: The 2011-2012 Club President and Secretary need to attend! Other incoming/future club officers are encouraged to attend to begin preparing for their year.

For more detailed information go to www.lamisstenn.org or contact Dee at Dee_Drell@lawd.uscourts.gov 318/473-7420

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 4th</td>
<td>Winnfield, La.</td>
<td>Mark Simmons/Kevin Domingue - Fox's Pizza, 6252 Hwy. 167 North</td>
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<td>June 4th</td>
<td>Memphis, Tenn.</td>
<td>Tom Smith/Lauren Call - Crye-Leike Office Meeting Room, 6525 N. Quail Hollow</td>
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<td>June 11th</td>
<td>Gulfport, Miss.</td>
<td>Bascom Allen/Fred Banks - Handsboro United Methodist Chur., 2333 Demaret Dr.</td>
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<td>June 11th</td>
<td>Sulphur, La.</td>
<td>Nettles Brown/Kevin Domingue - Cal-Cam Hospital, 701 Cypress St.</td>
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<td>June 11th</td>
<td>Shreveport, La.</td>
<td>Mark Simmons/Chuck Strong - LSU-S Administration Building, 8500 Youree Dr.</td>
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<td>June 18th</td>
<td>Baton Rouge, La.</td>
<td>Dennis Oliver/Lauren Call - Conf. Rms. 1-2, B.R. General-Mid-City, 3600 Florida Blvd.</td>
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<td>June 18th</td>
<td>Lafayette, La.</td>
<td>Fred Banks/Court Crow - Louis Babin Fire Training Institute, 300 N. Dugas Rd.</td>
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<td>June 18th</td>
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<td>Bascom Allen/Tom Smith - To be determined</td>
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<td>Tunica, Miss.</td>
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www.lamisstenn.org
“YOUNG CHILDREN/PRIORITY ONE CAN BE FUN!”

Your Kiwanis Club can have a lot of fun doing Young Children/Priority One Projects in your community and can provide a needed service. Despite the fact that more than 50 percent of all childhood burns are preventable, burn trauma remains a leading cause of death, disfigurement, and injury in children. In the United States alone, one million children sustain burn injury and nearly half seek medical treatment. Approximately 3,000 children die each year from burn injury, second only to motor vehicle accidents as a cause of accidental death in children ages one through four.

What can your Kiwanis Club do?

A Kiwanis club can implement a public awareness and prevention campaign to reduce burn injuries by consulting with and using the materials produced by the Burn Awareness Coalition, the Burn Prevention Foundation, and the SAFE KIDS Campaign. Campaigns may include distribution of literature, posters, videos, public service announcements on radio and TV, billboards, and educational events at schools. Clubs have a choice of several printed pieces and videos that can be used to educate the community. Contact the organization listed below for availability of the products and cost.

**Burn Prevention Foundation**, 5000 Tilghman St., Ste. 110, Allentown, PA 18104 Ph: 610/481-9810 Fax: 610/481-9813 [www.burnprevention.org](http://www.burnprevention.org) misc., brochures, curriculum, educational programs, coloring books

**Burn Awareness Coalition**, P.O. Box 17840, Encino, CA 91416 Ph: 818/994-4661 *National Burn Awareness Week Kit, PSA*

**Corporate Mark Inc.** 547 West County Road E Shoreview, MN 55126 Ph: 651/486-7657 [www.corporatemark.com](http://www.corporatemark.com) (helmets, stickers, pencils, brochures (fire safety))

**International Fire Service Training Association – IFSTA**
Fire Protection Publications, Oklahoma State University, 930 N. Willis, Stillwater, OK 74048-8045 Ph: 800/654-4055 Fax: 405/744-8204 [www.ifsta.org](http://www.ifsta.org)

*Fire & burn safety manual with resource kit. Fire service training materials, Public Fire Education*

Thanks for all you do!

For more projects and ideas call Lee A. Jeter, Sr., District Chair at 318-746-0622

**FINANCE & FUND RAISING**

*By: David Lindsey, Finance & Fund Raising Committee Chair*

**Wild and Crazy**

Sometimes, a Kiwanis club gets a little crazy about fundraising. How crazy? Consider the evidence:

- **Mile of silver.** Back and forth across the two bridges of Independence Square, the Kiwanis Club of Bridgetown, Barbados, lays a mile of donors’ silver dollars, representing the $80,000 the club raises during the event to help children.

- **Scotch bowling.** Through the legs, behind the back, pushed by a nose, rolled from a chair. Competitors invent the wackiest deliveries in this St. Mary’s, Ohio, Kiwanis Club bowling contest.

- **Coal car races.** Decorated coal hoppers dash down main street in this manic Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, Kiwanis Club relay. Halfway through the course, teammates swap cove- ralls before pushing their carts toward the finish line.

- **Dashing chickens.** Feathers fly when adults and children, dressed as poultry, vie for Kiwanis Club of Oviedo, Florida, prizes in a very fun run.

- **Ye olde joust.** Stout-legged knights dunk one another amid the pageantry of the Kiwanis Club of Pays d’Auray, France’s medieval themed tournament.

