

THE

Georgia Kiwanian

JULY / AUGUST 2025 | georgiakiwanis.com



COME LEARN, BE INSPIRED, ENGAGE IN FELLOWSHIP, AND CELEBRATE THE

2025 YEAR WITH YOUR KIWANIS FAMILY!

Debbie McCracken, Ed.D
District Convention Chair
Kiwanis Club of Marietta

Don't miss this incredible opportunity to connect with fellow Kiwanis members, exchange ideas, and celebrate the impact we make together. With engaging workshops, inspiring speakers, and events designed to strengthen our community spirit, this convention promises to be both transformative and enjoyable. Join us in Dalton, GA at the Dalton Trade and Convention Center 2211 Dug Gap Battle Rd, **August 8-10, 2025**, to be part of something truly special! The last day for Convention registration is August 1, 2025.

Opportunities and Inspiration

This convention is more than just a meeting—it's a chance to be part of something bigger. You'll have the opportunity to:

- Learn about the latest changes and updates within Kiwanis International.
- Attend sessions that will provide new ideas and strategies to help your local club grow and thrive.
- Be inspired by exceptional entertainers planned for the weekend, guaranteed to lift your spirits.

Entertainment

We have special guests scheduled as our entertainment that you don't want to miss!



- **Austin French** - Austin is a Christian music artist, currently based out of Nashville, TN, but he's originally from Cordale, GA.
- **Randall Franks** - Actor, Entertainer, Author, and Columnist. Randall is best known as "Officer Randy Goode" from TV's "In the Heat of the Night," a role he performed on NBC and CBS from 1988-1993.



Saturday 7:00 AM to 3:30PM.

Join us in Dalton, GA, for a week-end of inspiration, learning, and camaraderie. There is no better way for we Kiwanians to show our appreciation for Governor David Simmon's leadership and commitment to serving our great Georgia District than by showing up! We can't wait to see you there!



Hotels & Courtesy Shuttle

The conference will be held at the Dalton Convention Center and Kiwanians are invited to stay at one of these hotels for easy access:

- Hilton Garden Inn (Convention Headquarters Hotel)
- Home2 Suites by Hilton (Circle K and Key Club will be staying here)
- Courtyard Marriott

Don't hesitate as the **LAST** day to register for the Kiwanis Hotel block rate is **July 17, 2025**. There will also be a **Courtesy Shuttle Service** that will run from hotels to the Dalton Trade and Convention Center: Friday 12:00 to 6:00 PM, and

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David Simmons 2024-25 Governor of the Georgia District

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Club: Cordele

As we embark on the final quarter of the 2024-2025 Kiwanis year, I wanted to express a big thanks to all of the members of the Georgia District of Kiwanis, which I believe is the greatest Kiwanis district in the world. I challenge each club to finish the year strong in regards to membership. We enter the final quarter with a positive membership growth. We have an abundance of clubs who have experienced positive growth this year. Several clubs have grown by more than five members this year. Those clubs include: Fayette County, Newnan, Taylor County, Brooklet, and Metter. Thanks to all of those clubs that are working diligently to add new members to their club. The key to bringing in new members to your club is to invite prospective members to your club meetings and events and to ask them to be a member of your club. In order for Kiwanis to continue to make a positive impact in our communities as well as in the life of children, we must always seek additional members to expand the service that we provide.

Here are a few reminders about some important upcoming events for the Georgia District. We are having a social media contest and the winners will be recognized at the District Convention. If your club has a social media presence (Facebook or a website are some examples),

please contact our District Public Relations Chair, Carrie Binns, and advise her that you would like to enter your club in the contest. This is a great opportunity to promote your club. Also, we will also have the Club Trifold Contest at the convention, so bring your trifold to the convention. The attendees at the convention will vote on the club that has the best trifold. The trifold should tell the story of your club's impact in your community. I am also hopeful that each club will submit an item for the Silent Auction at the convention. Gift baskets are a wonderful item and all of the money raised at the Silent Auction will go to support Key Club and CKI in the Georgia District. Lastly, don't forget about our upcoming District Convention. This year's convention will be held in Dalton, Georgia from August 8-10, 2025. We have a great convention planned. Actor Randall Franks from the show "In the Heat of the Night" will be speaking and Christian music artist Austin French will be out Saturday night entertainment. We have a lot to be thankful for, so I encourage you to come to Dalton so that we can celebrate together.

Besides the upcoming events, if you have yet to submit your club election report, please do so. This information is vital so that our District Directory will have current information regarding

the leadership of your club. If you have any difficulty or questions regarding the election report, please contact me and I will assist you. Furthermore, for new and returning club officers, we will have Club Leadership Education trainings taking place throughout the District. If you can't make it to one of those trainings, there is a CLE training scheduled for August 8 at the District Convention. I encourage you to participate in the CLE training.

As I have traveled our District this year, it has been my great pleasure to visit clubs, meet the membership, and learn of the impact that each and every club is making in their respective community. It is truly amazing the impact that Kiwanis is making in the Georgia District and I am proud to be your Governor. The impact that you are making is literally making dreams come true. I am very thankful to each and every one of you for your commitment to Kiwanis and for all that you will do in the future to continue to make our organization the best service organization in the world.

God Bless,

David



UPDATES FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Alexia Lieber

Executive Director of Georgia
District of Kiwanis

The Georgia District of Kiwanis International Convention, which will be held at the Dalton Convention Center in Dalton, Georgia is just five weeks. Governor David is looking for a record crowd. Mike Sullivan has worked hard on getting presenters for the training classes, there will be plenty of Kiwanis information, entertainment, fellowship, and great food. Hope to see you there!

It's hard to believe, but there are only two months remaining in this Administrative year.

Club Officers have you:

- Submitted all monthly reports due?
- Submitted your Club Election Report online?
- Set up officer installation date with the incoming Lt.Governor?
- Held a membership drive?
- Incoming Club President, Secretary, Treasurer and Directors have you completed CLE Training?
- Ordered officer lapel pins for 2024-25?
- Discussed 2025-26 Club Committee Appointments?
- Review how your club is doing towards being Distinguished?
- Sent in your Club District Delegate Form to the District Office?
- Offered to assist the incoming officers with the Club President's training conference for officers and appointees?
- Made plans for annual review or audit of books?

If you have already completed all of the above, you are to be commended.

