

THE Georgia Kiwanian

MARCH / APRIL 2025 | georgiakiwanis.com



DISTRICT DIFFERENCE MAKERS SOCIAL MEDIA CONTEST

Carrie Binns

District PR and Social Media Chair
Kiwanis Club of Statesboro

The Georgia District of Kiwanis is excited to launch a brand new annual social media contest—**District Difference Makers**—to celebrate and showcase the incredible impact our clubs make in their communities! This is your club's opportunity to highlight its service projects, engage with the community, and promote membership growth in a creative and compelling way.

CONTEST GUIDELINES

Each Kiwanis Club in Georgia is invited to submit their entry for the social media platform of their choice. Criteria based on:

- **Social Media Presence:** Well-crafted posts on any platform (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.) highlighting a club project, event, or initiative.

- **Picture Impact:** High-quality, engaging images that capture the spirit and impact of your club's efforts.
- **Community Influence:** Showcasing how your club's initiatives make a difference in the community.
- **Membership Growth:** Demonstrating how your club uses social media to attract and engage new members.

SUBMISSION & JUDGING

- **Submission Deadline:** All entries must be submitted by **July 1st** by each individual Kiwanis Club.
- **Where to Submit:** Send your entries to the **Georgia District PR Chair Carrie Binns**. Email Address, cbinns@bulloch.solutions
- **Judging Panel:** Our Circle K District partners will lend their expertise in evaluating submissions based on creativity, effectiveness, and impact.
- **Winner Announcement:**



The winning club will be recognized at our **Georgia District Convention** with a special award and recognition.

Don't miss this exciting opportunity to celebrate your club's achievements and inspire others! Start planning your submission today, and let's show the world the power of Kiwanis in action!

For questions or more information, contact The Georgia District PR Chair Carrie Binns (email cbinns@bulloch.solutions). We can't wait to see how your club makes a difference!

WE ARE DISTINGUISHED!



Congratulations to the Georgia District of Kiwanis for being recognized as Distinguished for the **2023-24 Kiwanis Year!**

DISTINGUISHED DISTRICT: GEORGIA

To achieve Kiwanis International "Distinguished District" status, a district must

meet specific criteria regarding growth, service, and education, encompassing net membership gain, new club formation, Kiwanis Children's Fund contributions, and participation in Kiwanis initiatives.

DISTINGUISHED GOVERNOR: BRENT LESLIE

The Distinguished Governor Award is a specific recognition within Kiwanis International to acknowledge the outstanding achievements and contributions of a Kiwanis District Governor during their term.

CONTENTS

Leadership Updates	2
Membership	4
Scoreboard	7
Committee Updates	8
Upcoming Events	11
Our Impact	21
Stay Connected	25



David Simmons 2024-25 Governor of the Georgia District

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E: cordele.kiwanis377@gmail.com
Club: Cordele

We are rapidly approaching the middle of the Kiwanis year. As I have visited clubs, I am in awe of all of the extraordinary acts of kindness that clubs have in their local community. Essentially, that is what Kiwanis is all about – making a positive impact on their local community. Even though a lot has been accomplished, remember that we have work that is yet to be done. Please remember some import events that are on the horizon. If your club sponsors a Key Club, they will be having their annual Service Leadership Conference on March 7-9. Please encourage your Key clubbers to attend that conference. Speaking of conferences, the Georgia District Mid-Year conference will be held on Macon on March 29. Thanks to Jeanette Lafond for arranging the class sessions. We have an excellent schedule of classes to attend. Besides the fellowship, the Mid-Year conference is a wonderful opportunity to learn some new ideas to take back to your home club. Registration is available now and I hope that you will attend. At our Mid-Year conference, I will be announcing the clubs that will be representing the Georgia District in Kiwanis International's "Signature Project" contest. Thanks to all the clubs who participated in the contest. It was extremely difficult to pick the clubs that will represent our district. Additionally, at the Mid-Year, Past Governor Brent Leslie

will be presenting clubs who earned distinguished recognition. Lastly, we will have a speaker at our opening session. Our speaker is Allison Evans, who is the CEO of the Methodist Children's Home in Macon. The home has been in operation for over 160 years and Allison will provide us with an uplifting story of their positive impact on children. Another upcoming district wide event is our annual Art and Music Showcase. This year's event will be back in Macon at the historic Douglas Theatre. Each club still has time to send in winners from their local shows. The entry deadline for the show is April 16. Thanks to the Macon Kiwanis Club for hosting this event for the second year in a row. Speaking of thanks, I want to personally thank Charlene Pennymon for chairing our annual "Read Across Georgia" campaign. Based upon the number of pictures I received, it appears that Kiwanians enjoy reading to children. I know that your local schools appreciate your involvement with student's literacy and I encourage you to contact your schools about reading to the students on a regular basis, if you are not already doing so.

As we approach the second half of our Kiwanis year, I challenge you to increase your service and work towards improving your local community. One way to

accomplish this is by increasing your club's membership. As I speak to clubs, I remind them that bringing in new members increases the amount of service that we can provide. We all need to be intentional about inviting prospective new members to our club meetings and projects. Speaking of membership, I continue to be amazed by our membership team. Under the leadership of Past International President, Katrina Baranko, they are working hard to add new clubs in the Georgia District. We have one new club, Granite City Kiwanis Club in Elberton. They will be holding their charter night ceremony on March 24. We have three other sites that the team is presently working on. We are close to having clubs in North Cobb and Hawkinsville. Hopefully by our Mid-Year conference, I will be able to announce that those clubs have been formed. The membership team is scheduled to go to Greensboro, GA. If we are successful, we could have four new clubs built by the middle of the year. Thanks to our membership team for their dedication and hard work. I truly appreciate all that each of them has done. As I was finalizing this article, the news of the day was to announce the passing of one of my favorite actors, Gene Hackman. Gene starred in many movies for over four decades. He was the lead actor in one of my favorite sports movies, Hoosiers. Even though the movie was about a basketball team, the underlying story was a story of redemption, which is something we can all learn from. I will close my article quoting the closing line in that movie, "I love you guys."



UPDATES FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Alexia Lieber

Executive Director of Georgia
District of Kiwanis

JUST A REMINDER

Election of Delegates: Have you elected your Club Delegates for the International Convention which will be held in Pittsburg, PA. yet? If not, you need to do so soon. A copy of the Certificate of Election is Due to Kiwanis International by April 30, 2025. This form will appear on the Secretary dashboard and you can file it electronically.

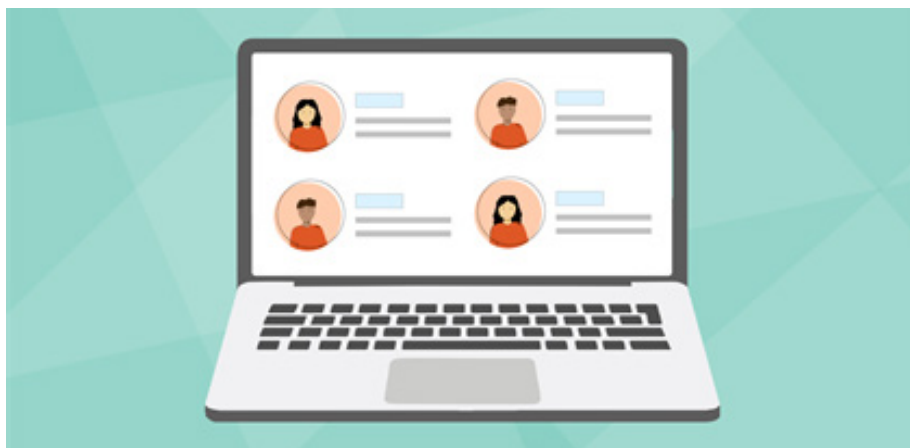
Club Officer Election. Incoming officers should be elected between the first meeting in April and the second meeting in May. Please enter your new Club Officers on the secretary dashboard by June 1st.

District Convention. Registration will be open soon on our website for the Georgia District Convention. Our District Convention will be held at the Dalton Convention Center in Dalton, Georgia, on August 8th - 10th, so mark your calendar now to attend.