So make your fundraising fun! Kiwanis can be fun!
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*Foundation Contributions continued on page 12*
Foundation Contributions continued from page 11

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**KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION**

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

**Sustaining Donor Program: Just a little can accomplish so much**

Every day in our neighborhoods, not just around the world, thousands of children go without enough to eat, proper medical care, or adequate education. These tragedies can make us feel so helpless. But with the Kiwanis International Foundation’s Sustaining Donor Program, you can help make a difference.

The Kiwanis International Foundation receives grant requests from Kiwanis-family clubs and districts constantly. The Sustaining Donor Program enables the foundation to direct funds wherever help is needed most urgently such as in Minnesota, where the foundation’s support will help the Kiwanis Club of Faribault continue to provide nourishing food each weekend to 100 low-income children who might otherwise go hungry. Or in Haiti, where more than 65,000 children in 315 mission schools received basic school supplies through the Kiwanis Club of George, Iowa’s “Crayons for Haiti” project.

Your generous donation of $350 can fund after-school programming for two disadvantaged children to get a better start in life. Your $200 gift can provide ten needy kids with new shoes to run and play in. And 70 hungry youngsters can eat a healthy meal thanks to your $50 donation. These are examples from previous foundation grants.

Visit [www.kiwanis.org/foundation/sustaining](http://www.kiwanis.org/foundation/sustaining) or watch your mailbox for details about how you can make a difference by supporting the Kiwanis International Foundation’s Sustaining Donor Program. And thank you in advance for your generosity.

**DISTRICT GROWTH**

By: Dennis Oliver, District Growth Chair Email: DMOkiwanis@aol.com Phone: 228-832-6786

**DID I MISS ONE?**

1. Did I miss telling someone today about MY organization, THE GREATEST SERVICE CLUB IN THE WORLD?
2. Did I miss telling someone today about the great way MY club is TOUCHING THE LIVES OF CHILDREN IN MY COMMUNITY?
3. Did I miss INVITING SOMEONE TO A CLUB MEETING OR A SERVICE PROJECT?
4. Did I miss TELLING SOMEONE ABOUT HOW I HAVE GROWN THROUGH THE KIWANIS EXPERIENCE?

My friends there are many days we all would say yes!!! Then we are reminded that along with the privilege of our membership, comes our NUMBER 1 responsibility-----

"ASK OTHERS TO JOIN US!!!!"

Our International President, Sylvester Neal is asking us for PLUS (ONLY) ONE ON 9/30/11.

HOW DOES YOUR CLUB STAND TODAY??????

We know:
1. A new member provides on average 2 hours a month on your service projects.
2. A new member will add new ideas, new enthusiasm, and will probably be President of your Club in 3 years.

In these last 4 months, would you "BE THE ONE" to share your K with others who share your passion for touching the lives of children. There is a special child right down the street who needs to know "Kiwanis cares."

"THE REWARDS ARE MANY!!"

"KIWANIS FOCUSES ON THE NEEDS OF ORDINARY PEOPLE AND CHILDREN TO CREATE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE CHANGING MOMENTS."
HUMAN AND SPIRITUAL VALUES

By: Court Crow. Human and Spiritual Values Chair

DEADLINE FOR LAY PERSON OF THE YEAR

The deadline for submission of nominations for the 2010-2011 Lay Person of the Year is Friday, July 1, 2011.

Nominations can be submitted electronically or by mail (UPS, Fed Ex, USPS) as long as they arrive at my post office box or physical address on Friday, July 1.

Send your nominations to Court Crow, District Chair, PO Box 52269, Shreveport, Louisiana 71135-2269 or crow52269@aol.com My physical address is 3825 Gilbert Drive, Shreveport, LA 71104.

Start planning now to recognize a Lay Person of the Year (yes, Layman of the Year) for the spiritual role models they are in the community. This person can be a Kiwanian but certainly doesn’t have to be. Identify your recipient for his or her contributions to your community through their efforts of a “human and spiritual values” nature. In other words, do you see someone making your community better outside their individual church.

I’m not going to give an example because I don’t want to limit your imagination. “Think outside the box.” Or in this case, “Think outside the church.” Is your recipient touching lives … maybe specifically the lives of children, but don’t limit yourselves there, either.

And please remember that your nomination should be recognized at a club meeting and promote the award through your local media. The District recognition is just the next step after your club’s award.

The review committee will need a cover letter from the Kiwanis Club nominating the person and whatever documentation you can include (other letters of endorsement or recommendation, news articles, etc.)

The District will recognize the winner at the District Convention in Tunica and I hope we have several nominations from clubs throughout the District.

"ELIMINATE" - MATERNAL NEONATAL TETANUS

DENNIS AND AME OLIVER CHOSEN TO LEAD THE LA_MISS_TENN DISTRICT

Submitted by: Dennis Oliver, Gulfport, Miss.