See you in Dalton!

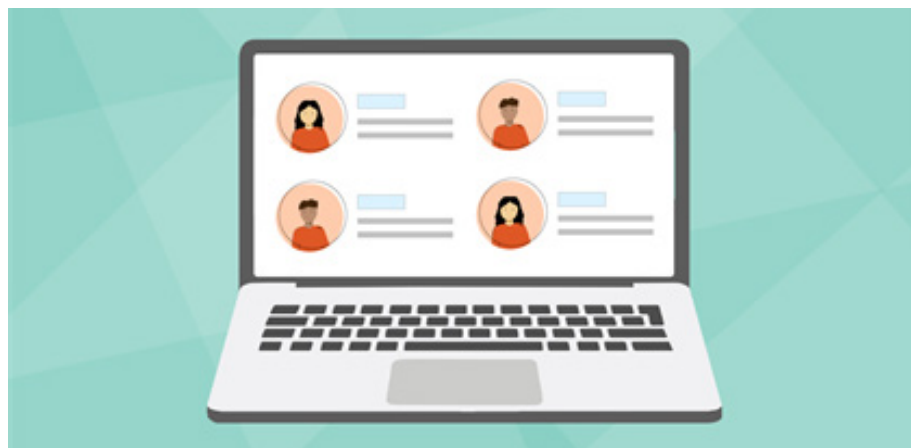
CONGRATULATIONS KATRINA!



Congratulations to Katrina Baranko for being named the next Executive Director for the Georgia District of Kiwanis!

Her leadership and dedication will no doubt inspire great things ahead.

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.georgiakiwanis.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

GAINESVILLE KIWANIS CLUB CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF SERVICE



In a momentous celebration of service, leadership, and community impact, the Gainesville Kiwanis Club proudly marked its 100th anniversary, honoring a centurylong legacy of dedication to the children and families of Hall County.

Since its founding in 1925, the Kiwanis Club of Gainesville has remained a steadfast force for good, empowering generations through education, service, and the arts. President Angela Sheppard reflected on the club's rich legacy:

"It was their mission to improve the community for future generations by reading to children, recognizing the arts, raising money by flipping pancakes, and meeting weekly to learn about other opportunities to serve. It is a testament to their vision and the fortitude of this Club that we are here celebrating our 100th anniversary."



Distinguished Guests

The celebration was honored by the presence of several esteemed Kiwanis leaders, including:

- David Simmons, Kiwanis Georgia District Governor, and his wife Monica, of the Cordele Kiwanis Club
- Alexia Lieber, Executive Director for the Kiwanis Georgia District, and her husband Bill
- John Pace, Division 8 Lt. Governor—and a proud member of the Gainesville Club—along with his wife Patti

Their presence underscored the strong bonds and shared mission across Kiwanis clubs throughout Georgia.

A Celebration Through Art

In tribute to this centennial milestone, artist Paula Hoffman created a commemorative illustration that beautifully captures the spirit and legacy of the Gainesville Kiwanis Club. The artwork, both stunning and deeply meaningful, served as a visual centerpiece for the evening and a lasting symbol of the Club's impact.

Honoring Youth Excellence

At the heart of the celebration was the **Charles J. Thurmond** Youth Art Scholarship Program, which recognizes the artistic accomplishments of young people in the Gainesville-Hall County area. Established through a generous, anonymous gift in memory of Charles J. Thurmond, the program awards scholarships to top performers in the annual performing, visual, and writing arts competitions.

This year's recipients included:

- First Place Scholarship & People's Choice Award: Sydney Green, Madison Ladd, and Payton Whitaker (Chestatee High School, 10th-11th Grade) Performance: "Nothin' Gonna Stumble My Feet"

(Words by John Parker, Music by Greg Gilpin)

- Second Place Scholarship Winner: Aidan Voyles (North Hall High School, 11th Grade) Piano Performance: "Reverie" by Claude Debussy
- Third Place Scholarship Winner: Faith Harvey (Chestatee High School, 12th Grade) Vocal Performance: "Speechless" (Alan Menken, Benj Pasek, Justin Paul)

Additionally, the prestigious **John C. Thompson Award** was presented to Lilly Perry of North Hall High School for her exemplary achievements.

Honoring Kiwanis Leadership and Legacy

The evening also honored past and present leaders, including the presentation of the George F. Hixson Fellowship to Megan Evans, in recognition of her dedication as Club President in 2024.

In a historic first, the club inaugurated its Legacy Member Program, celebrating individuals whose decades of service have shaped the club's mission and future. The 2025 inductees are:

- Edgar "Eddie" H. Chambers, Jr. - Longest-serving Kiwanian, businessman, and community servant
- Nat Hancock - Engineer, civic leader, and passionate historian
- Betty Howard - The club's first female president and business leader
- John W. Jacobs, Sr. - Founding club president and life-long community advocate
- John W. Jacobs, Jr. - Broadcasting pioneer and national Kiwanis leader
- John "Jay" Jacobs III - Media executive and Kiwanian visionary leader
- "Art" Jack Kunzer, Jr. - Life-

MEMBERSHIP



long businessman and devoted Kiwanian

- John Hartwell Smith - Esteemed attorney and 60-year Kiwanian

New Honors

President Angela Sheppard presented the first-ever Kiwanian of the Year Award to Matthew Anthony, stating:

"When the executive committee thought about who to give our first Kiwanian of the Year to, one name came to mind easily for everyone. This is a Kiwanian that truly embodies the 'Kiwanis Spirit'—Service, Community, and Enthusiasm."

Crowning Recognition

The evening concluded with the presentation of the John W. Jacobs Jr. Youth Service Award to M. Douglas Ivester, Gainesville

native and former Chairman and CEO of Coca-Cola. A champion of education and opportunity, Ivester was praised by Sheppard:

"The lessons that he has learned growing from the streets of New Holland to CEO of one of the world's most recognizable companies—he wants children to learn how to use education to better themselves and their situation."

A Century Forward

With 100 years behind them, the Gainesville Kiwanis Club looks ahead to the future with a renewed commitment to serve. As Sheppard noted, the Club's enduring success is not just in what it has accomplished, but in the spirit it carries forward.



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!

