



**Kiwaniis**  
MISSOURI-ARKANSAS DISTRICT

THE KEYS TO SERVICE  
GOV. FRITZ

STEP INTO SERVICE  
ST. JAMES KIWANIS CLUB

# Kiwanigram

Missouri-Arkansas District

APRIL 2025

MO-ARK



# Kiwanigram

GOVERNOR

**JIM FRITZ**

GOVERNOR-ELECT

**RONALD HILL**

IMMEDIATE PAST GOVERNOR

**PAUL "SHERM" SHERMAN**

DISTRICT SECRETARY

**ANGIE OSHIA**

KIWANIGRAM EDITOR

**REN LUEBBERING**

KEY CLUB GOVERNOR

**ARUSHA SURVI**



## ON THE COVER

MoArk Kiwanis Clubs from around the Ozarks partnered with The Hatch Foundation and City Utilities to build an inclusive playground just north of Springfield, Missouri near Fellows Lake.

## KIWANIGRAM CONTRIBUTORS

### LES MACE

Kiwanis Club of Springfield South

### MARIETTA DIESTELKAMP

St. James Kiwanis Club

### LINDA SCHNEIDER

Union Kiwanis Club

### CARLA OBRIEN

Kiwanis Club of Central Bates County

### MARTHA RADGINSKI

O'Fallon Kiwanis Club

### CARLA OBRIEN

Kiwanis Club of Central Bates County

### DR. BONNIE PAULSMEYER

Maplewood Kiwanis Club

### DAVID NIEBUR

Joplin Kiwanis Club



**Kiwanis**

MISSOURI-ARKANSAS DISTRICT

**K14.SITE.KIWANIS.ORG**

## FROM THE GOVERNOR

### Greetings Mighty MOARK!

Here's why its great to be a Kiwanian:

- Focus on Children
- Global reach
- Diverse programs
- Service opportunities
- Leadership development
- Community Engagement
- Personal Growth

Spread the word! Tell your story. Its simple, record a 60 second or less video that asks what is your Kiwanis story. Some of our Key Club Youth have answered this question and its very inspiring. Tell us about your passion to serve and inspire us.

April has been a busy month with 3 regional meetings. Region 3 in Springfield MO, Region 7 in Conway AR. And Region 7 in Hope AR. It was a pleasure attending all regional meetings. MOARK has such a great membership of passionate individuals performing service for our youth and communities. Seize the opportunity, inspire a youth and bring energy to your clubs and the district.

On the membership front we are currently at 153 Clubs, 3,349 members with a plus 37 member's for the year. The membership team is working hard developing a game plan for club openings. In May, a dual opening in Nevada MO and Neosho MO will take place. With a membership team of approximately 6 dedicated members, it becomes difficult due to the lack of manpower. Its a week long strategy to meet, visit, inform and find members to join a new club. We need help from individuals to set appointments, meet with prospective members and spread the Kiwanis news.

### **BUILD - NURTURE - RETAIN is a new program for membership growth from Kiwanis International.**

- Build refers to our district building new clubs in communities where Kids Need Kiwanis.
- Nurture refers to providing every existing club with the resources, advice and networking they need to fulfill their community mission.
- Retain refers to every current Kiwanis member being actively engaged in their club.

If you are looking to do more, learn more, help lead or serve on a committee or event. Please let us know, WE NEED YOU!

Thank you for your passion to serve, you all inspire me.

DON'T STOP BELIEVING,



**MO-ARK GOVERNOR**



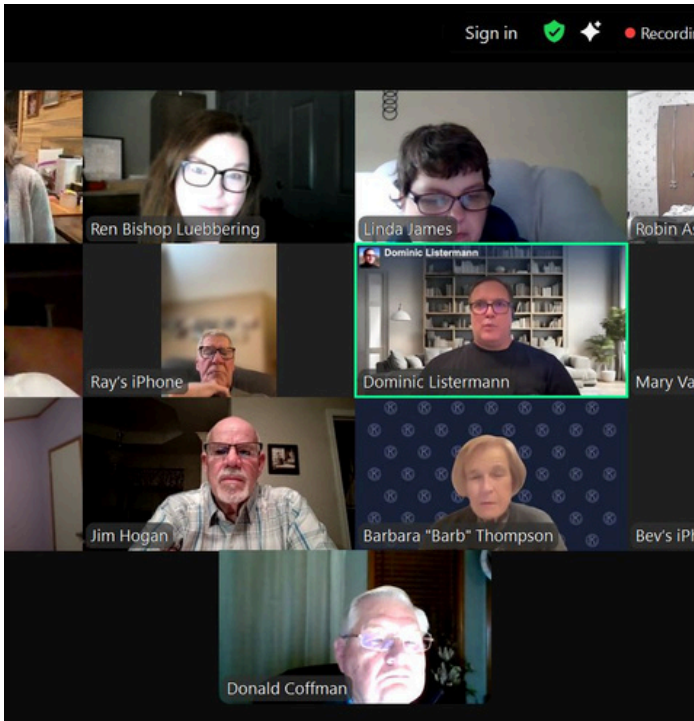
I thoroughly enjoyed visiting the Ozarks as part of the Region III meeting in early April.