On May 5-7, Dennis and Ame, Governor Linda Ramsey, Governor Elect Greg Beard, and Past International President Nettles Brown joined 100 other Kiwanis leaders in Indianapolis for their initial orientation. They all returned with a commitment and resolve to begin plans to help raise 110 MILLION DOLLARS over the next 4 1/2 years. We will celebrate our success in 2015 on Kiwanis's 100th Birthday! Several levels of leadership will be put in place:

1. District Coordinators
2. 4 Multi Divisional Coordinators
3. 23 Divisional Coordinators
4. 142 Club Coordinators

As you can see that when all are in place there will be 169 team members with one goal-----SAVE CHILDREN WHO ARE DYING EVERY 9 MINUTES DUE TO A LACK OF TETANUS SHOTS FOR THE MOTHER. This condition is preventable and through our efforts with UNICEF we will reach mothers in 38 countries---mostly in under-served villages.

If you have an interest in any of the levels of leadership, let Dennis know.

GIVING LEVELS ESTABLISHED:

1) Clubs that can are asked to send $2000 before Geneva. (This is building the fund to go to work right away to save children. (saves 1100 children)
2) $100,000 Clubs: These are clubs that can commit to raise $100,000 over the next 4 1/2 years.
3) Model Clubs: These are clubs who commit $750 per member before 2015. (There are other possible levels for recognition.)
4) Individual members may become a Walter Zeller Fellow with a contribution of $1250. (Saves 700 children)
   a) If the money is received before the Geneva Convention, the donor will be a CHARTER MEMBER.
   b) The Zeller may be paid for over 2 years.
   c) A Hixon may be substituted for the Zeller award.

Recognition for this award includes a special pin, a medallion and a certificate.

These are the major areas for club and individual giving levels. For any gift of $300.00 or more, Kiwanis International is going to provide some form of recognition.

What is your role????
1. Consider making the most generous personal gift you can.
2. Work in your club to determine what fundraising events can be directed toward ELIMINATE.
3. Visit www.THEELIMINATEPROJECT.org to learn all you can.
4. Approach all contacts you have with a positive enthusiastic spirit.

KIWANIS IS CHANGING THE WORLD FOREVER-------AGAIN!!!!!!!!!!
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.

Elmer R. Conner - Lake Charles, La.
Gregory Garland - Ruston, La.
Kenneth D. Kilpatrick - Ruston, La.
Henry E. Mitchell - Ruston, La.
F. R. Price, Jr. - Meridian, Miss.
Dr. Beverly V. Tinnin - Meridian, Miss.

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

Allgood, James D. - Dyersburg, Tenn.
Anzalone, Arlene - Hammond, La.
Arevalo, Richard A. - Pascagoula, Miss.
Arnold, Kirk - Northshore Mandeville, La.
Ausborn, Jeffrey P. - Gulfport, Miss.
Batton, Bruce A. - Dyersburg, Tenn.
Beale, Steve M. - New Orleans, La.
Beattie, Jeffery D. - Orange Grove, Gulfport, Miss.
Boyd, Natalie - Martin, Tenn.
Bradshaw, Steve - Northshore Mandeville, La.
Briggs, Forrest J. - Union City, Tenn.
Brunfield, Cheryl - Hammond, La.
Buckley, Nicholas - Dyersburg, Tenn.
Burke, Bob - Clarksdale, Miss.
Calloway, Tracy - Ruston, La.
Carpenter, Shannon - Winnfield, La.
Carter, Betty R. - Pascagoula, Miss.
Carter, Jay - Denham Springs, La.
Carter, Charlene - Northshore Mandeville, La.
Casso, Jerry M. - Dawn Busters, Metairie, La.
Castine, Brigette D. - Cortana, Baton Rouge, La.
Cavalier, Nicholas - Greater Covington, La.
Chapman, Brennan - Clarksdale, Miss.
Cobb, Zack - New Albany, Miss.
Cruice, Michael - West Jefferson, Harvey, La.
Decker, Jeanne E. - Millington, Tenn.
Delaune, Chase - Kenner North, La.
Denney, Dana - Winnfield, La.
Doughty, David P. - Rayville, La.
Favre, Shannon - Gulfport, Miss.
Fox, Tammy S. - Pascagoula, Miss.
Frazure, J. Chase - Columbus, Miss.
Frederick, Carla - Abbeville, La.
Goodlow, Kimball - Port City, Vicksburg, Miss.
Gorbitay, Michael A. - Saint Bernard-Arabi, La.
Hawkins, Lewis L. - Pascagoula, Miss.
Hendry, Royce D. - Laurel, Miss.
Hunter-Sliger, Karen - Martin, Tenn.
Hyatt, Holly - Vernon, La.
Isom, Clay - East Memphis, Tenn.
Johnson, Franklin - Clarksdale, Miss.
Kenny, Galynan - West Monroe, La.
Killebrew, Matthew E. - Clarksdale, Miss.
Kohl, Kristi A. - Southern Hills, La.
Lacour, Jane F. - Baton Rouge, La.
Ladner, Valerie L. - Orange Grove, Gulfport, Miss.
Langston, Regina - Orange Grove, Gulfport, Miss.
Lawson, Randy - East Memphis, Tenn.
Lee, Maleia - Dyersburg, Tenn.
Loushine, Greg - Hammond, La.
Malone, Allison - Sulphur, La.
Martin, Heather - Natchitoches, La.
Martin, H. Stanley - Vicksburg, Miss.
Mason-Auene, Constance - Southwest-Lafayette, La.
Mayeaux, Laura - Natchitoches, La.
Mazilly, Ashley - De Ridder, La.
McCary, George P. - Waynesboro, Miss.
McCay, John M. - Orange Grove, Gulfport, Miss.
McMinn, Courtney - Martin, Tenn.
McNeely, Janet - Natchez Trace (The), Miss.
Mercer, Claude - Rayville, La.
Nerren, Miles - Columbus, Miss.
New Orleans Sports Fndt. - Dawn Busters, Metairie
Penn, Odele - Southern Hills, La.
Pride, Benjamin M. - Vernon, La.
Pruitt, Agnes V. - Martin, Tenn.
Puls, Brandon - Dawn Busters, Metairie, La.
Punn, Scott - Martin, Tenn.
Ridgedell, Kenneth - Hammond, La.
River Parish Disposal - Dawn Busters, Metairie, La.
Rivers, Joseph W. - Hattiesburg, Miss.
Roque, Jr., Thomas E. - Natchitoches, La.
Sartin, Brendan C. - Pearl, Miss.
Setton, Patrick - Hammond, La.
Settoon, Randall - Hammond, La.
Sharbeno, Rose Marie - Vernon, La.
Sheridan, Bruce - Hammond, La.
Smith, Chris - Hammond, La.
Smith, Bethany - Martin, Tenn.
Spano, Rebecca - Hammond, La.
Stroo, Kandace - West Monroe, La.
Tillman, Richard E. - Pascagoula, Miss.
Torain, Ricky - Dyersburg, Tenn.
Towms, Tooley M. - Cortana, Baton Rouge, La.
Vidos, Louie - Cortana, Baton Rouge, La.
Vincent, Barry C. - Saint Bernard-Arabi, La.
Wales, Kimberly - Hammond, La.
Wallace, Garold - Dyersburg, Tenn.
Webster, Harland - Clarksdale, Miss.
Wild, Jessica - Hammond, La.
Williams, Kristin - Hammond, La.
2011 KEY CLUB District Foundation Scholarships Awarded!