Remember, if your club has a special fund-raiser, or event, take a picture and send it along with a caption describing the event to Samantha Downton at sdownton@avcheers.org. Please remember that all pictures must be sent electronically as a .jpg attachment to your email.



2024-25 DISTRICT DIRECTORY



You can download a copy of the 2024-25 District Directory online our website!

Georgia District Directory includes contact information for the Georgia District Officers, Lt. Governors, and Committee Chairs. Also includes information for each Georgia Kiwanis Club with meeting times and location and officer contact information.

Download here:

www.georgiakiwans.com/ga-district-directory

DUES BREAKDOWN PER MONTH

2024-25 Kiwanis Year

MONTH	KI DUES	DISTRICT DUES	TOTAL
October	\$107.00	\$30.00	\$137.00
November	\$98.08	\$27.50	\$125.58
December	\$89.17	\$25.00	\$114.17
January	\$80.25	\$22.50	\$102.75
February	\$71.33	\$20.00	\$ 91.33
March	\$62.42	\$17.50	\$ 79.92
April	\$53.50	\$15.00	\$ 68.50
May	\$44.58	\$12.50	\$ 57.08
June	\$35.67	\$10.00	\$ 45.67
July	\$26.75	\$ 7.50	\$ 34.25
August	\$17.83	\$ 5.00	\$ 22.83
September	\$ 8.92	\$ 2.50	\$ 11.42

WHY VOLUNTEERISM IS IMPORTANT

Volunteerism connotes a mindset or a philosophy. It can also mean an attitude of service or a willingness to give back to your community – and in doing so, to make the world around you a better place.

As it turns out, volunteerism doesn't just help the organization, population or community on the receiving end. Volunteering your time or energy can have amazing benefits for you, too. Below are a few ways that volunteering can change your life for the better:

CONNECTION. Volunteering gives you the chance to meet new people and can improve your social and relationship skills. Volunteering with family members or friends can provide an opportunity to spend meaningful time with those

people, thereby strengthening those relationships.

A SENSE OF MEANING. A lot of research has been done on the link between altruism and happiness. The happiness that many people feel as a result of volunteering may be related in part to the increased sense of purpose and self-confidence experienced when people are generous with their time and energy.

A LONGER LIFESPAN. In addition to its emotional and mental benefits, volunteering can improve your physical health. Volunteering can lower stress levels and enhance peoples' overall sense of well-being, both of which can have positive effects on physical health. Many volunteering



opportunities also entail physical labor, which can be a great source of exercise.

Kiwanis club members look at the needs of children in their community and decide on projects that will benefit local kids the most. By coming together with others in your area, you can begin to make your community a better place for everyone in it.

MEMBERSHIP

IN MEMORIAM

John E. Lindgren
Brunswick

Marc Matre
Albany-Dougherty County

Walter Pyron
Griffin

ALWAYS *Loved,*
FOREVER *Missed,*
NEVER *Forgotten*

CLUBS WITH MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2025

DIV.	CLUB	GROWTH
2	Columbus	+2
2	Greater Columbus	+1
2	Griffin	+2
2	Harris County	+1
2	LaGrange	+1
2	Pike County	+1
2	Thomaston	+2
3	Coweta County	+1
3	Fayette County	+9
3	Grantville	+2
3	Newnan	+6
4	Pooler-West Chatham	+1
4	Saint Marys	+2
5	Americus	+2
5	Mitchell-Baker	+2
6	Augusta	+2
7	Athens	+4
7	Granite City	+16
7	Hartwell	+2
7	Jefferson	+2
8	Duluth-Norcross	+1
8	Historic Roswell	+1
8	Lawrenceville	+2
9	Crawford County	+2
9	Forsyth-Monroe County	+4
9	Jones County	+1
9	Macon	+2

DIV.	CLUB	GROWTH
9	Macon County	+2
9	Taylor County	+6
10	Dawson County	+2
10	Gilmer County	+1
10	Rabun County	+1
11	Calhoun-Gordon County	+1
12	Carrollton	+2
12	Douglas County, Douglasville	+2
12	Fairfield-Villa Rica	+1
12	Villa Rica-Temple	+3
13	Dooly County	+1
15	Greater Cherokee	+2
15	Lost Mountain	+2
15	Marietta	+2
15	Metro Marietta	+2
15	North Cherokee	+1
17	Brooklet	+6
17	Effingham	+3
17	Metter	+7
18	Conyers	+2
18	Covington	+3
18	Eatonton	+1
18	Henry County	+1
18	Madison	+4
18	Social Circle	+1

CR Phillips

Club Growth/Retention Co-Chair
Kiwanis Club of Newnan

"For several months now I've been rambling on about how this is 'The Most Important Thing' and how that is 'The Most Important Thing' so how about I boil it down into a list of Eleven Most Important Things?

Understanding that your club may have other issues and that this list is not necessarily in the order that your club needs to address.

1.) **FUN:** If you want folks to show up, they **MUST** expect to have fun and there's any number of ways to generate a few laughs.

2.) **CLUB SURVEY:** What do the members of your Club really think about what's going on? You really need to poll them on at least an annual basis! Things like meeting date, location, meals, projects, programs, and fundraisers. There may be hidden issues here that are unknown to you that are affecting club participation simply because no one has ever asked what the membership thought!

3.) **MEALS:** As my Baptist friend always tell me, if you want folks to show up to meetings you have to feed them or at least give them a way to get a meal.

4.) **CONSISTENT LOCATION:** Once a convenient location is found **KEEP IT!** Don't be moving around. Your Club Survey will tell you what you need to know about the popularity of your present location.

5.) **CONSISTENT DATE & TIME:** Don't be moving your club's meeting date or time around either. With a consistent date and time members will have the ability to work your club meeting

date and time into their schedules. Again, your Club Survey will tell you what's most convenient for your members.

6.) **NEWSLETTER:** Without a Newsletter members will not know from one week to the next what's going on; it's that simple. And it doesn't have to be a three-page color newspaper either. A simple, consistent e-mail with important facts will do very nicely. Also include information about members, birthdays, Kiwanis Join Date Anniversaries - all available on your clubs Secretary's Dashboard - in other words show your members that you **CARE** about them.

7.) **PARTICIPATION:** Form committees that are responsible for these and other activities. Populate those committees with a few members who have an interest in specific activities. **ASK** members directly - tell them that you need help and wouldn't they please lend a hand. Keep the tasks small so no one is overwhelmed.

8.) **PROJECTS:** Projects should help solve community problems or address community issues. If you're stumped on what's really needed in your community go ask the pastors in your churches, speak with the school principals or counselors, with the local police, and you'll find all sorts of issues that need to be addressed. Then poll your membership to see what your members are most interested in addressing.

9.) **PARTNERSHIPS:** Once your club has decided on a particular issue, or issues, look for other charities you can partner with. You'll most likely find that they have the tools to directly deal with the issues at hand and that IF you'll help them your combined efforts will make for

the most effective **PROJECTS**.

10.) **FUNDRAISERS:** Now we get down to where the rubber hits the road because this is where your Club is going to earn its credibility. This is what all these Nine other issues are leading up to. Your Club may have a traditional fundraiser you've been using, effectively for years, like a pancake breakfast, or participation in a community celebration where you sell bean soup and corn bread, or participating in a county fair... The list goes on and on. The point here is that you're using that Kiwanis Banner to put your Club's Name on Caring for Your Community!

11.) **MEMBERSHIP GROWTH:** You really didn't think I was going to **NOT** include Membership Growth, did you? These projects are where you recruit new members. It works like this: Two, Four, or Six, members get together and come up with a list of folks they think would make good members. They make an appointment with these recruits, and go visit in groups of two, at such a time that's right in front of some sort of community project which these new recruits are invited to participate in. This way these new recruits can see for themselves what your Kiwanis club is all about. They can get involved from the start. Well, that all for now... I just want you to ask yourself, what are you doing to make your Club Stronger and More Effective in Your Community?"

WE ARE HIRING!

We will be hiring an Executive Director position. The position will be a part-time position that will be working 28 hours per week. The work schedule will be 9AM-5PM, Tuesday thru Friday.

