



District Board Report
District Convention - 2015

Where we are to date:

Registration is open. Our Facebook page and group have been updated with this year's dates and daily posts. Please join, like, or share with friends. The group is Key Leader 2015 – Rocky Mountain Style, and the page is Rocky Mountain Key Leader. The group is the one most people use. It is an open group so anyone can join or invite friends. Those Kiwanians that have attended in the past have been contacted by email and encouraged to return as chaperones. Information has also been sent to all Kiwanis Board members to share with their clubs. Karl Oelke has sent letters to all Kiwanis Clubs with Key Clubs on the Western Slope. The RMD Key Club Board was tasked with getting the word out to all of their division's Key Clubs. The Key Club Board is our marketing team, which is why it is crucial to have the Lt. Governors go to Key Leader. Please do what you can to get them to come this year. They are all planning to attend and have incentives to do so.

Report on Last Year's Events

Windy Peak, October 10-12, 2014

Dawn White took over as Site Coordinator this year. We were excited to be host to Dick Peterson, Key Leader Director from Indianapolis. He came to assist Lead Facilitator Craig Crawford who was new to the program. Windy Peak did not fill to capacity this year. It seems that several of our schools that send large groups of students to Key Leader had homecoming games that conflicted with our event. This is not something we can foresee or plan for. Key Leader gave us an extra week to register students, but we still had trouble registering students in time for this event.

Roundup River Ranch, October 17-19, 2014

We debuted a new site this year, the Roundup River Ranch outside of Gypsum, CO. We were lucky to have Scott Johnson return to the Rocky Mountain District as our Lead Facilitator. He is one of the most experienced people working with Key Leader. Karl Oelke pulled in his experienced team from the Glenwood Springs Kiwanis Club to help with registration, technology, and the ropes course. We did not fill this Key Leader event either, but we came closer. Again we were dealing with homecoming weekends and PSAT testing. There is never a perfect weekend for Key Leader, so we just need to be more creative in our recruiting. Our one disappointment was two groups of four students who decided not to attend at the very last minute. This costs Key Leader money because meal counts were already turned in, and we were forced to pay for the meals anyway. We need to work with students to understand that commitment is important. If you register, you attend unless there is an emergency.

Information for this Year

We will be hosting two Key Leader events again this year. After much discussion, Kiwanis International has dropped the idea of doing a pilot program this year. We will be operating as usual. Dates for Key Leader 2015 are open for registration on the Key Leader website, www.key-leader.org. This year's weekends are:

Windy Peak Outdoor Lab School - Bailey, CO

October 16-18, 2015

Roundup River Ranch - Gypsum, CO

November 6-8, 2015

These dates do not conflict with either SAT or ACT testing. We need to make sure these events are full this year. The \$25 late registration fee kicks in two weeks prior to each event. **It is very important for adults to sign up early.** All adults must complete a background check prior to attending. These checks are free through Kiwanis International but can take up to a month to be processed. The background checks are good for two years and may be used for Key Club events also. This is very important for teachers since many schools are now requiring a faculty member to attend with the students. School paperwork may need to be completed ahead of time also.

Price Increase for October 2015 -To meet operating costs for Key Leader, Kiwanis International has raised the cost to attend. Prices for the coming fall events will be:

- Student, Non-Key Club member - \$250**
- Student, Key Club member - \$225**
- Student Facilitator - \$175**
- Adult Chaperones (non comp'd) - \$115**

Adults at Key Leader

The success of our Key Leader program is in part due to the continued participation of Kiwanians and our Kiwanis district leaders as chaperones. Key Leader needs Kiwanians to experience the program to understand the value and training it provides. Thanks go to Alan Arbuckle, Lee Patke, John Manion, Dan LeVan, Dave DeVanney, Tori Merritts, Hayley Suppes, Greg Henika, Ginny Hoskins, Nancy Wiehagen, Ray Kepler, and Bruce Simmons for joining us this year. Without their willingness to chaperone, we would not be able to offer Key Leader to our District. We also appreciate the hard work of Karl Oelke and Dawn White who served as our site coordinators this year.

High Schools in Attendance in 2014

Arvada HS	Eaton HS	Lakewood HS
Bear Creek HS	Ester Park HS	Moffat Consolidated HS
Brighton Leadership Academy	Fort Collins HS	Montrose HS
Centennial HS	Fossil Ridge HS	Niwot HS
Center HS	Frederick HS	Northridge HS
Chatfield HS	Fruita/Monument HS	Palmer Ridge HS
Columbine HS	Glenwood Springs HS	Rocky Mountain HS
Cripple Creek/Victor HS	Grand Valley HS	South HS
Delta HS	Jefferson Academy	University HS
Denver School of Science & Technology	Jefferson HS	Valley HS
	John F. Kennedy HS	Yampah Mountain HS

KEY LEADER NEEDS YOU!

Each club should make a line item in the club budget for Key Leader.

October is a long way off to a high school student, and they do not plan ahead. This is where Kiwanis needs to step in with a recruitment plan. Now is the time to approach school counselors and youth leaders to talk about sponsoring students this fall. **Key Leader is the KIWANIS sponsored leadership program for high school students, and its values match those of our Key Clubs. As such, it is up to KIWANIANs to support the program. This means recruiting and sponsoring students to attend.** Kiwanis International and the schools do not handle this for us. It is up to the Kiwanis Clubs to find the students. The first place to look for students is your Key Club if you have one. If you are looking to charter a Key Club or have a new club, Key Leader is a great way to start. Other good places to look for students are 4-H Clubs, church youth groups, Boys & Girls Clubs, student councils, and scout groups. Also, don't overlook foreign exchange students who usually have funds for extracurricular activities. In the past we have had students from Argentina, China, India, and Sweden. We are particularly looking for young males who are interested in leadership clubs at their schools.

We need the continued support of Kiwanis Clubs to help with donations of food and supplies. Donations of snacks and grocery gift cards are much appreciated.

I would like to thank the District Board for their generous support and enthusiasm. Last fall was another success, and we hope to keep our momentum going. I also thank you for spending time working out a way to fund our program.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Fuller, Key Leader District Chair
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