Congratulations to the following District Foundation Scholarship recipients!

JOEL P. ORY SCHOLARSHIP ($2,500):
  * Katherine Elizabeth Weimer  E. D. White Catholic High, Thibodaux, La.

KIWANIS DISTRICT FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP ($1,500):
  * William G. Cavell  E. D. White Catholic High, Thibodaux, La.

KEY CLUB LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIPS ($1,000):
  * Ashley Catherine Farmer  Washington High, Leland, Miss.
  * Natalie Elizabeth Griffin  Briarcrest Christian High, Germantown, Tenn.
  * May May Ly  Gauthier High, Gautier, Miss.
  * Kayla Therese Martin  Grace King High, Metairie, La.
  * Bridget Ashley Page  Pearl High, Pearl, Miss.
  * Jeffrey M. Robinson, Jr.  Gauthier High, Gautier, Miss.
  * Ginny Lynne Roper  Dyersburg High, Dyersburg, Tenn.
  * Bonnibel Rosario  Edna Karr High, New Orleans, La.
  * Emma Lynch Tyler  Benjamin Franklin High, New Orleans, La.
  * Catherine Ann Warner  Sulphur High, Sulphur, La.
  * Olivia Jayne Williams  Biloxi High, Biloxi, Miss.

KIWANIS INT’L. FOUNDATION MATCHING SCHOLARSHIP ($1,000):
  * McKenna Elizabeth Andrepon  Acadiana Homeschool, St. Martinville, La.
  * Stuart J. Benoit  Cathedral Catholic High, Natchez, Miss.
  * Jennifer Lee  Gauthier High, Gautier, Miss.
  * Breana Claire Olivier  E. D. White Catholic High, Thibodaux, La.

KIWANIS CLUB OF LAFAYETTE WINS REGIONAL AWARD

*Story submitted by: Kevin Domingue, Lafayette Kiwanis Club*

The Kiwanis Club of Lafayette and the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government (LCG) Recreation and Parks Department were awarded the Outstanding Service Award by the Therapeutic Recreation Symposium for the Southwest (TRSSW) at its annual conference. TRSSW is a regionally recognized organization presenting an opportunity for advanced professional development for therapeutic recreation personnel in the five-state region that includes Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. The Outstanding Service award was given to the Kiwanis Club and LCG Parks & Recreation Department for their outstanding contributions to the development & support of therapeutic recreation. The award stems from the joint efforts in the design and construction of Parc Independence, Lafayette's first playground specifically designed and constructed so that children that have physical and developmental disabilities can play on the same equipment as other children.
**THE MONROE KIWANIS & WEST MONROE KIWANIS CLUBS CO-SPONSORSHIP “REUSEUM” FACILITY**

*Story submitted by: Lori Adams, Monroe Kiwanis Club, Lt. Governor of Div. 6*

The Monroe Kiwanis and West Monroe Kiwanis Clubs are proud to announce the co-sponsorship of the new “Reuseum” facility at the Northeast Louisiana Children's Museum. The “Reuseum” will be used by school groups, from making slime to story time with a “make and take” activity, as well as host special events during select weekends. According to Martha Ryan, examples of future projects that might be created in the “Reuseum” are repurposing existing items into treasures such as making a pencil holder out of a toilet paper ring or an organizer using an egg crate.