The salary range is between \$32,000 and \$37,000 per year. The position will accrue ten vacation days per year along with ten sick days. Five of the unused sick days can rollover to the next calendar year. The following holidays will also be observed each year: July 4, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year.

The start date is July 7, 2025 as the person will be working with our current Executive Director until she retires on September 30, 2025. During that time period, the person will need to come to our Macon office. Starting on October 1, 2025, our District office will close and the new hire will be allowed to work from home.

The only residential requirements are that the person reside in the State of Georgia. Interviews for the position will be scheduled between May 1, 2025 and June 6, 2025.

If interested, please send your resume to David Simmons at cordele.kiwanis.377@gmail.com. If you have any questions, please call David at 229-947-2277.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

The Executive Director of the Georgia District of Kiwanis International operates as its Executive Director, Secretary and Treasurer. Below is a brief synopsis of the duties for which the Executive Director is responsible.

Qualifications:

1. Member in good standing of a club in good standing of

the Georgia District of Kiwanis International.

2. Resident of the area that comprises the Georgia District of Kiwanis International.
3. Availability to work weekends and evenings.
4. Availability to travel to District and Kiwanis International events.
5. Submit to and pass a drug test, background check, and any bonding requirements.
6. Working knowledge of social media platforms (e.g., website construction and maintenance, Facebook, Instagram), and possess exemplary computer skills (e.g. Word, Power Point, Excel, QuickBooks).

Responsibilities:

A. Executive Director

1. Maintain with board approval all necessary insurance policies, bonding protection, warranties and contracts necessary for the operation of the District.
2. Attend the following events, if held: International Convention, International District Secretary meeting, District Convention, Mid-Winter Conference, District Board meetings, District Foundation Board meetings, Lt. Governor Planning Conference, Key Club District Convention, and Circle K District Convention.
3. Schedule, organize and coordinate District Conventions with the District Committee chairs (Convention chair and Logistics / Site Selection chair) and all other meetings that require hotel accommodations, food service, and speakers.
4. Maintain the Official Master Calendar for the District.

B. Secretary

1. Assist the Governor and District Board by maintaining, updating and protecting all district records, and archiving appropriate records.

2. Manage and timely update the District directories, newsletters and social media platforms.
3. Facilitate communication between Kiwanis International, the District officers and committee chairs, the clubs and their officers.
4. Timely file all necessary reports with Kiwanis International, and any government agencies when applicable.

C. Treasurer

1. Keep current financial records and account for the District, District organizations (e.g., District Foundation, Past District Officers, CKI, Key Club, and Foundation, as the District Board deems necessary, including receipts and disbursements.
2. Regularly review the financial condition of the District, Circle K and Key Club, and report to the District Board at its quarterly meetings, or whenever otherwise requested by the District Board, and to the District at its annual convention.
3. Coordinate with the District Finance Committee in preparing a yearly prospective budget for the District, which shall be made available to the District Board prior to the August meeting.
4. Comply with a yearly audit by a Certified Public Accounting firm for the accounts of record as required by Kiwanis International.

DIVISIO N	LT. GOVERNOR	CLUB	BEGINNING MEMBERS	CURRENT MEMBERS	DONATIONS TO DISTRICT PROJECTS
1	Peter Graybill	Atlanta	188	187	5 of 5
		Doraville-Tucker	8	8	5 of 5
		Druid Hills	10	10	5 of 5
		Galleria-Northwest Atlanta	15	15	5 of 5
		Northside Atlanta	31	31	
DIVISION TOTALS:			252	251	
2	Lisa Scully	Barnesville	24	24	
		Columbus	40	42	4 of 5
		Greater Columbus	21	22	
		Griffin	96	98	
		Harris County	14	15	5 of 5
		LaGrange	39	40	5 of 5
		Manchester	10	10	
		North Columbus	10	10	
		Pike County	16	17	
DIVISION TOTALS:			312	322	
3	Karen Goodell-Webb	Coweta County	76	77	5 of 5
		Fayette County	23	32	
		Fayetteville/Greater Atlanta	9	8	
		Grantville	11	13	
		Newnan	103	109	
		Peachtree City	17	17	
DIVISION TOTALS:			300	317	
4	Shelena Bentley	Brunswick	54	52	
		Jesup	32	32	
		Liberty County	30	30	
		Pooler-West Chatham	16	17	
		Richmond Hill	13	10	
		Saint Marys	63	65	5 of 5
		Savannah	16	16	
		Skidaway	149	141	
DIVISION TOTALS:			378	368	
5	Sylvia Roland	Albany/Dougherty County	68	66	5 of 5
		Americus	75	77	5 of 5
		Bainbridge-Decatur County	20	20	
		Cairo	49	49	
		Cairo-Morningstar	18	18	
		Mitchell-Baker	14	16	
DIVISION TOTALS:			306	301	
6	Jeffrey Foweler	Augusta	123	125	
		Louisville	13	13	
		Thomson	19	17	
		Uptown Augusta	14	13	
		Warrenton	19	19	
		Washington	11	9	5 of 5
DIVISION TOTALS:			199	196	
7	Herschel Mize	Athens	24	28	
		Classic City	17	17	5 of 5
		Commerce	24	23	
		Granite City		16	
		Hartwell	34	36	5 of 5
		Jefferson	10	12	
		West Jackson	3	3	5 of 5
DIVISION TOTALS:			128	150	
8	John Pace	Cumming	17	17	
		Duluth-Norcross	11	12	
		Gainesville	112	109	
		Historic Roswell	25	26	
		Lawrenceville	11	13	
		North Gwinnett	28	28	5 of 5
		South Hall County-Oakwood	10	10	
DIVISION TOTALS:			230	229	
9	Jacque Hatcher	Crawford County	18	20	5 of 5
		Forsyth - Monroe County	54	58	5 of 5
		Fort Valley	25	25	4 of 5
		Jones County	31	32	5 of 5
		Macon	29	31	5 of 5
		Macon County	30	32	
		Milledgeville	25	24	5 of 5
		North Macon	16	16	5 of 5
		Perry	41	41	
		Taylor County	13	19	
DIVISION TOTALS:			292	308	

DIVISIO N	LT. GOVERNOR	CLUB	BEGINNING MEMBERS	CURRENT MEMBERS	DONATIONS TO DISTRICT PROJECTS
10	Juanita Edwards	Blairsville	9	9	
		Blue Ridge	55	53	
		Cleveland	28	28	5 of 5
		Dawson County	11	13	5 of 5
		Gilmer County	17	18	
		Habersham County	33	32	
		Rabun County	14	15	
Toccoa			8	8	
DIVISION TOTALS:			175	176	
11	Julie Jones	Calhoun-Gordon County	9	10	
		Cartersville	11	10	
		Dalton	47	46	
		Murray County	7	7	
		Ringgold	16	14	
		Rome	21	21	
DIVISION TOTALS:			111	108	
12	Mitch Clifton	Bowdon	24	24	
		Carrollton	86	88	5 of 5
		Carrollton Golden K	26	26	
		Cedartown	38	38	
		Douglas County	12	14	5 of 5
		Fairfield - Villa Rica	22	23	
		Paulding	5	5	
		Rockmart	15	15	
Villa Rica - Temple			15	18	
DIVISION TOTALS:			243	251	
13	Tom Shoup	Adel	6	6	
		Cordele	40	40	5 of 5
		Dooley County	22	23	
		Fitzgerald	22	22	
		Moultrie	102	94	
		Sylvester	38	37	
		Tifton	19	19	5 of 5
		Turner County	22	22	
Valdosta			21	19	
DIVISION TOTALS:			292	282	
15	Virginia Braswell	Georgia Online	20	20	
		Greater Cherokee	18	20	
		Greater South Cobb	23	22	
		Jonquil City	29	29	
		Lost Mountain	57	59	5 of 5
		Marietta	169	171	5 of 5
		Marietta Golden K	66	64	
		Metro Marietta	20	22	
North Cherokee			20	21	
DIVISION TOTALS:			422	428	
16	Tony Barrs	Jonesboro	17	16	5 of 5
		Lithonia-Stonecrest	6	6	
		Metro Atlanta	42	41	5 of 5
DIVISION TOTALS:			65	63	
17	Chris Wiggins	Baxley	34	34	
		Brooklet	59	65	
		Douglas	19	19	
		Effingham	14	17	
		Metter	16	23	
		Statesboro	144	144	5 of 5
		Swainsboro	23	18	1 of 5
		Tattnall County	17	17	
Vidalia			104	103	
DIVISION TOTALS:			430	440	
18	Jocelyn Wykoff	Conyers	23	25	5 of 5
		Covington	42	45	5 of 5
		Eatonton	15	16	
		Henry County	47	48	5 of 5
		Madison	41	45	
		Monroe	18	17	
Social Circle			21	22	
DIVISION TOTALS:			207	218	
GEORGIA DISTRICT GRAND TOTALS:			4342	4408	