## FROM THE MO-ARK DISTRICT

# Snapshots of service

Photos shared in the Mo-Ark Facebook group. [Share your own by joining the group.](#)



**Kiwaniis**  
MISSOURI-ARKANSAS DISTRICT



## FROM THE MO-ARK DISTRICT

# Mo-Ark Events

### **Race for the Roses 5K**

May 3, 2025

St. Louis, Mo.

### **Springfield South 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Paul Palazzolo Guest Speaker

May 10, 2025

Springfield, Mo.

### **Dual Club Build**

May 18-23, 2025

Nevada, Mo. and Neosho, Mo.

### **Lieutenant Governor Retreat**

May 30-31, 2025

West Plains, Mo.

### **Region 5 Meeting & Sikeston**

#### **90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Steve Siemens Guest Speaker

July 19, 2025

Sikeston, Mo.

### **ICON**

June 25-29

Pittsburgh, Penn.

## EARL COLLINS SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Congratulations to the 24 Earl Collins  
Scholarship Winners for 2025!

[View the winners here.](#)



## SAVE THE DATE: DCON

Mo-Ark District Conference

Aug. 8-10, 2025

Jonesboro, Arkansas

Featuring Guest Speaker Lee Kwon Yong

# Celebrating Milestones

In May, multiple MoArk Kiwanis Clubs are celebrating milestones. We want to celebrate these Clubs for continuing to pursue a spirit of service, year after year.

- Kiwanis Club of Green Forest Diversified, 1 year
- Harrison Kiwanis Club, 70 years
- North Springfield Kiwanis Club, 3 years
- Springfield South Kiwanis Club, 70 years
- Osceola Kiwanis Club, 80 years
- Newport Kiwanis Club, 70 years





**Kiwaniis**  
SPRINGFIELD SOUTH

*You're  
Invited*



Please join us to  
celebrate the 70th  
anniversary of  
Kiwaniis Club of  
Springfield South!

**Saturday**

**MAY 10, 2025  
11:30 AM**



FEATURED  
SPEAKER

**PAUL  
PALAZZOLO**

EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR OF  
KIWANIS  
INTERNATIONAL

## **Kentwood Arms**

In the Historic Crystal  
Ballroom, the same room  
where we held our charter  
presentation in 1955

**700 E. ST. LOUIS ST.  
SPRINGFIELD, MO**

**\$20 per ticket**

Lunch will be served.

To reserve your tickets,  
please email  
[lesmace@att.net](mailto:lesmace@att.net)

Payment for tickets will  
be accepted at the door.

*Serving the Children of the World*



# Kiwanis Clubs in Action

## **REGION III CONFERENCE 07**

A Mid-year Event  
Springfield, Mo.

## **SET, SPIKE, SERVICE 08-09**

St. James Kiwanis Club  
St. James, Mo.

## **MOARK KEY CLUB 10**

MoArk Kiwanis District  
Missouri and Arkansas

## **BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS 11-13**

Union Kiwanis Club  
Union, Mo.

## **A GRANT RECIPIENT 14**

O'Fallon Kiwanis Club  
St. Louis, Mo.

## **A CELEBRATION 15**

Maplewood Kiwanis Club  
Maplewood, Mo.

## **RECOGNIZING HEROES 16**

Joplin Kiwanis Club  
Joplin, Mo.

## **A GREAT FRIDAY 17**

Gravios Kiwanis Club  
St. Louis, Mo.



## **KIWANIS AND VOLLEYBALL**

St. James Kiwanis Club is supporting great sportsmanship and goal-setting for girls in their community.





## REGION III CONFERENCE

CELEBRATING A SPIRIT OF SERVICE IN THE  
OZARKS WITH A MID-YEAR EVENT.