JULY:

Cairo (7/1/1935)
Commerce (7/9/1925)
Duluth-Norcorss (7/11/1984)
White Oak Golden K, Newnan (7/13/1989)
Warrenton (7/19/1926)
Effingham (7/20/2022)
Blue Ridge (7/22/1931)
Jonquil City, Smyrna (7/28/1986)

AUGUST:

Calhoun/Gordon County (8/1/2023)

Historic Roswell (8/7/1980)
Murray County (8/10/2016)
Taylor County (8/11/1958)
Brunswick (8/15/1924)
Fairfield-Villa Rica (8/16/1988)
Fort Valley (8/20/1922)
Fayetteville/Greater Atlanta (8/21/2018)
North Macon (8/22/1990)
Dalton (8/24/1998)
Grantville (8/27/2009)
Doraville-Tucker (8/28/2007)
Swainesboro (8/31/1922)

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?"

Stanley W. Appleton
Gainesville

Dewey Bentley
Winder

Terrance L. Breyman
Skidaway

Robert M. Forsell
Skidaway

Art J. Kunzer
Gainesville

Jack C. McKinney, II
Commerce

Jerry J. Orzechowski
Carrollton Golden K

Ronald Saunders
Winder

Ronald Tucker
Winder

Joann Wright
Albany-Dougherty County

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

WHAT IS Kiwanis® Engage

Kiwanis Engage is a member-exclusive online platform designed to enhance communication and collaboration within Kiwanis International. It provides a centralized hub for members to manage club matters, connect with other clubs, and access resources. The platform aims to streamline club operations and improve overall member experience.

Key features and benefits of Kiwanis Engage:

Centralized Platform:

Kiwanis Engage acts as a one-stop shop for members to manage club information, communicate with other clubs, and access resources.

Improved Communication:

It facilitates better communication and collaboration among Kiwanis members.

Integration with Kiwanis

Database:

The platform is directly connected to the Kiwanis membership database, eliminating the need for manual data entry and synchronization.

Member Resources:

Kiwanis Engage provides access to various member resources, including information on Kiwanis.org and Kiwanis Reporting.

Free for Clubs:

The platform is provided at no

additional cost to Kiwanis clubs, unlike some third-party tools.

Enhanced Functionality:

It offers more features and value compared to previous tools, such as Kiwanis Connect and third-party platforms.

Security and Privacy:

The platform is designed with security and privacy in mind, ensuring the protection of member data.

Improved User Experience:

Kiwanis Engage is designed to be user-friendly and convenient for members.

Reporting platform Connect will go dark July 4-14 and Engage will go live on July 15.

KI trainers recommend that June Secretary reports be submitted on the new Engage platform after July 15 as it will be much easier. There will be no penalty for the late submissions by districts.

For more information: <https://www.kiwanis.org/members/kiwanis-engage/>

SCAN ME



CLUBS WITH MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

AS OF MAY 31, 2025

DIV.	CLUB	GROWTH	DIV.	CLUB	GROWTH	DIV.	CLUB	GROWTH
1	Galleria-Northwest Atlanta	+1	8	Duluth-Norcross	+1	12	Fairfield-Villa Rica	+1
2	Columbus	+1	8	Historic Roswell	+2	12	Rockmart	+1
2	Greater Columbus	+1	8	Lawrenceville	+3	12	Villa Rica-Temple	+3
2	Harris County	+1	9	Crawford County	+2	15	Greater Cherokee	+3
2	LaGrange	+2	9	Forsyth-Monroe County	+3	15	Jonquil City, Smyrna	+3
2	Pike County	+1				15	Lost Mountain	+2
2	Thomaston	+4	9	Hawkinsville-Pulaski County	+18	15	Marietta	+5
3	Coweta County	+2	9	Macon	+4	15	Metro Marietta	+2
3	Fayette County	+12	9	Milledgeville	+1	15	North Cherokee	+1
3	Grantville	+2	9	North Macon	+2	16	Metro Atlanta	+1
3	Newnan	+12	9	Perry	+1	17	Brooklet	+8
4	Pooler-West Chatham	+2	9	Taylor County	+9	17	Effingham	+4
4	Richmond Hill	+1	9	Dawson County	+4	17	Metter	+9
4	Saint Marys	+2	10	Gilmer County	+2	17	Statesboro	+2
5	Americus	+2	10	Rabun County	+1	17	Vidalia	+1
5	Mitchell-Baker	+2	11	Calhoun-Gordon County	+1	18	Conyers	+2
7	Athens	+5	11	Rome	+1	18	Covington	+3
7	Classic City, Athens	+1	12	Carrollton	+4	18	Eatonton	+1
7	Granite City	+18	12	Carrollton Golden K	+3	18	Greene County	+21
7	Hartwell	+3	12	Douglas County, Douglasville	+2	18	Henry County	+4
7	Jefferson	+2				18	Madison	+5
						18	Social Circle	+1

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIPS GROW CLUBS



For every Kiwanis club, new members are a lifeline to the future – both for the community and the club itself. That’s why it’s important to think creatively about who can be a member. Could your club use a little flexibility when it comes to making membership appealing?

Don’t forget corporate memberships! At your club’s next meeting, encourage fellow members to discuss this option, which allows a company or organization to join as a member. You might even suggest that members

work together to make a list of three to five candidates – and then contact them to start the recruiting process.

Here’s how corporate membership works:

- The company is represented at meetings and events by an employee of the company’s choosing.
- The company can also choose to pay membership dues or ask the designated employee to do so.
- If the designated employ-

- ee changes jobs, a new employee can be designated to take his or her place without being charged a new member fee.
- There is no limit to the number of memberships a company can have. (Each membership must have a specific person designated by the company.)
- A designated employee is welcome to invite other, nondesignated employees – as well as friends, family and others – to join the club or attend a meeting.

Of course, this option is also excellent for nonprofit organizations. For any organization in your community, it’s a chance to do good for local kids – and to benefit from the connection to Kiwanis. Kiwanis offers a free insert about corporate membership that fits in your brochure – so people in your club can pass along the information.