The Northeast Louisiana Children's Museum has well over 30,000 visitors a year with more than half of those visitors in the low to moderately low income base. The Children's Museum will have summer camps with themes focusing on the importance of recycling and being “green”. Each camp will be designed according to age and skill level of the children in attendance.

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**RAYVILLE KIWANIS CLUB HOLDS SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

*Story submitted by Lori Adams, Lt. Gov. Div. 6*

On April 29th, 2011, the Rayville Louisiana Kiwanis Club offered a day filled with olympic spirit to those with special needs in their community. Over 160 athletes participated in the event held at Rayville High School which has been held annually for over 10 years according to Tom Raborn, Project Coordinator. The day began with an opening ceremony and a parade of participants that was followed by various field and track activities. Those present were also entertained by local Johnny Cash tribute artist during the intermission who was also a participant. At the conclusion of the Kiwanis event, the champions were awarded trophies and all were treated to lunch donated by local businesses. According to John Mulhern, Rayville Kiwanis President, “this is a day that not only the members of the Rayville Kiwanis Club and participants look forward to but also many people in the community. We have a wealth of volunteers that want to be connected to this event every year and at the end of the day, we are humbled by the spirit and enthusiasm of our athletes.”

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**GERMANTOWN KIWANIS CLUB AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO 5**

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

At the weekly meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Germantown on May 5th the club awarded scholarships to five area high school seniors. Also receiving a scholarship but unable to attend the meeting was Natalie Griffin from Briarcrest Christian School. Kiwanis congratulates these outstanding students and future leaders. [www.GermantownKiwanis.org](http://www.GermantownKiwanis.org)

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*Does your club have a brilliant fundraiser or a notable service project.....do you want to share it? The Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District Kiwanians want to know! So please share those great ideas with the district by submitting them to editor@lamisstenn.org  The unrivaled will be chosen and used in the most current newsletter.*
BILOXI BUNNY IS BOUNTIFUL

Story submitted by: C. J. Dunaway, Chairman. Biloxi Kiwanis Club

The Kiwanis Club of Biloxi hosted its 3rd annual Easter Egg hunt and picnic for the Gulf Coast Down Syndrome Society on April 16. We are fortunate that one of our members, James Corley, is also a member of the Biloxi VFW. He and his fellow veterans volunteered their building and grounds to hold the event. But they didn’t stop there. They also volunteered to donate and prepare the food and drinks as well.

Beautiful weather made the day even more enjoyable. As the families of the GCDSS arrived, they able to take pictures with the Easter Bunny, enjoy fellowship, and delight in the children’s excitement. Everyone gathered in the back field for the anticipated Easter Egg Hunt. The kids were excited as they ran into the field searching for over 400 eggs stuffed with chocolate by the Kiwanians.

Everyone had worked up an appetite to enjoy the work of the VFW members: hamburgers and hotdogs, French fries, an assortment of condiments, and cold drinks. The great weather and the food were second to the great smiles on the children’s faces.

The Biloxi Kiwanis Club members owe a special thanks to our friends at the Biloxi VFW and are looking forward to sharing other projects.

KIWANIS OF VERNON HAS KICKED OFF ITS “BABIES FIRST BOOK” PROGRAM.

Story submitted by: Wendy Lentz, Vernon Kiwanis Club

“Babies First Book” program entails donating books for the welcome package given to all newborns at the two local hospitals. Books were donated to Byrd Regional Hospital which averages about 40 births a month and Bayne Jones Army Community Hospital which averages about 55 births a month.

“Photo #1 includes: Kiwanis Member, Agnes Harmonson and Bayne Jones Army Community Hospital Staff.

“Photo #2 includes (L to R): Tina Averitt-Kiwanis member, Dr. Khateeb, Sam Fulton-Marketing Director/Byrd Hospital and Wendy Lentz-Kiwanis member.

“We, the Kiwanis Club of Vernon, La., would like to thank the District Foundation for the grant we received as it helped out so much in the purchase of the books which were pretty costly. Also, we plan to continue this program because we get great feedback from this program, as it has been very successful!”

“TERRIFIC KIDS” GOING STRONG IN SHREVEPORT

Story written and submitted by Court Crow, Southeast Shreveport Kiwanis Club

The Kiwanis Club of Southeast Shreveport has been involved in the Terrific Kids program at Riverside Elementary School for several years and has recently added the University Elementary School.

The Kiwanians always look forward to seeing the children’s excitement as they are give the certificates, goody-bags and pizza. And the children throughout the school always seem to know when it’s “Terrific Kids” Day.

Each school handles their recognitions differently. For the smaller school, the Kiwanians host a pizza party each nine weeks for the 35 or so children who are being recognized for that reporting period. For the larger school, Kiwanians are at the awards programs to present the children certificates and goody-bags.