TO START THE MID-YEAR EVENT, KIWANIS MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN A SERVICE PROJECT AT THE ARC OF THE OZARKS FACILITY IN SPRINGFIELD, MO.

**BY LES MACE**

The purpose of the meeting was to assist leaders and members of the Region III Kiwanis Clubs to evaluate their successes and plan ahead to accomplish the Goals that were set at the beginning of the 2024-2025 Kiwanis year.

The afternoon session began with Les introducing Missouri-Arkansas District Key Club Lt. Governor Owen Schaefer, a senior and a member of the Gloria Deo Academy. He reviewed the past 100 years of Key Club International and thanked MoArk District clubs and members that sponsor and support local Key Clubs.



Region III members are committed to serving their communities with the Kiwanis Pride and Spirit.





## ST. JAMES KIWANIS CLUB

SUPPORTING SPORTSMANSHIP AND GOAL  
SETTING IN VOLLEYBALL.



FOUR ST. JAMES KIWANIS VOLLEYBALL TEAMS COMPETED THIS SEASON, ALL SUPPORTED BY THE ST. JAMES KIWANIS CLUB.

### BY MARIETTA DIESTELKAMP

The St. James Kiwanis Club Girls Volleyball season wrapped up April 22, 2025. Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Grade girls played each evening for four Tuesdays in April. The program serves as a feeder program for the St. James Middle School volleyball teams. The girls focus on fundamentals and rules of the game, making friends, learning good sportsmanship and having fun. We had 4 teams this year with approximately 50 girls participating. It is always exciting to see how much the girls improve from week to week.

The season ended with certificates for participants and coaches and snacks as well. Thank You to the St. James Elementary School for allowing us the use of the gym and to all of our community businesses who sponsored. A special Thank You to the coaches, line judges, parents and grandparents for your talents and support of our volleyball program. Rewards are great when you help the life of a child.





## ST. JAMES KIWANIS CLUB

A SPECIAL VISITOR FOR A SPECIAL BREAKFAST  
FOR KIDS IN ST. JAMES.



A MAGICAL EASTER BREAKFAST WAS HOSTED BY ST. JAMES KIWANIS CLUB.

### BY MARIETTA DIESTELKAMP

The St. James Kiwanis Club along with the St. James Senior Center hosted a Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on April 19. Attendees were treated to pancakes for breakfast as well as an opportunity to have their picture taken with the Easter Bunny.

The Kiwanis Club provided craft projects including coloring pages, puzzle pages, bunny paws, scratch art eggs and decorating sugar cookies. This is the fourth year for the event.



This is the fourth year for the event.





## MOARK KEY CLUB

A FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW KEY CLUB  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.



THE NEW KEY CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS HELD THEIR FIRST MEETING ON A SUNNY SPRING DAY.

### BY CARLA OBRIEN

April 11 and 12 at the University Plaza Hotel in Springfield, MO the new Key Club Board of Directors held their first Board meeting led by new Key Club Governor, Dakota Menning, of Carrollton, MO.

The Board as pictured is Gov Dakota Menning, Secretary Heidi Hernandez, Treasurer London Haycraft, Webmaster Rahul Awasthi, Editor Briana Osentoski, Div 1 LTG Savannah Frank, Div 2 LTG Luke Hiles, Div 3 Greta Welch, Div 4 LTG Sara Ruhl, Div 5 LTG Elizabeth Hancock, Div 6 LTG Abraham Ireland, Div 8 LTG Ava Broadway, Div 9 LTG Nicole Reynolds, and Div 10 LTG Tanvi Narendrula.

Adult staff for this year is Cheryl Anderson, Gary Baker, Carla OBrien, Jim Fritz and Gaylon Lewis (not pictured)





## UNION KIWANIS CLUB

UNION HIGH SCHOOL KEY CLUB

RECEIVES EARL COLLINS FOUNDATION GRANT



PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT ARE: ALICIA SCHOONOVER AND JACKIE DRURY, UHS KEY CLUB FACULTY SPONSORS; GABBY UNDERWOOD AND DRIVER STERLING, KEY CLUB MEMBERS. UNION HIGH SCHOOL KEY CLUB IS SPONSORED BY UNION KIWANIS CLUB. GINA PETERS IS THE UNION KIWANIS CLUB KEY CLUB ADVISOR.

**BY LINDA SCHNEIDER**

The Union High School Key Club received a \$500 Service Grant from the Kiwanis Earl Collins Foundation. Projects the Key Club highlighted when submitting information for a grant include a Thanksgiving meals service project and making blankets for the animals at the Franklin County Humane Society.