MEMBERSHIP

DIVISION	LT. GOVERNOR	CLUB	BEGINNING MEMBERS	CURRENT MEMBERS	DONATIONS TO DISTRICT PROJECTS
1	Peter Graybill	Atlanta	188	185	5 of 5
		Doraville-Tucker	8	8	5 of 5
		Druid Hills	10	10	5 of 5
		Galleria-Northwest Atlanta	15	16	5 of 5
		Northside Atlanta	31	31	5 of 5
DIVISION TOTALS:			252	250	
2	Lisa Scully	Barnesville	24	24	
		Columbus	40	41	4 of 5
		Greater Columbus	21	22	5 of 5
		Griffin	96	95	5 of 5
		Harris County	14	15	5 of 5
		LaGrange	39	41	5 of 5
		Manchester	10	10	
		North Columbus	10	10	
Pike County	16	17			
Thomaston	42	46			
DIVISION TOTALS:			312	321	
3	Karen Goodell-Webb	Coweta County	76	78	5 of 5
		Fayette County	23	35	
		Fayetteville/Greater Atlanta	9	9	
		Grantville	11	13	
		Newnan	103	115	
		Peachtree City	17	17	
		White Oak Golden K	61	59	
DIVISION TOTALS:			300	326	
4	Shelena Bentley	Brunswick	54	52	
		Jesup	32	28	
		Liberty County	30	27	
		Pooler-West Chatham	16	18	
		Richmond Hill	13	14	
		Saint Marys	63	65	5 of 5
		Savannah	16	14	
		Skidaway	149	149	
Waycross	5	0			
DIVISION TOTALS:			378	367	PR
5	Sylvia Roland	Albany/Dougherty County	68	67	5 of 5
		Americus	75	77	5 of 5
		Bainbridge-Decatur County	20	20	
		Cairo	49	43	
		Cairo-Morningstar	18	18	
		Mitchell-Baker	14	16	5 of 5
		Thomasville	62	54	4 of 5
DIVISION TOTALS:			306	295	
6	Jeffrey Foweler	Augusta	123	123	
		Louisville	13	13	
		Thomson	19	17	
		Uptown Augusta	14	13	
		Warrenton	19	19	
		Washington	11	11	5 of 5
DIVISION TOTALS:			199	196	
7	Herschel Mize	Athens	24	29	
		Classic City	17	18	5 of 5
		Commerce	24	21	
		Granite City		18	
		Hartwell	34	37	5 of 5
		Jefferson	10	12	5 of 5
		West Jackson	3	3	5 of 5
		Winder	16	15	5 of 5
DIVISION TOTALS:			128	153	NC
8	John Pace	Cumming	17	17	5 of 5
		Duluth-Norcross	11	12	
		Gainesville	112	106	4 of 5
		Historic Roswell	25	27	5 of 5
		Lawrenceville	11	14	
		North Gwinnett	28	28	5 of 5
		South Hall County-Oakwood	10	0	
Suwanee	16	15	5 of 5		
DIVISION TOTALS:			230	219	PR
9	Jacque Hatcher	Crawford County	18	20	5 of 5
		Forsyth - Monroe County	54	57	5 of 5
		Fort Valley	25	25	4 of 5
		Hawkinsville-Pulaski County		18	
		Jones County	31	30	5 of 5
		Macon	29	33	5 of 5
		Macon County	30	29	
		Milledgeville	25	26	5 of 5
		North Macon	16	18	5 of 5
		Perry	41	42	
		Taylor County	13	22	
		Warner Robins	10	10	5 of 5
DIVISION TOTALS:			292	330	NC

DIVISION	LT. GOVERNOR	CLUB	BEGINNING MEMBERS	CURRENT MEMBERS	DONATIONS TO DISTRICT PROJECTS
10	Juanita Edwards	Blairsville	9	8	
		Blue Ridge	55	51	
		Cleveland	28	28	5 of 5
		Dawson County	11	15	5 of 5
		Gilmer County	17	19	5 of 5
		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	45	4 of 5
		Murray County	7	7	
		Ringgold	16	15	
		Rome	21	22	
DIVISION TOTALS:			111	109	
12	Mitch Clifton	Bowdon	24	24	5 of 5
		Carrollton	86	90	5 of 5
		Carrollton Golden K	26	29	
		Cedartown	38	35	5 of 5
		Douglas County	12	14	5 of 5
		Fairfield - Villa Rica	22	23	5 of 5
		Paulding	5	2	
		Rockmart	15	16	
		Villa Rica - Temple	15	18	
DIVISION TOTALS:			243	251	
13	Tom Shoup	Adel	6	6	
		Cordele	40	40	5 of 5
		Dooly County	22	21	
		Fitzgerald	22	21	
		Moultrie	102	89	5 of 5
		Sylvester	38	38	
		Tifton	19	19	5 of 5
		Turner County	22	21	5 of 5
		Valdosta	21	19	
DIVISION TOTALS:			292	274	
15	Virginia Braswell	Georgia Online	20	20	5 of 5
		Greater Cherokee	18	21	5 of 5
		Greater Kennworth		17	
		Greater South Cobb	23	23	
		Jonquil City	29	32	5 of 5
		Lost Mountain	57	59	5 of 5
		Marietta	169	174	5 of 5
		Marietta Golden K	66	64	5 of 5
		Metro Marietta	20	22	
		North Cherokee	20	21	5 of 5
DIVISION TOTALS:			422	453	
16	Tony Barrs	Jonesboro	17	15	5 of 5
		Lithonia-Stonecrest	6	6	
		Metro Atlanta	42	43	5 of 5
DIVISION TOTALS:			65	64	
17	Chris Wiggins	Baxley	34	34	5 of 5
		Brooklet	59	67	
		Douglas	19	18	5 of 5
		Effingham	14	18	
		Metter	16	25	
		Statesboro	144	146	5 of 5
		Swainsboro	23	17	5 of 5
		Tattnall County	17	17	
		Vidalia	104	105	
DIVISION TOTALS:			430	447	
18	Jocelyn Wykoff	Conyers	23	25	5 of 5
		Covington	42	45	5 of 5
		Eatonton	15	16	
		Greene County		21	
		Henry County	47	51	5 of 5
		Madison	41	46	
		Monroe	18	15	5 of 5
		Social Circle	21	22	
DIVISION TOTALS:			207	241	
GEORGIA DISTRICT GRAND TOTALS:			4342	4472	

DISTRICT TOTALS:	
Total Reported Members on 10/01/24	4,342
Total Reported Members on 6/19/25	4,472
Total Clubs as of 10/01/24	130
Total Clubs as of 6/19/25	132

LEGEND:	
NC	New Club
PR	Pending Revoke
CS	Club Suspended



The Kiwanis family includes people of all ages and abilities. Alongside adult Kiwanis clubs, we offer Service Leadership Programs (SLPs) for youth and adults with disabilities—like K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, Circle K, and Aktion Club. These programs build leadership and character, typically hosted by schools or community groups and supported by Kiwanis clubs.