The Administrators of each school are discussing how to expand the current Terrific Kids programs to BUGS or, even, into formation of K-Kids Clubs. These programs are making a positive difference in these schools.
“Read with Me Memphis”
Launched as Part of Kiwanis Club of Memphis – by Bill Wells
Story submitted by Dianne Polly, Memphis Kiwanis Club

Picture left: Bill Boyd, City Councilman and Past Governor of the La.-Miss.-W.Tenn. District reads to a child for the “Read with Me Memphis” as part of the Kiwanis One Day program.

Picture right: Dianne Polly (left) and DeQuanda T. Roberson (far right) reading to children for the “Read with Me Memphis” as part of the Kiwanis One Day program.

The children were tentative at first when faced with the array of books on the tables. Volunteers encouraged them to find a book that looked “good.”

Then a Kiwanian and child with book in hand would find a comfortable place to sit while the Kiwanian read the book to the child. Sometimes the reading was interrupted by questions prompted by the story or the pictures. Sometimes the child wanted the same book read again. And again. And again.

The children were able to keep the books they read, and hopefully the memories of time well spent reading with someone who cares.

"Our program recognized the increasing need our children have for people to be in their lives and to show reading is important, and our volunteers were happy to dedicate the time to this program," said Bill Wells, Kiwanis organizer of “Read with Me Memphis.”

More than 50 volunteers, predominantly Kiwanians, engaged in a new type of service to 150 children of Memphis as part of Kiwanis One Day, Wells said. Volunteers read at four different sites around Memphis. New Kiwanians Ken Jones, Jennifer DeSouza, and Laura Campbell as well as Kiwanis Club of Memphis President Dianne Polly coordinated activities at each of the locations.

Recognizing the significant need which exists among our children to see the importance of reading, President Dianne Polly and the board approved this program which gave out 150 books and allowed our volunteers to read with these children.

Kiwanians who could not attend the program donated more than $400 to go toward the cost of the books. The Books are Fun company donated books which were put on display and children were able to choose from a great selection of books.

The children were thrilled to receive a book and the reading was just fantastic for both parties, Wells said. To see more on this subject visit www.kiwanisofmemphis.org or www.readwithmemphis.org

Northshore Kiwanis raises $2100 for the American Cancer Society

Story submitted by: Dana Hladky, Northshore Mandeville Kiwanis Club

Members of Northshore Mandeville Kiwanis recently participated in the St. Tammany-West LA Relay for Life, a signature fundraising event for the American Cancer Society. Relay is an overnight event where teams of people take turns walking around a track for up to 24 hours in length. The Northshore “Krewe of Moo” team was formed to honor and remember the lives of our fellow Kiwanians who have battled cancer. Wearing uniform t-shirts imprinted with the slogan “We are ‘udderly’ committed to curing cancer”, the “Krewe of Moo” collectively walked over 100 miles. During the evening, team members also participated in traditional Relay for Life events such as the Luminaria and Fight Back Ceremonies and the Survivor’s Lap. We also sponsored a sausage, eggs, and bagel sale on the walking track at 3:00a.m. Through all of our efforts, Northshore Kiwanis was able to donate $2100 to the American Cancer Society.

Above Photo: Members of the Northshore Kiwanis "Krewe of Moo" walk the team lap to begin the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

www.lamisstenn.org
ST. MARTINVILLE, LA. KIWANIS CLUB - EVERY CHILD A SWIMMER PROGRAM

Story submitted by: Christine Berard, St. Martinville Kiwanis Club

There are 152 children signed up this year. Now in its ninth year, the program has made swimmers out of over 1,000 kids in and around town.

The program is sponsored by the local Kiwanis Club of St. Martinville in cooperation with the City of St. Martinville -- especially aquatics director Edna Landry - - the St. Martin School Board and Trinity Catholic. Among the volunteers are members of the Builder's Club and the Acadiana Home School Key Club.

Every spring, the week before school is out, there are 4 or 5 sessions a day of kindergarten classes for both the public and parochial kindergartens for 5 days. They started the ninth annual session on – Thurs, May 19th. At first some of the children are apprehensive – many have never been in a pool setting. But by the end of the week, some of these same kids are jumping off the diving board into the deep end and swimming to the side! In May of 2010 they completed their eighth annual “Every Child A Swimmer Program” and they have successfully reached over 1000 kids!

The Kiwanis club members as well as Key club and Builders club members have donated countless hours of their time to make this project a success, and the community of St. Martinville, La. has embraced this project.

In the second day of St. Martinville's award-winning "Every Child a Swimmer" program, kids sporting bright-colored floaties are launching themselves off the diving board into the deep end of the pool like Navy SEALs.

GERMANTOWN KIWANIS CLUB MAKES DONATIONS!

Story submitted by Bill Austin, Germantown Kiwanis Club

The Kiwanis Club of Germantown made a $2,000 donation to Madonna Learning Center, where they recently helped the Madonna Learning Center form an Aktion club, the only community service club for adults with disabilities. The Kiwanis Club of Germantown also recently donated an AED (automated external defibrillator) to the Madonna Learning Center.