DISTRICT TOTALS:	
Total Reported Members on 10/01/24	4,342
Total Reported Members on 2/28/25	4,408
Total Clubs as of 10/01/24	130
Total Clubs as of 2/28/25	131

LEGEND:	
NC	New Club
PR	Pending Revoke
CS	Club Suspended
M	Merged

John Holley

Georgia District Kiwanis
Children's Fund Chair
Kiwanis Club of Metro Atlanta



As we continue our quest forward with the Possibility Project,

my hope is that, by now, every club and individual in the Georgia District have a basic knowledge about the project.

Just as a refresher, at our International Convention in Denver last summer, the Kiwanis Children's Fund launched our first ever fundraiser solely supporting the Kiwanis Family and the children we serve. This project is the third time in our organization's history that we have embarked upon a global fundraising campaign. In 1994, it was the Iodine Deficiency Disorder Project and in 2010 The Eliminate Project. In each of our previous undertakings, we have exceeded our goals.

For the Possibility Project, the Campaign envisions raising \$25 Million US dollars and impacting 10 Million kids globally. The campaign will end at the end of the 2027-2028 Kiwanis year.

Since funds raised by your clubs since October 1, 2022 will count toward the totals for your club, we are already well on our way to meeting our goal. To date, the Possibility Project total gifts and pledges are at \$6,880,646.27. The Georgia District's total gifts and pledges are at \$247,815.26. It should be noted that both individual and club donations are included in the totals.

Where we are hoping to make our greatest success

is to challenge each club to become an Impact Club. With a commitment to give a per member average of \$500.00 or more over five years, your club becomes an Impact Club. The recognition your club receives for this extraordinary commitment will hopefully be an inspiration for other clubs and Kiwanians to emulate. There is no greater feeling of joy than to know that you have made a difference in the life of a child or improved the condition in a community.

Indeed, this is the time for your club to act. Children around the world are waiting for you to insure that their possibilities are made a reality. Every day around the world, children are going hungry, and students are struggling to read. Your club can make things happen. As Kiwanians, it is in our DNA to be out front... "serving the children of the World." I am depending on you and so are the children!

As always, as your District Chair, I am your resource for all matters relating to the Kiwanis Children's Fund. **USE ME!** My contact information is jholley40@comcast.net or by phone at (678) 481-7572.

Neil Weathington

Human and Spiritual Values Chair
Kiwanis Club of Carrollton

As a reminder, what does "altruistic" mean, and why is that a good word to use in the fifth of the Objects of Kiwanis. From the beginning of Kiwanis, being unselfish and looking out for others was a habit to strive for, and look for in prospective members. One day, I typed all the Objects of Kiwanis to be included in the weekly Carrollton tabletop bulletin, but misspelled a word by omitting the "r" in "through", and thus reversing the meaning of the sentence. The typo omission turned "through" into "though"; (tho'), and for about fifty-two consecutive meetings, until someone noticed the mistake, our bulletin would lead the reader to believe that one would go anywhere except this club to find friendships, and unselfish behavior. When spell-checker didn't alert the problem: I simply had an incorrect word correctly spelled. It was only until one day, a very kind, retired college professor quietly handed me the bulletin at the end of one meeting with a red ink circle around the "though". From then on, our bulletin has reminded the members of the six objects of Kiwanis, and the fifth object correctly read: "To provide "through" this club, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service and build a better community."



Darryl Gumz

2022-23 Governor of GA District
Kiwanis Club of Winder,
Jefferson, West Jackson,
Georgia Online

Here we are. Almost halfway through the Kiwanis Year. So, where are we with our youth protection preparedness? 25% of our clubs have conducted and reported their club's compliance with Youth Protection Guidelines training. I hope that each club will take this annual requirement seriously and make sure we are doing our best to protect the youth we come in contact with. This can be as simple as discussing the Youth Protection Guidelines <https://www.kiwanis.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/YOUTH-PROTECTION-POLICIES-PROCEDURES.pdf>, conducting a full-blown training session <https://www.kiwanis.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Kiwanis-Youth-Protection-Policy-Training-for-Clubs-1.11.24.pdf> or viewing <https://www.kiwanis.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Kiwanis-Youth-Protection-Policy-Training-for-Clubs-1.11.24.pdf>. When you are done, club Secretaries PLEASE indicate this on your Secretary Dashboard: <https://members.kiwanis.org/signin/Org>. See the included image to see where this is done. If you have questions, please call me.

I appreciate everyone who needs the Kiwanis Background Check staying current. As you know, the \$35 Kiwanis Background Check is good for two years. Only 19 background checks need to be renewed in Feb, Mar, and Apr. If you look at your page on the Kiwanis Connect site, you can see when your approved background check is set to expire.

Millions of children worldwide have experienced bullying at school. Any bullying hurts a child's self-esteem, but at its worst, bullying could lead to high anxiety, bad grades, dropping out of school or even suicide.

The good news: You can help.

Kiwanis is taking a stand against

bullying with the help of some of its Service Leadership Programs (SLPs): K-Kids for elementary school students, Builders Club for middle years students and Key Club for teens. That's why we're providing educational information and powerful posters to help young people fight bullying in their schools and communities.

Kiwanis believes that: Service clubs such as Kiwanis SLPs can be a solution to the bullying crisis faced by so many educational institutions today.

For the potential target of bullying, service can be a vehicle for developing self-worth, confidence and leadership.

For the potential perpetrator of bullying, service can be a vehicle for learning the power of kindness, generosity and positive purpose.

Service clubs have something to offer the potential bystander: He or she will learn that when one commits to serving others, doing nothing is no longer an option.

Service clubs have something to offer schools, which can contribute to a climate of giving, caring and acceptance. Education, expectations and oversight can ensure that our programs remain free from bullying. Our youth members should be lead-

ers, through example and action, against bullying in their schools and communities, and work with trusted adults to bring about an end to this enduring problem.

Hazing

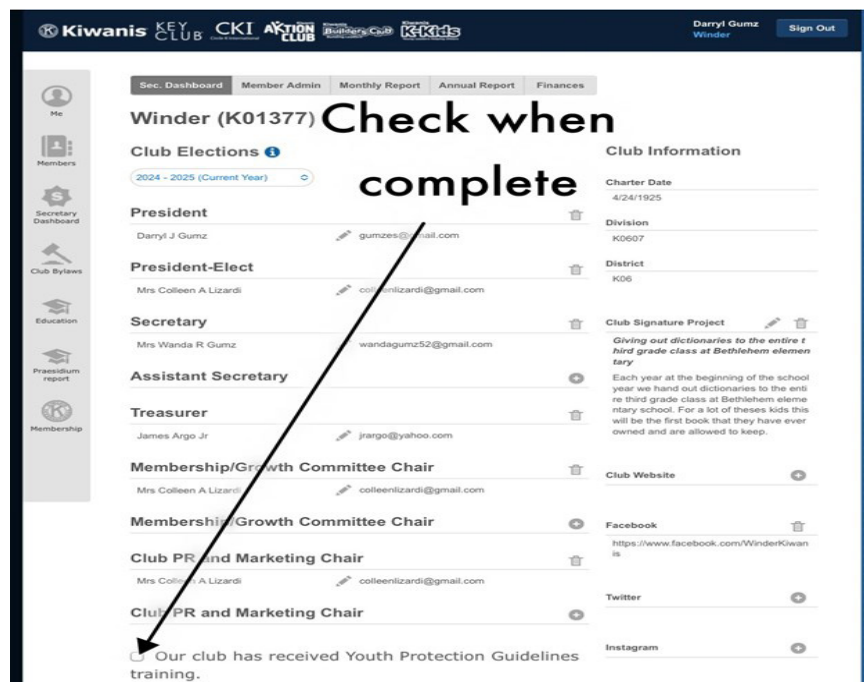
Hazing is a form of bullying found in some membership organizations. During hazing, members of an organization require potential or new members to do acts or receive treatment that makes them uncomfortable or could potentially cause emotional or physical harm.