NOTES OF APPRECIATION FROM GA KEY CLUB

Hello Kiwanians,

My name is Aayush Tadhani, and I have the honor of serving as the Georgia District Governor of Key Club International. Key Club has always relied on the unwavering support of Kiwanis, and I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the clubs that contributed to our service year.

Your generous donations to our District Project, Georgia Sheriffs' Youth Homes (GSYH), and your support in funding Key Clubbers' attendance at the Key Club International Convention in Orlando, Florida, are truly appreciated. The students attending this convention will gain leadership skills and insights that will help their clubs grow and thrive.

Speaking of students, the Georgia District had an outstanding year—raising over \$5,000 for GSYH and making a meaningful impact through a wide variety of service projects across the state. Since March, we've welcomed nearly 350 new members and are actively working to charter additional clubs, bringing even more passionate young leaders into our Key Club family.

Kiwanis clubs play a crucial role by sponsoring Key Clubs and

equipping students with the tools and mentorship they need to succeed. We currently have 6,119 members in Georgia, and with your continued support, we're confident we can reach our goal of 6,750!

Key Club truly needs Kiwanis. On behalf of all Georgia Key Clubbers, thank you for believing in us. I'm excited to see what the future holds for this amazing organization.

With gratitude,
Aayush Tadhani
Georgia District Governor
Key Club International

Hello Georgia Kiwanians!

My name is Hayoung Kim, and I am so honored to serve as your 2025-2026 Georgia District Key Club Bulletin Editor. I'm currently a student at McIntosh High School in Peachtree City, and I'm beyond excited to give back to the organization that has inspired me to lead and serve.

I will be managing the Keyosk blog on our Georgia Key Club website. My goal is to keep our Key Club community informed, inspired, and engaged with weekly posts. You will also see regular updates and highlights on our Instagram as we showcase the impact Key Clubbers are making across the state.

I want to thank the Georgia District of Kiwanis International for your continued support. Your mentorship and encouragement are what make our service possible and meaningful. I look forward to working together this year to encourage service everywhere.

With Gratitude,
Hayoung Kim
Georgia District Key Club
Bulletin Editor

Darryl Gumz

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

Summer. Schools out. No worries
about youth protection, right?

While there are certainly less
activities with our school service
leadership programs. There
are still many opportunities
to interact with our youth and
children. Don't let the less-formal
settings lull you into a season of
unawareness. Be sure to contin-
ue following the Youth Protec-
tion Guidelines (<https://www.kiwanis.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/YOUTH-PROTECTION-POLICIES-PROCEDURES.pdf>), particularly the Transporta-
tion and Youth and Social Me-
dia guidelines. If you are going
to the Key Club International
100th Anniversary Convention,

SCAN ME



make sure
Chaperone
guidelines
are under-
stood and
followed.

Now would
be a great
time to
check the



status of your Kiwanis Back-
ground Checks. There are 9
scheduled to expire before
school starts back up with MANY
more in August and Septem-
ber. I am grateful for those that
have been so faithful in getting
them renewed over the summer
months. This is also the time
when many clubs select new
Kiwanis Advisors for their SLPs.
Be sure to have the approved
Kiwanis Background Check in
place before updating the Sec-
retary
Dashboard.

Speaking of Youth Protection
Guidelines training, there are
many clubs that have still not
documented completion of this
training. It is imperative that

clubs com-
plete this
training every
year and that
the Club Sec-
retary
document
this on the
Secretary
Dashboard.

For more
information on this training,
see <https://www.kiwanis.org/who-we-are/youth-protection/youth-protection-training/>.

Have a great rest of the summer
and stay safe!

Darryl Gumz
Youth Protection Manager
gumzes@gmail.com

SCAN ME



WORKSHOPS AT DISTRICT CONVENTION

Mike Sullivan

2025-26 District Training Chair
Kiwanis Club of North Gwinnett

Don't Miss Out on the Workshops at District Convention!

Join us for a dynamic lineup of workshops designed to inspire, educate, and empower.

Whether you're looking to sharpen your leadership skills, explore new service ideas, or connect with fellow members from across the district, there's something for everyone.

These sessions are a perfect opportunity to learn, grow, and bring fresh energy back to your club. Make the most of your convention experience—attend a workshop and spark your next big idea!

CREATING YOUR OWN YOUNG PROFESSIONALS SATELLITE

by Drew McCollum and Melanie Crissey

Drew McCollum and Melanie Crissey are both members of Marietta's U40 Satellite. Melanie has been a member of U40 since its inception in 2015 and has knowledge of how the satellite got those first members into the group. Drew is the current chair and will share some of the projects and passions of the U40 itself. All with the idea to answer questions and help clubs that are interested in getting their own satellite going.

CLUB BOOST

by Katrina Baranko

Some clubs are looking for help in rebuilding their membership. Katrina will help both in how to get some support from people outside your club to help in a rebuild campaign as well as help you prepare and make sure your club is new member ready. If it's been a few years since you've brought new members in, you may not be as ready for those new members as you think.



JOINING VERSUS BELONGING

by Rhonda Vrell

It's one thing to welcome a new face, but how do you ensure they become an active, engaged part of your Kiwanis club? This essential class delves into the art of new member integration. Discover practical "techniques for transitioning new members from visitors to active, contributing members," fostering a strong sense of belonging and ensuring your club thrives with fresh energy and participation.

SPARK THE SPIRIT

by Carrie Binns

Evoke club engagement, boost membership and grassroots enthusiasm in your community by leveraging connections with local media, partnerships and social media connections.

EMERGING LEADERS: CULTIVATING SERVANT-BASED LEADERSHIP IN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

by Sharon Barksdale

This session introduces Kiwanis club members to the Emerging Leaders Program, an impactful overnight servant-based leadership training initiative specifically designed for high school students. This year's program is scheduled for September 20-21, and registration is open. This is a wonderful leadership program

designed for our leaders of tomorrow and your part is to help recruitment of high school students to attend.