Picture left: (left to right) Kiwanis President Elizabeth Wojcik, Madonna Director Jo Ann Hinkle, students Michael Stubblefield, Elizabeth Ann Neel, Rachel Krug and Kiwanian Don Eye. The Germantown Kiwanis Club made a $2000.00 donation to the Madonna Learning Center.

Picture right: (left to right) Madonna Learning Center Director Jo Ann Hinkle, Kiwanis President Elizabeth Wojcik and Kiwanian Don Eye. The Germantown Kiwanis Club presented the Madonna Learning Center with an AED.

Pictured Left: Madonna Learning Center Aktion Club Charter Signing.
DIVISION 9 HOSTS KIWANIS ONE DAY FOR REGION 7 “READ AROUND THE PARK”

Story written and submitted by Court Crow, Southeast Shreveport Kiwanis Club

What started out as a small Kiwanis One Day project for Division 9 in Shreveport, turned into a Region-wide “Read Around the Park” project with Kiwanians from throughout Divisions 9, 11 and 18. Caddo Parish’s Sheriff’s Safety Town was the home site for a great Saturday morning full of individual Kiwanians reading to children, lots of good food, each child going home with their own books and fellowship among several Kiwanis clubs and volunteers.

Kiwanians collected books, prepared hotdogs and read to lots of children on Saturday, April 9. Kiwanians, including Governor-Elect Greg Beard came from three Divisions. An Assistant Superintendent of Caddo Parish Schools also came and read to children while really getting a great idea of what Kiwanis is all about.

Division 9 Lt. Governor Rebecca Crow said at the end of the morning, “It was wonderful seeing all these Kiwanians working together to inspire children to read more.”

And Governor-Elect Greg said, “This is the kind of project Kiwanis One Day is all about: Kiwanians working together to serve as many children as possible.”

The Kiwanians want to thank the Sheriff’s Safety Town and its leadership for opening the facility for this activity and for being such an integral part of the event’s success. They added special learning opportunities to the Kiwanians reading to the children. We already are planning for next year’s “Read Around the Park.”

KWANIS CLUB OF PASCAGOULA HAS KIWANIS ONE DAY WITH EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA

Article submitted by: Richard “Woody” Wood, Pascagoula Kiwanis Club

On April 16, 2011 the Kiwanis Club partnered with the Jackson County Civic Action Committee, Inc. on a free Easter Extravaganza. Kids and parents were encouraged to bring their Easter baskets and a camera for a fun-filled day with the Easter Bunny! The club furnished refreshments, door prizes and fun galore!

Over forty five (45) volunteers including Kiwanians, Key Clubbers, and Junior Auxiliary members were in attendance. As the children enjoyed the Easter Bunny, games, face painting, and hunting Easter eggs, the parents had an opportunity to learn about resources available in Jackson County. There will be many resource providers such as Excel by 5, American Red Cross, Jackson County Sheriff’s Department, Singing River Health System, Sylvan Learning, Boy Scouts, and many more. There were also opportunities to learn about tutoring options, nutrition, library programs for children, dental hygiene, etc.

The Kiwanis Club intends to make this an annual Kiwanis One Day event in the future. There were over 700 parents and children in attendance. We look forward to even a greater attendance next year.

THERE WERE LOTS OF EASTER EGGS TO HUNT
MARTIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL K-KIDS ENDS ANOTHER FUN FILLED YEAR OF SERVICE

Story submitted by: Tammy Hazlewood, President, Martin Kiwanis Club

Martin Elementary School K-Kids has ended another fun filled year of service. This year the group has helped their school by cleaning up their campus and assisting in the clean up and beautification of their outdoor classroom. The club participated in the Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF campaign. In late fall they planted tulip bulbs in the front lawn, they made the Martin Elementary Scholl lawn very pretty this spring. At Thanksgiving they made cards for the residents at Greenbriar, a local assisted living facility. In October the group made Christmas cards that were put into a set and sold as a fund raiser for the club. In April the club made Thank You cards for all of the teachers at MES. In addition to our many projects we have had some speakers join us this year. One in particular that the kids really enjoyed was the UTM Recycle Center. They gave us all great ideas of how we could help our community by recycling.

On Thursday, April 19, at the Martin Elementary School Awards Day the K-Kids and the MES staff honored long time Kiwanis K-Kid Adviser Mary Elizabeth Bell for her many years of service. Mary Elizabeth has given many hours of service to the K-Kids organization and the Martin Elementary School. She was surprised with a beautiful bouquet of roses. Thank you Mary Elizabeth for all you have done for K-Kids in Martin, Tenn.

MONROE KIWANIclub HOST “SNUGGLE BUGGLE BOOK NIGHT”!

Each year, the Monroe Kiwanis Club and the Monroe Quota Club host Snuggle Buggle Book Night at Clara Hall School in Monroe. Our club contributes $500 so that the school can purchase door prizes and books. The children, their parents and all participants attend in their PJs, and the “celebrity readers”, better known as Kiwanis and Quota members, each read an assigned book to a small group of children. There are several learning center stations, each featuring a different book read by a different “celebrity”. At the end of the evening, each child leaves with milk, cookies and their very own book.