Kiwanis believes:

Hazing is a form of bullying and should never be tolerated in any Kiwanis-sponsored program.

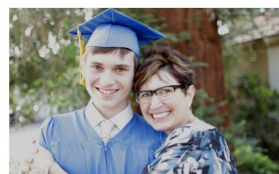
Hazing or bullying, if discovered, should be confronted. All current Kiwanis policies and appropriate state laws will be observed.

Through service, students learn about the impact they can make on their communities by giving, caring and sharing. Kiwanis family youth become leaders who help create a safe, bully-free environment. Bully prevention also promotes Kiwanis family values: serving the people around us, building better communities for ourselves and future generations, and showing others the importance of the Golden Rule.



GEORGIA DISTRICT KIWANIS FOUNDATION

Mike Hill
President of Georgia District
Kiwanis Foundation
Kiwanis Club of Athens



OUR MISSION IS TO RAISE, MANAGE, AND DISTRIBUTE FUNDS TO SUPPORT
WORTHWHILE GEORGIA KIWANIS PROJECTS THAT HELP IMPROVE THE LIVES OF
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES ACROSS THE STATE OF GEORGIA.

one
act of kindness
can change
the world.



The Georgia District Kiwanis Foundation (GDKF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit foundation which allows Georgia Kiwanis to work together to fund efforts that might be beyond the financial ability of individual Kiwanians and individual Kiwanis clubs. While that is a mouthful, it is an accurate statement of the goals of the Foundation.

As a Kiwanian in the Georgia District, you are a member of our Foundation. You should know that your Foundation works to strengthen Kiwanis Clubs in the Georgia District primarily through matching funds for club projects which exceed the club's capability to fund. You should also know that your Foundation also places 10% of all Heinz award funds and 5% of Georgia District Project funds in a disaster relief fund.

Many of you are too intimately aware of disasters that have stricken the district in the past year. We have provided funds to help Kiwanis clubs aid in relief to their communities. Unlike

project grants, disaster grants do not require a club match.

On a parting note, I want all to know of the great generosity of your fellow Kiwanians here and around the world. As a result of the Helene disaster, we have received disaster grant donations from many clubs in our District, those outside our District, and even other Districts. Many of these donors have experienced recent disasters in their own area—but insisted that the GDKF accept these donations for use within the Georgia District.

We should remain proud of our fellow Kiwanians, and their generous helping hands.

Please feel free to contact me, or any other member of our Foundation Board, about how the GDKF can help your club.



**STOP DREAMING.
START DOING.**

GET READY TO LEARN SOMETHING NEW!

Jeanette Lafond

Incoming Training Chair
Kiwanis Club of Brooklet


I encourage you to make plans to attend the Mid-Year Training in March for a day of fun and educational workshops, fellowship, service, and networking! This is a great source for you and your club to gain the tools you need to succeed, learn about new programs, and further serve your community.

Saturday, March 29
8:45 AM to 2:50 PM
Registration opens at 7 AM

Tickets are \$45 each
Includes a boxed lunch

Register Online by March 14
georgiakiwanis.com/mid-year-training

Middle Georgia State University
100 University Parkway
Macon, GA 31206

**Eat. Sleep.
Volunteer.
Repeat.** 



*Do GOOD.
FEEL GOOD.* 



Room	Session 1 10 AM - 10:50 AM	Session 2 11 AM - 11:50 AM	Session 3 Noon - 12:50 PM	LUNCH 1 PM - 1:50 PM	Meetings 2 PM - 2:50 PM
Jones 211	Club Opening <i>George Elkins</i>	Club Growth and Retention (Div 2,4,5,6, 9,13,17,18) <i>Byron Mullican</i>	*Past Governor's Meeting <i>Mark Smith</i>	LUNCH 1 PM - 1:50 PM	
Jones 212	FUN Meetings <i>International Trustee Dawn Puderbaugh</i>	Club Growth and Retention (Div 1,3,7,8,10, 11,12,15,16) <i>C.R. Phillips</i>	Emerging Leaders <i>Sharon Barksdale</i>		
PSC 212	Free Club Websites (Level 1) <i>Kiwanis International (virtually)</i>	Supercharge Your Free Club Website (Level 2) <i>Kiwanis International (virtually)</i>	Digital Dollars for Kiwanis: Mastering Online Fundraising <i>Kiwanis International (virtually)</i>		
PSC 227			2025-2026 Lt. Gov. Meeting <i>Barry Gardner</i>		**International Leadership Committee <i>Dewey Smith</i>
PSC 234	Club Secretary <i>Alexia Lieber</i>	Grants/ Fundraising <i>Jeffrey Fowler</i>	Social Media & Marketing <i>Carrie Binns</i>		Past Lt. Governor's Association <i>Judi Brown</i>
PSC 237	K-Kids / Builders Club <i>Mark Herring / Blair Thrasher</i>	Circle K <i>Brent Leslie</i>	Key Club <i>Heather Brindle</i>		
PSC 238	Club Boost <i>Katrina Baranko</i>	District Leadership Positions and Requirements <i>Katrina Baranko</i>	Disaster Readiness <i>Kim Maxwell</i>		
PSC 239	Youth Protection <i>Darryl Gumz</i>	Interclub <i>Bill Echelberger</i>	Governor's Forum <i>David Simmons</i>		

*Past Governor's Meeting is only for Past Governor's

**International Leadership Committee is an invitation only meeting.

LEARNING & LIVING LEADERSHIP OUT LOUD

Build your leadership skills. Improve your career, your community and your Kiwanis club.

Kiwanis Amplify is a program for emerging leaders who want to amplify their ability to lead a team. Participation is encouraged for, but not limited to, young leaders, new members and members of Circle K International who have completed the Global Leadership Certificate.

Participants will:

- Explore the value of servant leadership.
- Discover their personal strengths so they can lead confidently and successfully.
- Strengthen the ability to lead others in a strategic manner.
- Build and manage a strategic plan that works.
- Learn from experts as well as from peers from across the globe.
- Earn a certification of completion.

Participants will take a deep dive into eight leadership topics:

1. The qualities of a good leader.
2. Methods of communication.
3. Planning engaging events.
4. Promoting diversity, equality and inclusion throughout a team.
5. Working with others.
6. Sharing a message.
7. Planning for the future.
8. Staying focused.

The participation fee is US\$50. The participation fee may be covered by the Kiwanis Amplify participant or they may be sponsored by their club, division, district or even their place of business.

To enroll, learn more or recommend someone for the program, visit kiwanis.org/amplify.

Kiwanis[®]
Amplify

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Join us in congratulating these clubs that are celebrating birthdays! We are honored to have them as a part of our Georgia Kiwanis family. Each club has been active in the community and is truly making a difference. Thank you for all you do!

MARCH:

Pike County (3/2/1992)
Marietta (3/3/1930)
North Gwinnett (3/3/1939)
Metro Marietta (3/4/1957)
Lithonia-Stonecrest (3/10/2018)
Athens (3/11/1920)
Rockmart (3/13/1939)
Brooklet (3/17/1949)
Conyers (3/19/1990)
Sylvester (3/20/1923)
Macon (3/22/1920)
Perry (3/23/1938)
Adel (3/24/1993)
Eatonton (3/27/1925)
Mitchell-Baker (3/27/1991)

APRIL:

Thomaston (4/4/1924)
Americus (4/6/1920)
Saint Marys (4/6/1962)
Manchester (4/11/1924)
Albany-Dougherty County (4/22/1920)
Crawford County (4/22/1954)
South Hall County (4/22/1993)
Winder (4/24/1925)
Cairo-Morningstar (4/25/1996)
Paulding (4/25/2022)
Lost Mountain (4/28/1997)

EMERGING LEADERS - 2025

Sharon Barksdale

Emerging Leaders Chair
Kiwanis Club of Conyers & Social Circle

Hello Fellow Kiwanians. We are off AGAIN!