DISTRICT SPONSORED PROJECTS

by Debbie Brilling

It's truly amazing how many of us support the incredible work of the Georgia District without fully understanding the profound impact of the programs we champion. Join Debbie Brilling for an enlightening session that will illuminate the heart of our collective efforts.

Debbie will guide you through:

- An in-depth look at three remarkable district supported programs
- A closer examination of two vital foundations

This is one of those classes worthy of taking back to your club and sharing as a program.

ART & MUSIC SHOWCASE

by Hazel Struby

The Art and Music Showcase is a district-wide competition exclusively for art and performance students who have ranked in their local Kiwanis club competitions.

This session will give you what you need to know in two key areas:

- Registering Your Champions: Review the precise steps needed to register the talented winners for this

- year's district-level showcase.
- **Hosting Your Own Local Event:** If your club isn't currently participating, we will give ideas and examples how to organize and execute a successful local art and music competition to identify and celebrate young talent in your community.

Art is so important in elevating communities, help us lift up some of our best and brightest students both locally and state wide.

EMPOWERING SMALL CLUBS (UNDER 20 MEMBERS)

by Carol Wisdom

Are you part of a smaller Kiwanis club (under 20 members) looking to amplify your impact? This dynamic session is specifically designed to address two critical needs often faced by clubs of your size:

1. **The Art of Asking:** Unlock the secrets to effectively inviting new people into your club and mastering the techniques to confidently "get to that yes." Learn proven strategies to overcome hesitation and build a thriving, engaged membership base.
2. **Fundraising for Lean Teams:** Discover creative and achievable fundraising ideas specifically tailored for smaller clubs. Move beyond traditional methods and explore innovative approaches that leverage your club's unique strengths, maximizing your impact without overwhelming your members.

Equip your club with the tools to grow your membership and fund your mission, proving that even small clubs can achieve mighty results!

UPCOMING SECRETARY CHANGES

by Alexia Leiber & David Simmons

This will include both a review from Alexia on what Secretaries need to remember as we enter the last quarter of the Kiwanis

year. Combined with a review of the new Kiwanis website "Engage" and how secretaries can use this new system.

PROTECTING YOUR PASSION: KIWANIS INSURANCE ESSENTIALS

by Thele Moore

Kiwanis events are the heart of our service, but ensuring they are properly protected is paramount. This essential session will demystify Kiwanis insurance, providing crucial knowledge needed by every club.

Learn exactly what you need to know to safeguard your events and members, including:

- **Understanding Your Coverage:** A clear breakdown of what your standard Kiwanis insurance policy does and does not cover for club-hosted activities.
- **Assessing Additional Needs:** Practical guidance on identifying when your specific event might require supplemental insurance coverage, and how to go about securing it.

Ensure your club's dedicated efforts are fully protected, allowing you to focus on making a positive impact with confidence and peace of mind.

KIWANIS YOUTH PROTECTION

by Darryl Gumz

Youth Protection isn't just a guideline; it's our solemn promise. As the single program Kiwanis requires every club to review with its membership annually, staying current is non-negotiable.

In this session, we'll delve into the latest updates to Kiwanis' Youth Protection guidelines. With an ever-changing world presenting new challenges and events, these guidelines are continuously refined to ensure the highest standards of safety for the children we serve. Just because we didn't do this 5 years ago is no excuse, we have to keep current.

It's imperative to stay abreast of these critical updates. "We're here for the children of the world, let's keep them safe while we do it." Join us to affirm our commitment and learn how to proactively protect the youth in all our Kiwanis endeavors.

COLLABORATIVE TROUBLESHOOTING FOR KIWANIS CHALLENGES

by Rhonda Vrell

Is your Kiwanis club facing a persistent hurdle or a new obstacle? Join Rhonda Vrell for a dynamic and interactive exploration of the problems and challenges commonly encountered by our clubs. This isn't just a lecture; it's a collaborative problem-solving session. Come prepared to:

- Share the specific challenges and issues currently facing your own club.
- Listen and contribute your insights as other clubs describe their unique situations.

This is your opportunity to brainstorm solutions, gain new perspectives, and collectively tackle the issues that impact our ability to serve. Let's work together to strengthen all our clubs!

KEY CLUB: SUPERCHARGE THEIR SUCCESS, STRENGTHEN YOUR BOND

by Heather Brindle

Key Club is one of our oldest SLP programs, with the program starting in 1925. While there will be people to help you if you are currently looking into starting a new Key Club, the focus of this class will be to help folks realize how much Key Clubs benefit from active participation of their parent Kiwanis Club, and how to improve your relationship in a manner that resonates with the students.

KIWANIS SLP PROGRAMS PRIOR TO HIGH SCHOOL

by Mark Herring & Blaire Thrasher

Looking to cultivate the spirit of service in the youngest

The hardest part of learning something new is not embracing new ideas, but letting go of old ones.

Todd Rose

generations? This essential class is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of all Kiwanis-sponsored Service Leadership Programs (SLPs) for students before they reach high school.

Discover the impact of our time-tested programs, including:

- K-Kids (Elementary School): Engaging younger students in service and leadership.
- Builder's Club (Middle School): Fostering leadership and community involvement in middle schoolers.
- BUGs (Bring Up Grades): A program focused on recognizing academic improvement.
- TERRIFIC Kids: Encouraging positive character development and academic achievement.

Learn how your Kiwanis club can effectively work with local schools to implement these proven programs, making a tangible difference in the lives of children and nurturing the next generation of community leaders.

MASTERING COMMUNICATION FOR CLUB SUCCESS

by Rhonda Vrell

We all agree that communication

is the key to a thriving club, so why do so many of us, and our clubs, sometimes fall short?

This essential session directly addresses that gap, exploring The Importance of Communication in achieving our Kiwanis mission.

Join us to move beyond simply "knowing" that communication is vital and learn how to apply it effectively. This class will provide insights and strategies to:

- Strengthen Internal Bonds: Enhance clarity, collaboration, and understanding among club members and leadership.
- Amplify Your Message: Effectively promote your service projects, events, and the significant impact your club makes in the community.
- Attract & Retain Members: Clearly articulate the value of Kiwanis, drawing in new members and keeping current ones deeply engaged.
- Build Strong Partnerships: Foster robust relationships with schools, local organizations, and potential collaborators.