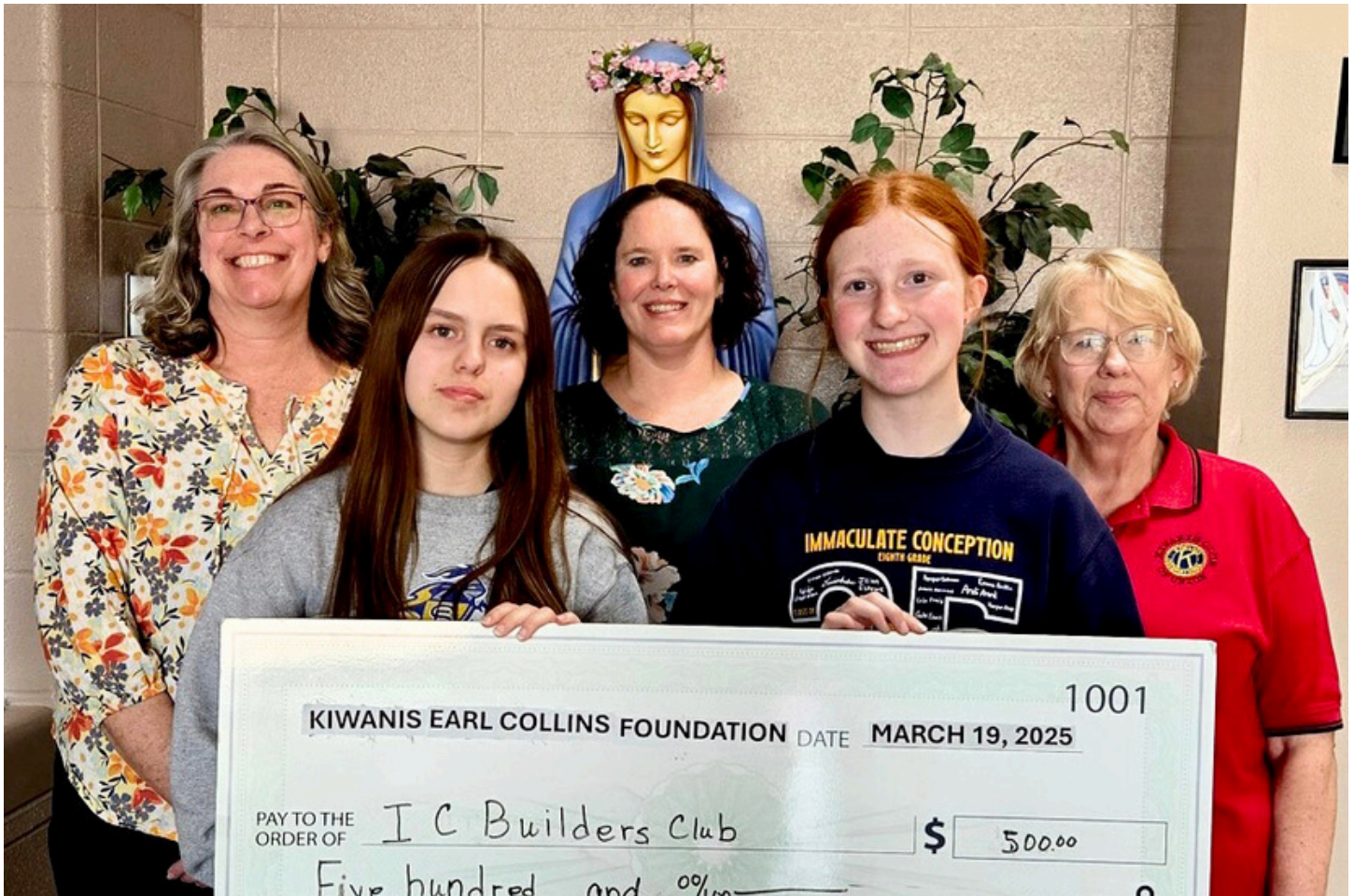
The Key Club buys all the food for Thanksgiving meals for six families. The Key Club purchases fleece and makes blankets for the animals during Key Club meetings and on extra assigned days.