Mid-Year Training, is fast approaching and September will be here before we know it. Last year we began a new program in the Georgia District called Emerging Leaders. Last year I was the Program Chair for Emerging Leaders and I am privileged to be the Program Chair for the 2024-2025 year. At Mid-Year Training, there will be a workshop explaining and demonstrating how the Emerging Leaders program works.

The question everyone has is "What is the Emerging Leaders Program?"

The answer is: **Emerging Leaders is a leadership training program open to all high school students (and current 8th grade students) in the Georgia District.** This program is for all public, private and home school students, not just Kiwanis SLP members.

Our challenge is to spread the word in every community in every division of the Georgia District. Our hope is that Emerging Leaders will accomplish the following:

1. To encourage the students to discover WHO they are and WHO they can be
2. To encourage the students to discover WHAT they have the ability to do and WHAT they are capable of doing.
3. To show the students HOW and WHERE they can contribute to their community through service.
4. To let the students learn WHY they are needed and WHY they ARE a part of the future of THEIR communities.

OPPORTUNITY:

1. **WHAT:** An overnight retreat beginning at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 20, 2025 and ending at noon on Sunday, September 21, 2025.
2. **WHERE:** The retreat will be held at the Georgia FFA/FCCLA Campground in Covington, GA.
3. **WHO:** The Retreat will be facilitated and led by Dave Kelly. Dave is a Kiwanian and an award-winning student leadership speaker. He is an expert in engaging students in community service. This retreat will be a fun, interactive and engaging experience for the students.

I am sure you have students in mind that your clubs or community can sponsor for the retreat. The cost is \$125 per student. **My challenge to you: Contact teachers, school administrators, community leaders, friends, members and all clubs in every division to spread the word about this program and the upcoming retreat by identifying any high school student who you believe could emerge as a leader or benefit from the retreat.**

Please join me in this endeavor and consider having your club sponsor at least one student. Last year's retreat was an amazing success. Let's work together to make this year's retreat an even bigger success!

The applications are being finalized and will be available in the very near future. For more information, please contact me: Sharon Barksdale, Georgia Kiwanis Emerging Leaders Chair at: slbarkatty@gmail.com; phone number: (770) 842-7649.

Let's make a difference for the students in our communities so that Kiwanis can continue to make a difference one child at a time, one community at a time.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Georgia District of Kiwanis International Emerging Leaders Retreat



Saturday, September 20, 2025

Sunday, September 21, 2025

The **Emerging Leaders Retreat**, sponsored by the Georgia District of Kiwanis International, is a program that will be held **September 20-21, 2025** and is available to all **high school students in the state of Georgia who are in 9th - 12th grades** (current 8th graders who are moving up to 9th grade in the fall of 2025 are eligible). Teachers, school administrators, community leaders, and Kiwanians are asked to identify any student who they believe could emerge as a leader after being trained in several areas related to serving leadership.

This fun and interactive experience will be led by America's Student Leadership Trainersm, Dave Kelly. Dave is an award-winning student leadership speaker in both the U.S. and Canada. He is an expert in engaging students in community service and is a 9-time Distinguished District Administrator, the most in the history of Circle K International.

The registration fee is \$125 per student, which includes 3 meals (lunch and dinner on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday), snacks and refreshments, lodging for Saturday night, all materials, and more!

The Emerging Leaders Retreat will be held at the **Georgia FFA/FCCLA Campground in Covington, GA**. Check-in begins at 11 am on Saturday, September 20, followed by lunch, and then the program begins. Pick-up will be at noon on Sunday, September 21.

For more information, contact

Sharon Barksdale, Georgia Kiwanis Emerging Leaders Chair

P. O. Box 1215, Covington, GA 30015

Phone: (770) 842-7649 email: slbarkatty@gmail.com

**Make a difference for the students in your community
by sending them to the Emerging Leaders Retreat!**

JOIN US IN PITTSBURGH - JUNE 2025

Trish Tootle

International Convention Chair
Kiwanis Club of Statesboro



Kiwanis®
CONVENTION 2025
PITTSBURGH
June 25-28

Greetings Georgia Kiwanians:

I hope everyone is making necessary plans to join us at the 2025 Kiwanis International Convention scheduled for June 25 - 28 in Pittsburgh, PA. This is an awesome opportunity for us to celebrate 110 years of Kiwanis service reconnecting with old friends and making new ones.

The Convention will be held at the Drury Plaza Hotel in downtown Pittsburgh, as we experience the pageantry and success of Kiwanis International. This will be a time for us to get informed about the business of Kiwanis International as delegates from clubs around the world will elect the organization's next leaders and vote on amendments.

The opening session features beloved actor, producer, and author Henry Winkler. You will be inspired by Winkler's story and his commitment to helping children reach their full potential. On Friday night we will have an opportunity to attend the Pittsburgh Pirates baseball game and tickets are currently available at a district level.

During the Convention we will "Forge the Future" as we discover new ways to grow our clubs, while nurturing and building membership. As we conduct business you will also learn how to magnify your club's influence on your community and how to transform service projects in ways you never thought possible.

I am so excited about the convention as we come together to conduct Kiwanis business, but I am equally excited about experiencing Pittsburgh and all it has to offer.

I have attached information on Registration & Tickets, Special Events & Add-Ons, Hotels, and Downtown Dining. You can also go to the Convention website at [Kiwanis.org/convention](https://www.kiwanis.org/convention) for more information and you can take a virtual tour of the David L. Lawrence Convention Center at <https://www.pittsburghhcc.com>.

God bless you all as we are "On To Pittsburgh".

Trish Tootle
(912)489-2600
Ttootle@morris.bank

REGISTER NOW

Registration includes keynote speakers, Kiwanis Launchpads, education sessions, the Kiwanis Annual Meeting, the Membership Fair at the Opening Reception and the Kiwanis Sunset Social. Lunch on Thursday and Friday is included with your registration. www.georgiakiwanis.com/international-convention.html

HOTEL

The 2025 Kiwanis International Convention will be held in the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, which is within easy walking distance of Kiwanis' preferred hotels. You'll also have easy access to restaurants, shopping and attractions.

The Georgia District will be staying at the **Drury Plaza Hotel** Pittsburgh Downtown is a historic renovation of the Federal Reserve Bank building. The hotel offers free breakfast, hot food and beverages in the early evening and an on-site restaurant. US\$189 plus tax per night

The deadline to book a room at the discounted rate is June 1, 2025, or until the hotel is sold out – whichever happens first.

SEE YOU IN DALTON!

Debbie McCracken, Ed.D

District Convention Chair
Kiwanis Club of Marietta



How many times have you driven through Dalton, GA through I-75 enroute to places north or south, but never stopped to enjoy what this charming little big town has to offer?

This year you can not only catch up with your Kiwanis friends from across Georgia at the annual Kiwanis GA District Convention on August 8-10 in Dalton which sits in the Appalachian Mountain foothills in northwest, GA; you can experience all that Dalton has to offer.

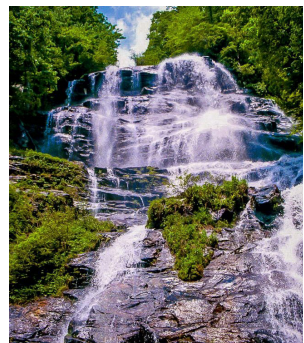
Dalton, known as the Carpet Capital of the World, is a major hub for carpet and flooring manufacturing. It also hosts the Georgia Athletic Coaches' Hall of Fame. The local area has attractions and activities for individuals of all ages. Take a peek at the Dalton guide and plan on joining us at the Georgia District Convention: visitdaltonga.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/DaltonGuide2025

Capture the opportunity to gain

experience and learn the latest ideas from the Kiwanis training classes offered. Registration codes for the three chosen hotels for the Georgia District Convention will be shared shortly after the mid-year training session in March. Georgia District of Kiwanis.