USING AI WITH SOCIAL MEDIA

by Carrie Binns

We all know there are only so

many hours in the day, especially when you're dedicating time to service. Join us as Carrie Binns, a seasoned marketing professional, shares invaluable insights into leveraging artificial intelligence to enhance your club's outreach.

This dynamic session will reveal how to:

- Supercharge Your Social Media: Learn how to generate engaging posts, compelling captions, and strategic content ideas to boost your club's online presence in less time.
- Craft Stronger Messages: Create powerful communications that resonate with your audience, whether for recruitment, fundraising, event promotion, or general club awareness.
- Boost Efficiency: Discover practical AI tools and techniques that streamline your content creation process, freeing up valuable time.

Discover how AI can help you communicate more effectively and efficiently, freeing up valuable time for what matters most – serving your community.

More detailed schedule will be available online at georgiakiwanis.com/district-convention.

DISTRICT DIFFERENCE MAKERS SOCIAL MEDIA CONTEST

Carrie Binns

District PR & 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.

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

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 **GA 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.

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!

GA DISTRICT SERVICE CAMPING WEEKEND

Alicia Horkan

District Service Project Chair
Kiwanis Club of Moultrie



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

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. 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!

For reservations, Call Georgia Veterans Park at 229 276-2371. The reservation code is K2 and it is listed under the Kiwanis group. Water front sites are \$50 per night. The site numbers are 22, 23, 24, 25, 26. Non water front sites are \$40 per night and site numbers are 28, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 45. There are also cabins available for those who do not camp.

Your whole family is invited... kids too! See you there!

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

GeorgiaKiwanis.com/club-showcase



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



EMERGING LEADERS

Sharon Barksdale

Emerging Leaders Chair
Kiwanis Club of Conyers &
Social Circle

I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer, but as you all know, time passes very quickly. September will be here before we know it. September is the month for the Emerging Leaders Retreat. This year it will be Saturday, September 20th and Sunday, September 21st. We will be at the FFA Camp in Covington, GA. Once again, our AWESOME facilitator will be Dave Kelly. The cost of the Retreat remains at \$125 per student.

I am asking for your help once again. I know it is summer, and school won't start for a few weeks yet, but I am asking you to start thinking about any 9th to 12th grade students you have in school, who attend your church, who are in your family, who are children of friends or others you come in contact with throughout your journeys every day. I want you to think of those students who could benefit from a leadership retreat that will be encouraging and uplifting to the students who attend the Emerging Leaders Retreat in September.

As we get closer to September and student registrations start coming in, I will also need to have Adult Volunteers. The number of volunteers will depend on the number of students we will have. If you have not done so already, please make sure that you have a current Kiwanis background check. You will also need to participate in the Praesidium Safety Program. Please contact me and I can provide you with the information you will need.

The information about the retreat is on the Georgia District website at georgiakiwaniis.com. When you are at the website click on Events, scroll down and click on Emerging Leaders. You will find a wealth of information about the Retreat. My contact information is on the website and listed below as well should you have any questions or want additional information. I look forward to hearing from you.

We are all on a journey through life. We all have met people who have influenced or inspired us somehow. We, as Kiwanians, have friends and through Kiwanis have made new friends. We work together with a common goal: "Change the world, one community and one child at a time." Some recent themes for a few of our past Georgia Kiwanis Governors are:

Light the Way (Katrina Baranko), Filling Unmet Needs 4 Kids (Darryl Gumz), Be a Force for Kiwanis (Brent Leslie), Together We Make a Difference (Debbie Brilling), Kiwanis - Where Dreams Come True (David Simmons).

Our goal as Kiwanians should be to emulate the ones WHO light their way, the ones WHO fill their needs and the ones WHO help to make their dreams come true. We need to be the ones WHO are the light, the ones WHO are a superhero to just one child, the ones WHO help them find their purpose, the ones WHO show them what it means to give back to their community, to get together with others and stay together to be a strong force and be a light for those coming up behind them.

When I was younger, I was a Girl Scout and my mother was a Scout leader. I learned a lot from my mother as a leader and the Scouts. What I learned created a

foundation and has helped me understand why I am where I am today. We need to give the kids of today that same foundation to help them build confidence and secure friendships through service. The Girl Scouts have a song about making new friends. I am sure there will be some of you who will remember. I think that the words have a significant meaning for our goals as Kiwanians. The words are as follows:

Make new friends, but keep the old. One is silver, the other is gold.

A circle is round, it has no end. That's how long, I will be your friend.

A fire burns bright, it warms the heart. We've been friends, from the very start.

You have one hand, I have the other. Put them together, we have each other.

Silver is precious, gold is too. I am precious, and so are you.

You help me and I'll help you and together we will see it through.

The sky is blue. The Earth is green. I can help to keep it clean

Across the land, Across the sea Friends forever we will always be

I have made many friends throughout my 29 years as a member of Kiwanis. My friendships are very special to me and I treasure each one. I want these young teens to be able to make new friends with a goal of working together for their communities.

In advance, thank you for your assistance, support and participation in this endeavor.

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!**

BLAIRSVILLE KIWANIS CLUB SUPPORTS LUKE'S PLACE AND BACKPACK 2 SCHOOL BASH

Schools are out for the summer and planning for the next school year is going on now. Alexis Noe, founder of Luke's Place and Backpack 2 School Bash, was the guest speaker at the latest meeting of the Blairsville Kiwanis Club, telling a bit about herself and detailing what these two projects are and what is currently happening with them.

Alexis has worked as a juvenile probation officer in Towns & Union counties and as a family services coordinator with Union County Family Connection. In addition to these positions, Alexis is also a certified special education English teacher. She has a passion for working with children, especially teens.

Luke's Place is named after Alexis's younger brother, who passed away from a toxic combination of fentanyl and alcohol. "The mission of Luke's Place is to prevent substance abuse by providing teens with a safe, drug-free environment where they can meet up with friends, play games, study, relax, and have a lot of fun," said Alexis. "We offer a variety of video games on large screen TVs, air hockey, foosball, pool,

comfortable couches in different areas to lounge, study areas, a stage for live music, at no charge." Luke's Place can also be booked for parties. For more information see <https://www.lukesplaceblairsville.org/>

The annual Backpack 2 School Bash is a community sponsored event that provides free backpacks and school supplies to students in Union County, Georgia, including home schoolers. There are no income requirements but participants do need to register for this event. "Last year there were over 600 students registered and we expect a large turnout again this year," Alexis said. "This will be the 10th Bash, and we want it to be extra special. Lunch will be provided. We'll have the Kona Ice truck, Vertical Church food truck, Home Depot craft projects, Lemonade stand, face painting, and a Bouncy House. Rain or shine, it will be a great family fun day."