Our Kiwanis Club usually supplies 3 to 4 readers and we even encourage those who are not reading to attend. As they say, “a good time will be had by all”! This year’s event is being held on Thursday, April 7th at 5:30 p.m. It usually lasts about an hour, so you will be out before dark.

If you would like to participate as a reader or just attend as an observer, please let Barbara Bailey know (bbailey@ctbonline.com). Reader positions go quickly since we have to share with the Quota Club.

VICKSBURG KIWANIclub HONORS JIM WESTBROOK FOR 50 YEARS AS A KIWANIAN

Story submitted by: Tom Osburn, Vicksburg Kiwanis Club

Jim joined the Vicksburg Kiwanis Club on March 1, 1961. He served as Club President for the 1973-1974 year. Jim was a Marine during WWII having participated in 3 landings, one of which was Iwo Jima. He still organizes an annual reunion of Iwo Jima veterans. He was the chairperson for the club's Gum-ball machine effort for many years. That program raises about $4,000 each year for the club. He is the attendance keeper and Kiwanis Education Moment leader for the club. We will be 89 years old this November.
Marigny Elementary’s Kiwanis Kids Club proves that little children can make a big difference.

K-Kids Club, led by faculty advisers Dana Hladky, Mary Lynn Baumgartner, Julie Conklin and Dixie Steadham, is composed of more than 130 kindergarten, transitional first-grade and first-grade students.

Principal Leslie Martin sees the club as "the perfect opportunity for us to guide and teach our children about the importance of reaching out and helping others."

Through a partnership with the Northshore Mandeville Kiwanis Club, the K-Kids Club has been able to meet that goal. Student members showed interest in joining for five main reasons: to help others, to help their community, to help the environment, to make new friends and to have fun. Northshore Kiwanis members Tatem Ruiz-Richard, Lori Pausina and Pattie McGinnis volunteer regularly to work with the students.

The club has hosted food drives benefiting Mandeville’s Samaritan Center, constructed gingerbread houses to share with local nursing homes, collected garments for Coats for Kids and toys for Toys for Tots. The club also sponsored a "No Name-Calling Week," focusing on respectful communication.

One highly-successful service project involved Dr. Bill Wayman visiting the club. Wayman shared information about the Keep Dentistry Alive organization, which provides dental care to those in need, especially children. Following his visit, the K-Kids Club sponsored a dental supply drive resulting in a collection of more than 300 items for Keep Dentistry Alive.

At its May 13 meeting, the club welcomed Jenny Mayer from the St. Tammany Parish Library, who told them about the library’s summer reading program. Also in attendance was Melissa Dickerson from the St. Tammany Parish Communications District 911 Services and members of Lake Harbor Middle School’s Builders Club. Dickerson discussed safety as well as when and how to call 911.

The final service project scheduled for the K-Kids Club for the 2010-11 school year was to collect supplies to be donated to American troops through Operation We Care. Students also wrote letters to American soldiers serving overseas.

Keep up the good work, kids!

Germantown Kiwanis Club keeps it in the family

Story submitted by: Bill Austin, Germantown Kiwanis Club

At the weekly meeting on May 26th, the Kiwanis Club of Germantown inducted two new members with family ties to Kiwanis. They are Mary Wagner, who's father and grandfather were both members of Kiwanis and Will Dickerson, who's father was a Kiwanian.

Pictured (left to right) are: Kiwanis President Elizabeth Wojcik, sponsor Betty Genkinger, new members Mary Wagner and Will Dickerson and Kiwanis Membership Chairman Steve Jackson.
THE COLLIERVILLE KIWANIS CLUB WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1992 TO SERVE THE CHILDREN IN OUR COMMUNITY. ONE OF THE MOST REWARDING PROGRAMS WE DO IS OUR ANGEL TREE PROGRAM.

Each fall the Collierville Kiwanis club begins planning for another busy holiday season by having sign up days for the angel families.

Members of the Collierville Key Club and Collierville Football Team

Many club meetings are spent filling out the angel gift requests and they are then distributed throughout our community so each wish is fulfilled.

This service project is modeled after the Salvation Army program to make sure no need Collierville child under 10 in need goes without Christmas gifts. Our local club has served the Collierville community with this project for over 21 years providing gifts to over 10,500 angels over the years. Each year over 5,000 gifts are donated and collected from local schools, businesses and individual donors. Each year we are able to assist approximately 250 Collierville families in need.

One weekend in December is especially busy because that is when we pick up all the gifts from the schools and businesses, set them all up for pick-up in a local school gym and then distribute them on that Sunday to the waiting angel families. We get a lot of help with this project and especially during this weekend from our members, friends, the Collierville High Key Club members and the Collierville High Football team. It is a fun and worthwhile project that we look forward to doing each and every year.

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-W. Tenn District News”. I continue to be impressed with you and the wonderful community service projects that the clubs are doing. Please keep up the good work! Wishing you a Safe and Happy 4th of July!

Sincerely,

Beverly Cain