Kiwanis Club of Dalton is proud to be your host convention city this year!

Questions: Contact Debbie McCracken, Ed.D at ddmccracken@outlook.com



UPCOMING EVENTS



Georgia District of Kiwanis International Convention Program 2025

August 8-10 ♦ Dalton, GA

Thank you for being a Sponsor of the 2025 Georgia District Kiwanis District Convention!

The following levels of sponsorship and/or advertising are available. (See back for approximate ad sizes)

Note: To have your Gold, Silver, or Bronze ad printed in color, be sure to check the Color Ad upcharge block below.

- | | | |
|---|-------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diamond Sponsor
(1 sponsorship available) | \$500 | Full ad on the back outside cover of program in color |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Platinum Sponsor
(2 sponsorships available) | \$250 | Full ad on either front or back inside cover of program in color - <i>first choice to first form received</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gold | \$125 | Full page ad in program. (For Color ad select Color ad upcharge) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Silver | \$75 | ½ page ad (For Color ad select Color ad upcharge) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze | \$50 | ¼ page ad (For Color ad select Color ad upcharge) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$10 | Listing on patron page in program. (Black Ink Only) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Color Ad upcharge | \$25 | |

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visa | <input type="checkbox"/> Master Card | <input type="checkbox"/> American Express | <input type="checkbox"/> Discover | <input type="checkbox"/> Master Card Debit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paying by Check | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Visa Debit | |

Please Print:

Name: _____

Credit Card #: _____ CV Code: _____

Business Name (if applicable): _____

Kiwanis Club (if applicable): _____

Billing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Billing Phone: _____

Kiwanis Member who sold this ad: (if applicable) _____

Payment Enclosed: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

SELECT ONE: ☐ Desired layout attached to Ad Form ☐ Please design layout for me

Ad forms and payment due by July 7, 2025

Please make checks payable to: **Georgia District of Kiwanis**

Mail to: Georgia Kiwanis, 4875 Riverside Drive Suite 204, Macon, GA 31210

Questions Please call Alexia Lieber at 478-474-6169 or email at alexia@kiwanis.mgacoxmail.com

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

106th Annual Convention of the Georgia District of Kiwanis International, Inc.

Dalton, Georgia

August 8-10, 2025

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the following members of the KIWANIS CLUB OF _____

_____ in Division _____ are duly elected delegates and alternates of this club to the 106th Annual Convention.

DELEGATE

ALTERNATE

1. _____ 1. _____

2. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 3. _____

Dated _____ 2025 Signed _____

Secretary

President

Other Representatives (not members of your club)

(Use this section only if your club is unable to send a member to the District Convention and wants to be represented. The club may ask a Current Lt. Governor or a Past Lt. Governor in their Division not representing their own club. Club Secretary and President must sign off above for this representative.)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Approved by the District Secretary/Executive Director

NOTE: Each chartered club in good standing shall be entitled to three (3) delegates, two (2) of whom should be the Club President and President-Elect. Alternates should be chosen for each delegate, including the President and President-Elect. Each delegate shall be entitled to cast one vote and in his/her absence his/her alternate may cast one vote. THERE SHALL BE NO VOTING BY PROXY.

NOTE: This form does not constitute a convention registration. Use official registration and reservation form for this purpose. Please mail, or email this form to: Georgia District Office of Kiwanis, P. O. Box 6618, Macon, GA 31208 (email: alexia@kiwanis.mgacoxmail.com)

RETURN BY JULY 9, 2025

Georgia District of Kiwanis

YEAR IN REVIEW

Showcase

Show your **Kiwanis pride** by spotlighting the impact your club has made this year

YOUR TRI-FOLD DISPLAY SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

PHOTOS: Include photos of various service projects, meetings, fundraisers, and events you'd like to highlight.

IMPACT: List projects you have done or supported this past year. Tell us how you are making an impact!

CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION: You never know who may want to come by for a visit or follow you online! Include information on your club's meeting time/location, your club's website, and social media channels.



Sample Display Board to Use:
<https://tinyurl.com/fe5rka56>



SHOWCASE DATES:
August 8-10, 2025

Georgia District Convention
Dalton, GA

Drop-Off Friday by 5 PM



Vote for the BEST IN SHOW!

Convention attendees can vote for the "Best In Show" tri-fold display that exhibits the following:

- Leaves a memorable impression
- Inspires you to attend and participate
- Makes you feel proud to be a Kiwanian
- Uses the Kiwanis International's Brand



Kiwanis
GEORGIA DISTRICT

SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE HERE:

GeorgiaKiwanis.com/club-showcase



GA DISTRICT OF KIWANIS SERVICE CAMPING TRIP

FELLOWSHIP ★ POTLUCK ★ SERVICE

WEEKEND:

September 5-6, 2025

The 2025 District Service Project/Camping Trip is scheduled for Friday, September 5th to September 6th at Georgia Veterans Park in Cordele, GA.

DAY OF SERVICE:

September 6, 2025

9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Lunch will be Provided

The weekend will include Friday night campsite fellowship, Saturday service project, and Saturday evening Pot Luck Dinner.

Come for the day or make it a weekend!

CAMPGROUND:

Georgia Veterans Park

2459 US-280 W

Cordele, GA 31015

Reconnect with nature on the serene banks of Lake Blackshear for a weekend family getaway or camping trip with friends. Georgia Veterans State Park offers an array of campsites with all the necessary facilities. Camp in tents, in a trailer or in an RV surrounded by pristine natural beauty.

Georgia Veterans State Park has 82 campsites designed to accommodate tents, trailers or RVs. The park is also home to two primitive Pioneer Campsites that are typically used by non-profit groups such as scouts, schools and church groups.

Camping in Georgia Veterans State Park is a great way to enjoy the many amenities and activities within the park including boating, fishing, swimming, hiking, golf, birding, bicycling and much more!

Space is limited so make your campground reservations now!

EVENT CHAIR:

Alicia Horkan, Event Chair

amhorkan@windstream.net

Your whole family is invited... kids too!

READ ACROSS GEORGIA THANK YOU

Hello to everyone in our Great Georgia District of Kiwanis!

Our 2025 signature event of Read Across Georgia , was a complete success, once again! All of our clubs took ownership of this project and really showed up and showed out in their classrooms! All of our little scholars located throughout each of our communities, had the incredible opportunity of having a special reader moment in their classroom, for not only one day, but for the entire week of January 13th- 17th, 2025!

Anytime that we are given the chance to interact with our young people and show them that we care very much about them, and that they are oh so important, by reading and spending time with them, that is the best opportunity ever!

Our Clubs understood the assignment, and flooded our emails with their pictures , and all of their reading success stories the entire week!

If I could give an award to every club that tried their hardest to represent Kiwanis in a spectacular way, by aiding in bringing beautiful smiles to all of our children's faces, and taking them on a journey through reading, absolutely every one of our clubs would receive 1st place trophies to display in your cases!

Please know that our 2025 Read Across Georgia project , was yet another success and we are looking forward to the continuation of a successful annual event.

Thank you all again for allowing me to be your 2025 Event Chair, and for all of your amazing support of this special Kiwanis Project each year!



OUR IMPACT

KIWANIANS RECOGNIZED



Georgia Governor David Simmons recently made a visit to the Hartwell Club. He recognized three members for being in Kiwanis over 50 years. Shown are (l-r) Paul Abernathy who joined in 1972, Scott Hardigree - 1968, and Bill Chafin - 1969, with Simmons from Cordele.

THE KIWANIS CLUB OF MARIETTA GOLDEN K PRESENTS CHECK



On February 20th, 2025 a special event was added to the regular meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Marietta Golden K. It was a most happy day as representatives from 11 sponsored programs and sustaining charities each received a sizeable check from the Kiwanis Club of Marietta Golden K.

Checks totaling \$16,400 dollars were distributed. "I wish we got check like this every Thursday" one of the representatives was heard to say as she was handed a check.