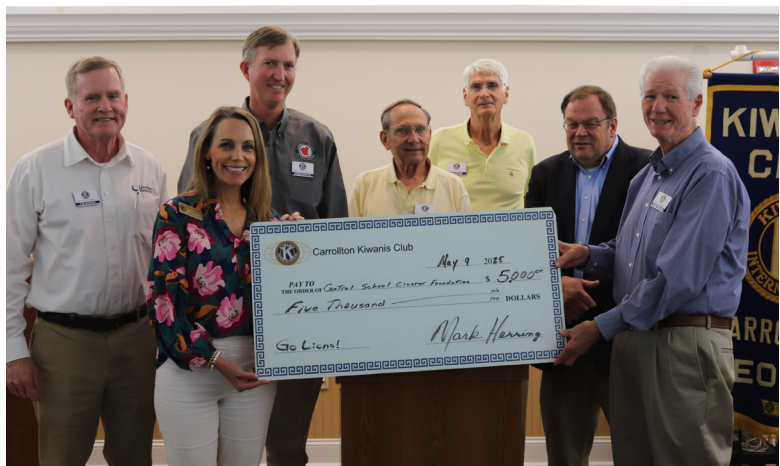
The Bash will be held August



2nd from 10 am to 1 pm at First United Methodist Church of Union County. Online registration begins June 15 at <https://sites.google.com/view/backpack-2-school-bash>

Kiwanis is an international organization founded to support children. We do that throughout the world and right here in Blairsville! Come join us for one of our meetings at Bank OZK at noon on the first and third Mondays of the month. Visit us at <https://www.blairsvillekiwanis.club/> to see what we're all about. Helping kids grow and succeed is at the heart of everything we do.

KIWANIS FOUNDATION SUPPORTS CENTRAL SCHOOL CLUSTER



In recognition of our Club's 75th Anniversary last year, our Kiwanis Foundation began a partnership with both the Carrollton City School System and the Central Schools Cluster giving each of their Foundations a gift of \$7,500.00 to assist students with financial needs to be able to participate in field trip experiences. Continuing that partnership, our Club is pleased to present each of these Foundations an additional gift of \$5,000.00 this year.

We are grateful to have Central Elementary School Principal Marla Turpin and Club member Jared Griffis present today as representatives of the Central Schools Cluster.

KIWANIS CLUB OF MARIETTA GOLDEN K PRESENTS THE SILVER PEN AWARD FOR 2025



Over 30 years ago, Jack Boone of the Kiwanis Club of Marietta Golden K launched a Signature Project for the Club called the Silver Pen Award. This program is now a Georgia District of Kiwanis Program available to Fourth Grades statewide. We invited local schools to have their Fourth Grade classes compete for a school-wide Silver Pen Award by completing a writing assignment submitted by the Club.

The title of the essay this year was "The Person I Admire Most". Each classroom submitted their top two entries to the School Administration, who submitted one from each classroom to the Silver Pen Coordinator for Kiwanis.

A panel of professionals and former educators then evaluated the remaining submissions and chose the school winner.

This year Acworth Elementary School, Addison Elementary School, Powers Ferry Elementary School, and Rocky Mount Elementary School accepted our invitation to have their students Compete.

The winning 4th grade recipients were: ACWORTH ES - Keyden Kanau; ADDISON ES - Evoleht Haddock; POWERS FERRY ES - Aaliyah Reeves and ROCKY MOUNT ES - Rachael Wilson. Jim Perry, Past President and Silver Pen Coordinator, along with a group of leaders from

the Club, presented the awards to the winners in each school during the Morning Broadcast, so all students could witness the presentation in their respective schools.

"Each winner received a Silver Pen in a velvet sleeve, a Kiwanis Club Pen, Twenty-five golden commemorative, uncirculated one dollar coins from the US Mint, and an engraved plaque. We enjoyed many great essays from the students this year and congratulate each winner for a job well done. Each classroom winner received a Silver Pen and a Kiwanis Club Pen", explained Jim Perry, the Silver Pen award precentor

We are very grateful to the Schools for their cooperation in continuing to support this writing program. The Kiwanis Club of Marietta Golden K looks forward to presenting the Silver Pen award again next year and we wholeheartedly extend our congratulations to each award winner.

KIWANIANS ATTENDED MEMORIAL DAY DEDICATION



The President of the Carroll County Veterans Park is our own Kiwanis GA Governor-Elect Barry Gardner.

The organizer of the event is Margaret Miller, current President of Carrollton Golden K. (retired Marine Colonel.)

The guest speaker was Mike Dugan, retired State Senator and retired Army Ranger, and past President of the Carrollton Kiwanis Club. (2013) (jumps out of perfectly good airplanes ?) The man seated on the left is the Chaplain and not a Kiwanian.



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Like this page to stay up-to-date with Georgia District and Kiwanis International activities and announcements.



facebook.com/groups/**GAKiwanisStateConventions**

Join this group for GA Kiwanis State Convention announcements, reminders, activities, and photos. We encourage you to engage with other fellow convention attendees on this group and share your convention photos! Even if you are not attending, this is a great chance to see how much your fellow Kiwanians are enjoying the convention!



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Join this group for Kiwanis International Convention announcements, reminders, activities, and photos regarding the Georgia District. We encourage you to engage with other fellow convention attendees on this group and share your convention photos! Even if you aren't attending, this is a great chance to see how much your fellow Kiwanians are enjoying the convention!



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

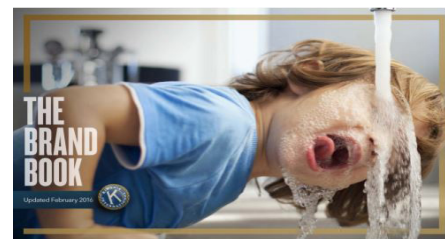


The Georgia District Directory can be downloaded from our website at www.GeorgiaKiwanis.com.

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



Kiwanis
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