## UNION KIWANIS CLUB

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL RECEIVES SERVICE LEADERSHIP GRANT



PICTURED ARE, FRONT ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: BUILDERS CLUB OFFICERS MORGAN BAILEY, VICE PRESIDENT AND MIRANDA BRINKMANN, PRESIDENT. BACK ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: MRS. SHELLY JENSEN, IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PRINCIPAL; MS. KATE SCHROEDER, FACULTY SPONSOR; MRS. GINA PETERS, KIWANIS ADVISOR

**BY LINDA SCHNEIDER**

Immaculate Conception School in Union recently received a \$500 Service Leadership Grant from Kiwanis' Earl Collins Foundation.

This year's safety grant will be used to help increase preparedness for health/first aid emergencies and continue to improve classroom safety and preparedness in case of a lockdown situation.

This grant will purchase more equipment for bigger first aid incidents: heart attacks, diabetes, asthma, and broken bones. The grant money will purchase a glucose monitor kit, two blood pressure monitor kits and a split kit for broken bones. The grant will also help purchase water bottles and hard candy to put in each room in case of a medical emergency or lockdown. Lastly, the grant will also help purchase a door security bar used as the jammer to secure classroom doors.





## UNION KIWANIS CLUB

### BLUEBIRD HOUSE BUILDING AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL



PICTURED ARE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION BUILDERS CLUB MEMBERS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: MACI CRONIN AND AMELIA GILDEHAUS

**BY LINDA SCHNEIDER**

Immaculate Conception (I.C.) School Builders Club members and friends enjoyed building and taking home their own Bluebird houses on Monday, March 24 after school. Expert assistance was given by Union Kiwanis Club member Bruce Templer and his crew. Builders Club at Immaculate Conception is a Service Leadership Program sponsored by the Union Kiwanis Club.



Pictured from left: Frank Freise, one of Bruce Templer's crew; I.C. Builders Club member Trevon Ash; Jax Hall, I. C second grader (younger brother of a Builders Club member who could not attend).





## O'FALLON KIWANIS CLUB

EARL COLLINS FOUNDATION GRANT PRESENTED  
TO FT. ZUMWALT NORTH MIDDLE BUILDERS CLUB



O'FALLON KIWANIS PRESIDENT, MARTHA RADGINSKI, A BUILDERS CLUB STUDENT AND FT ZUMWALT NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL BUILDERS CLUB ADVISOR, JENNIFER BAKER.

### BY MARTHA RADGINSKI

Recently the Ft Zumwalt North Middle School Builders Club received a check from the Earl Collins Foundation to help them with a club project. They are creating a Butterfly Garden at their school and need additional supplies. Lowes donated weed-block material, and the Grant will help cover the rest of the cost. O'Fallon Kiwanis members plan to help the Builders Club with some of the labor.



O'Fallon Kiwanis President, Martha Radginski presenting a check from the MO-ARK Kiwanis Earl Collins Foundation to Ft Zumwalt North Middle School Builders Club Advisor, Jennifer Baker.





## MAPLEWOOD KIWANIS CLUB

### A LUNCHEON FOR MRH KEY CLUB MEMBERS TO HONOR SENIORS AND A SCHOLARSHIP WINNER



MRS. KRISTEN BELCHER, THE KEY CLUB SPONSOR, CHAPERONED THE STUDENTS. ELEVEN KIWANIANS WERE ABLE TO ATTEND THE EVENT.

**BY DR. BONNIE PAULSMEYER**

The luncheon was held at the Maplewood Richmond Heights Senior High School during the school day. Forty-two Key Club members were invited and 24 seniors were honored as well as the Division 9 Earl Collins Scholarship winner from the MRH Key Club.



Joseph Lin is an Earl Collins Scholarship Winner. Past Lt. Governor Dr. Bonnie Paulsmeyer presented the award. Mrs. Karen Wood, Maplewood Kiwanis President, joined the presentation.



## **JOPLIN KIWANIS CLUB**

**RECOGNIZING HEROES IN THEIR HOMETOWN  
THIS SPRING.**



PHOTO, LEFT TO RIGHT: CHEROKEE COUNTY SHERIFF BRIAN HENDERSON, KIWANIS LT. GOVERNOR DAVID NIEBUR, UNDERSHERIFF CHIP ROOT, KIWANIS PRESIDENT HARVEY HUTCHINSON.

### **BY DAVID NIEBUR**

The Joplin Kiwanis Club recently recognized Cherokee County Kansas Undersheriff Chip Root, with its First Responder award for exceptional service investigating crimes against children, while serving as Commander of the Southwest Missouri Cyber Crimes Task Force.