The check presentation event has turned out to be an annual affair of the club. The proceeds presented by the Kiwanians were derived from the annual Youth

Charity Golf Tournament, held last fall and the entire process is expected to be repeated next year!

As familiarization for the Kiwanis Club members, the organizations set up information tables and handed out literature so everyone could become familiar with what services are provided for the children & the communities.

Everyone anticipates at least two changes for next year and those are:

1. An increase in the amount of the checks awarded.
2. An increase in the number of people participating.

When those two "increases" are achieved a very successful event will become even more successful.

KIWANIS LADIES TRIO

The Carroll County Council for Aging hosted a Valentine's Day Party and lunch was provided by Dr. Roush of West Georgia Cardiology. About 600 senior citizens were in attendance.

Three members of the Carrollton Golden-K Kiwanis Club went on the stage and sang the National Anthem.

One of the ladies, age 93 going-on 94 in April, was Grace Miller, who had served for years as club secretary. Completing the trio was Grace's daughter Margaret Miller, now President off the Carrollton Golden-K, and Margaret's friend JeNeen Walton, also a member of the Carrollton Golden-K.

The same trio opened the Governor's Rally for Division 12 on Friday night, February 28, 2025



SHINING STAR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS CELEBRATED BY KIWANIS CLUB OF SAVANNAH

ORIGINAL ARTICLE PUBLISHED BY:
Joseph Schwartzburt
Savannah Morning News



Savannah Classical Academy senior Danilo Saenz De Viteri copied a peer's essay when he was in eighth grade. His teacher, Venecia Whyte-Foster caught him.

"Honestly, when I look back, I should not have been up on this podium," he said Tuesday at the Professional Association of Georgia Educators (PAGE) Student Teacher Achievement Recognition (STAR) program luncheon for Savannah area schools. Whyte-Foster gracefully allowed him to redo the essay on a tight deadline and gave him a lesson that forever changed the course of his essay-writing abilities.

De Viteri was one of 21 students who were honored at this year's event hosted by Jordan B. Davis, president of the Kiwanis Club of Savannah, which held the luncheon at the Scottish Rite Freemasons Hall, 3001 Chatham Center Drive, Savannah. PAGE and the PAGE Foundation sponsored, administered and promoted the event. The statewide program was created by the Georgia Chamber of Commerce in 1958 and has been overseen by PAGE since the mid-1990s.

Since its founding, STAR has honored over 30,000 students

and teachers. According to the event's press release, nominated students consist of "graduating high school seniors (who) must have the highest score on a single test date [through the November test date] on the SAT and must be in the top 10 percent or top 10 students of their class based on grade point average." The selected students also choose the teacher that most influenced their academic achievements to honor alongside them on the stage.

Past Kiwanis president Bill Edwards provided the invocation for the event. Before the prayer, he shared one of his favorite sayings, "Good teachers cost more, bad teachers cost most." The saying is a slight variation on a quote that is often attributed to Michigan journalist Bob Talbert.

Keynote address focuses on community

Tuesday's event was underwritten by the Kiwanis Club's corporate sponsor Kinder Morgan. Allen Fore, Kinder Morgan vice president gave the keynote address. He led by explaining that while his company's name might not be well-known, it has "invested billions of dollars here in Chatham County on facilities" and fuels the likes of Parker's Kitchen stores with gasoline and helps

electricity flow through the fuel Kinder Morgan supplies for energy generation.

He also summarized his personal background in government and the corporate sector before acknowledging his service in Kiwanis. He was president-elect for the Rockford, Illinois Kiwanis Club but never served in the role because he moved. "I'll never get my presidential pin," he joked.

He shared the example, though, to underscore a point to the students in the room about the need to join service organizations to support their communities.

"It's not going to be easy to volunteer and to contribute...but, boy, do we need you more than ever," he said. He congratulated students on their achievements and then encouraged future involvement in government, board or commission roles, confident they will go on to achieve even more.

What's next for the shooting STARS?

Students shared their plans. Most listed University of Georgia and Georgia Tech as their college's of choice. Desired degree paths ranged from biomedical engineering to computer sci-

ence. Woodville-Tompkins High School senior Faith Agbehonou announced she had been accepted to and has chosen to attend Brown University where she will pursue a double major in Public Health and Psychology.

Savannah-Chatham E-Learning Academy senior Isabella Frazier has her sights set on Georgia Southern University to study Communications and minor in Entrepreneurship and Innovation. She came prepared with a written speech to acknowledge her STAR Teacher Eunju Jung, a Korean language educator. Frazier thanked Jung for crafting, "a thriving environment of discovery, encouragement, empowerment and exploration." She then expressed her gratitude in Korean.

The overall STAR student award went to Sierra Abbasi of St. Andrew's School. Abbasi chose Kristin Peney, an environmental science teacher, as her STAR Teacher.

"We struggled together for four years with our underwater robotics team," Abbasi said. She noted how Peney has been there for her students inside and outside of the classroom as she cheers them

on and pushes them to do better.

Peney's eyes teared and her voice broke as she said, "As you heard, I've been with her [Abbasi] since middle school...I always knew she could do great things like this, and this is just the first step, so I'm super, super proud."

Abbasi, unlike most of the other students, had not yet decided where she wanted to attend college. "But I know I'm going to major in political science," she said.

Many of the students' parents, additional teachers, counselors and principals attended the event in support. As did Savannah-Chatham School Board Members, Roger Moss, Tonia Howad-Hall, Cornelia Hall, Smith, Dionne Hoskins-Brown, Stephanie Campbell and Denise Grabowski.

Davis had led with remarks acknowledging the students' commitment to excellence even in the face of challenges and barriers. As the seniors prepare for the world beyond high school, he shared the words of George Washington Carver: "Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom to our people."

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY SERVICE PROJECT

Kiwanis Club of St Marys, along with Camden County High School Key Club successfully held an Adopt-A-Highway.

Although the interchange at Hwy 40 and St Marys Road looked clean, the team collected over dozen bags of trash, a tire and a garbage can lid.



WE SAID "I DO" BACK THEN ... AND WE SAY "I DO" ONCE AGAIN!

On February 13th, 2025 during a special Kiwanis Club of Marietta Golden K meeting, eleven Kiwanis Club members renewed their wedding vows. Other Kiwanis Club and family members in attendance watched and witnessed the "Wedding Vow Renewal" ceremony. The ceremony, held at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church was officiated by Reverend Jim Perry.

Several members brought in original wedding photographs which were displayed for everyone to see. Collectively, the marriages span many years, and everyone smiled after seeing the original wedding photos, however, the smiles were accompanied with the comment, "...my, my ... how our looks have changed over the years ...





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facebook.com/groups/**GAKiwanisProjectsAndEvents**

Join this group to post about service projects and events that your club is participating in. If you need volunteers or supplies, post it here! This is a great chance to share what your club is doing and to invite fellow Kiwanians to join along. Great chance to get interclub credits! This is also a place you can share service project ideas and get inspired.

TAG US!

#KidsNeedKiwanis
#GeorgiaKiwanis
#GaKFam



GEORGIA DISTRICT DIRECTORY

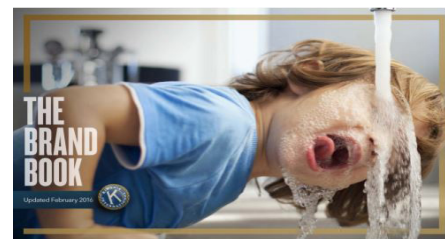


The Georgia District Directory can be downloaded from our website at www.GeorgiaKiwanis.com.

It includes updated contact information for the Georgia District Officers, Lt. Governors, and Committee Chairs. Also includes information for each Georgia Kiwanis Club with meeting times and location and officer contact information.

SHOW YOUR KIWANIS BRAND

"Kids Need Kiwanis" is Kiwanis International's brand campaign. The goal of the campaign is to make it clear that Kiwanis serves children and that we have fun together. On the Kiwanis International website, there are lots of templates and materials you can use to help with your club's marking and branding. www.kiwanis.org/brand



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