## **GRAVIOS KIWANIS CLUB**

**A VERY GOOD FRIDAY  
SERVING THE UNSHELTERED.**



PICTURED ARE ROBIN AND CLIFF OF GATEWAY180, ELLEN IN RED AND JANE IN GREY.

### **BY CARLA OBRIEN**

It's Good Friday, and a great day for the youth residents of Gateway180 Homeless Center in St Louis as Ellen Sandweiss of Gravois Kiwanis worked with Jane Gilbert of St Peters Episcopal Church to deliver 72 Easter Baskets.



# In Memoriam

## **DIVISION 23**

Jeff Maneth

*Hope*

## **DIVISION 1**

Jim Light

*Hannibal*



**Kiwanis**<sup>®</sup>  
MISSOURI-ARKANSAS DISTRICT

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## **KIWANIGRAM SUBMISSIONS**

Information to be considered for the Kiwanigram should be submitted by email to [moarkkiwanigram@gmail.com](mailto:moarkkiwanigram@gmail.com). Please include the name and location of your club. The photos should be jpeg format. Please include a brief description of the project along with the names of Kiwanians, or SLP members featured in the photos. Your submission may be featured in the Kiwanigram, District website and/or MO-ARK Kiwanis Facebook group.





## ST. JAMES KIWANIS CLUB

### ST. JAMES KIWANIS HELP FIFTH GRADERS JUMP INTO HEALTH.



FOLLOWING THE PROGRAM, STUDENTS WERE SIZED FOR THEIR JUMP ROPES, WHICH THEY THEN HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO USE IN THE GYM AND OUTSIDE PLAYGROUND FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE PERIOD.

#### BY MARETTA DIESTELKAMP

Members of the St. James Kiwanis Club met with the fifth-grade class on Monday, April 28 to donate 100 jump ropes to the kids. Part of the Jump Into Health program conducted by the club, students were each outfitted with a properly sized jump rope, which they get to keep.

This is the fourteenth year the program has been held, with each rope handmade by the club members. A short program was held to introduce kids to how to handle their rope, what sort of tricks can be done, and tips for a healthy lifestyle.



# TELL



# STORY

MO-ARK  
2024-2025



"Empower Youth,  
Inspire Dreams"



## HERE ARE THE DETAILS

- Record a 60-second or less video that answers the question: "What is your Kiwanis story?"
- Videos can feature individuals, clubs, and new friends
- Send a link of the video to [renbishop@gmail.com](mailto:renbishop@gmail.com) as a .mp4 or .mov
- Anyone who submits a video agrees to be published on Mo-Ark's social media/website



**KIDS NEED  
PEOPLE TO LOOK  
OUT FOR THEM.**



**Kiwanis**



## FROM THE MO-ARK DISTRICT

# A New Mid-Year Format

EVERY REGION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HOSTING A GOVERNOR'S VISIT AND SOME MID-YEAR/CONFERENCE.

The Mo-Ark district will not be having a Midyear Retreat this year. The first one is scheduled already, and info is below. All clubs are encourage to be on the lookout and connect with your LTG / Trustees to find out when the region MDY/Conference is

### **First Conference– Huntsville Arkansas–Nov. 9**

Region 6 will hold the first Conference and Governor Visit on November 9 in Huntsville, Arkansas. It will be in the Community Room at the Carroll Electric Facility. This will also be Governor Jim Fritz's first official visit.

Three outstanding speakers are scheduled to make presentations at the Conference: District Leadership Development Coordinator Katie Rennard from Siloam Springs speaking on developing new leaders; Jennifer Kaup from Little Rock will speak on Recruiting and Retaining Younger Members; and Past District Governor and Past Kiwanis International Trustee Garry Warner speaking on making a difference.

The local Huntsville Kiwanis Club will serve as host and will provide coffee and donuts during registration and assist in serving lunch, which will be be pizza catered from a local restaurant. The District Past Lieutenant Governors Council will be conducting a silent auction during the event, with proceeds going to support District Service Leadership Programs. **If attendees stay until the end of the conference will have a chance in the drawing for door prizes.**



## DISTRICT EVENT

MO-ARK First Conference  
Saturday, Nov. 9  
Huntsville, Arkansas

For more information, contact Jerry Martin,  
Region 6 Trustee or District Secretary  
Angie Oshia at [kiwanismoark@outlook.com](mailto:kiwanismoark@outlook.com).



FROM THE MO-ARK DISTRICT

# Thank you for your service, Sherm.

Honoring and celebrating the immediate past Gov. Paul Sherman.

