



Kiwaniis
MISSOURI-ARKANSAS DISTRICT

**A BUSY SUMMER SEASON
WITH GOV. FRITZ**
DCON SPECIAL EDITION
RELIVING THE FUN



Kiwanigram

Missouri-Arkansas District

DCON SPECIAL EDITION 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

DAKOTA MENNING



ON THE COVER

Taking photos with Kiwanis International President Lee Kuan Yong. He is an excellent bowler, by the way!

KIWANIGRAM CONTRIBUTORS

CARLA OBRIEN

Gravois Kiwanis Club

HANK JARVIS

Kiwanis Club of Hot Springs Village

MARETTA DIESTELKAMP

St. James Kiwanis Club

MARSHA MCCLANAHAN

Kiwanis Club of Downtown Springfield

KATHY JOSEPHSOHN

Kiwanis Club of Meramec Valley Community

NANCY JONES

Gravette Kiwanis Club

DAVID NIEBUR

Joplin Kiwanis Club



Kiwanis
MISSOURI-ARKANSAS DISTRICT

K14.SITE.KIWANIS.ORG

Hello, Mighty MOARK!

This summer has been incredible. I have had some great opportunities where I have met some awesome Kiwanians.

Most recently I had the opportunity to meet with our membership in Sikeston Missouri for the Region 5 Governors visit. It was very informative, Steve Siemans, known as the people builder gave an inspiring message. That evening, in Sikeston I attended the 90th Anniversary of the Sikeston Club. It was very well attended and inspirational to all. I wish everyone could have had the opportunity to hear Steve Siemans speak and plan on seeing if we may utilize his services in the future to inspire leaders and members to increase their vision.

I had the opportunity to visit the 100 year celebration of the Kiwanis Club of Searcy. What a welcome, I was greeted by kiwanians from Searcy, Conway and Batesville. I met some great people there. It was truly enjoyable and I feel as I met some great friends and Kiwanis family members. They all truly love serving.

Lastly, I attended the International Convention in Pittsburgh, PA. It was a great coming together of the international. It is amazing getting so many Kiwanians together to share their successes in serving.

Our District Convention in Jonesboro, Arkansas was a celebration, with great speakers, great Kiwanians and great friends in attendance. Lee Kuan Yong, Kiwanis International President and his wife, Kon Cze Yan attended our convention. It was an amazing time of fellowship and learning. Plus, our lineup of speakers were incredible. I learned something, and I hope all that attended learned something, too.

**Thank you for your service and your friendship.
We are better together!**

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS,



MO-ARK GOVERNOR



Seeing our young people as Key Club district leadership always makes me so proud at DCON.

FROM THE MO-ARK DISTRICT

DCON Memories

Photos shared in the Mo-Ark
Facebook group. Share your own
by joining the group.



Kiwanis Clubs in Action

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL 05

Gravios Kiwanis Club
St. Louis, Mo.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS 06

Hot Springs Village Club
Hot Springs, Ark.

A FIRST MEETING 07

Kiwanis Club of Vernon County
Nevada, Mo.

SAFETY FAIR SHOWCASE 08

Meramec Valley Community
Meramec County, Mo.

BASEBALL CAMP 09

Downtown Springfield Kiwanis Club
Springfield, Mo.

SERVICE AWARD 10

St. James Kiwanis Club
St. James, Mo.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST 11

Gravette Kiwanis Club
Gravette, Ar.

EDUCATOR AWARD 12

Joplin Kiwanis Club
Joplin, Mo.



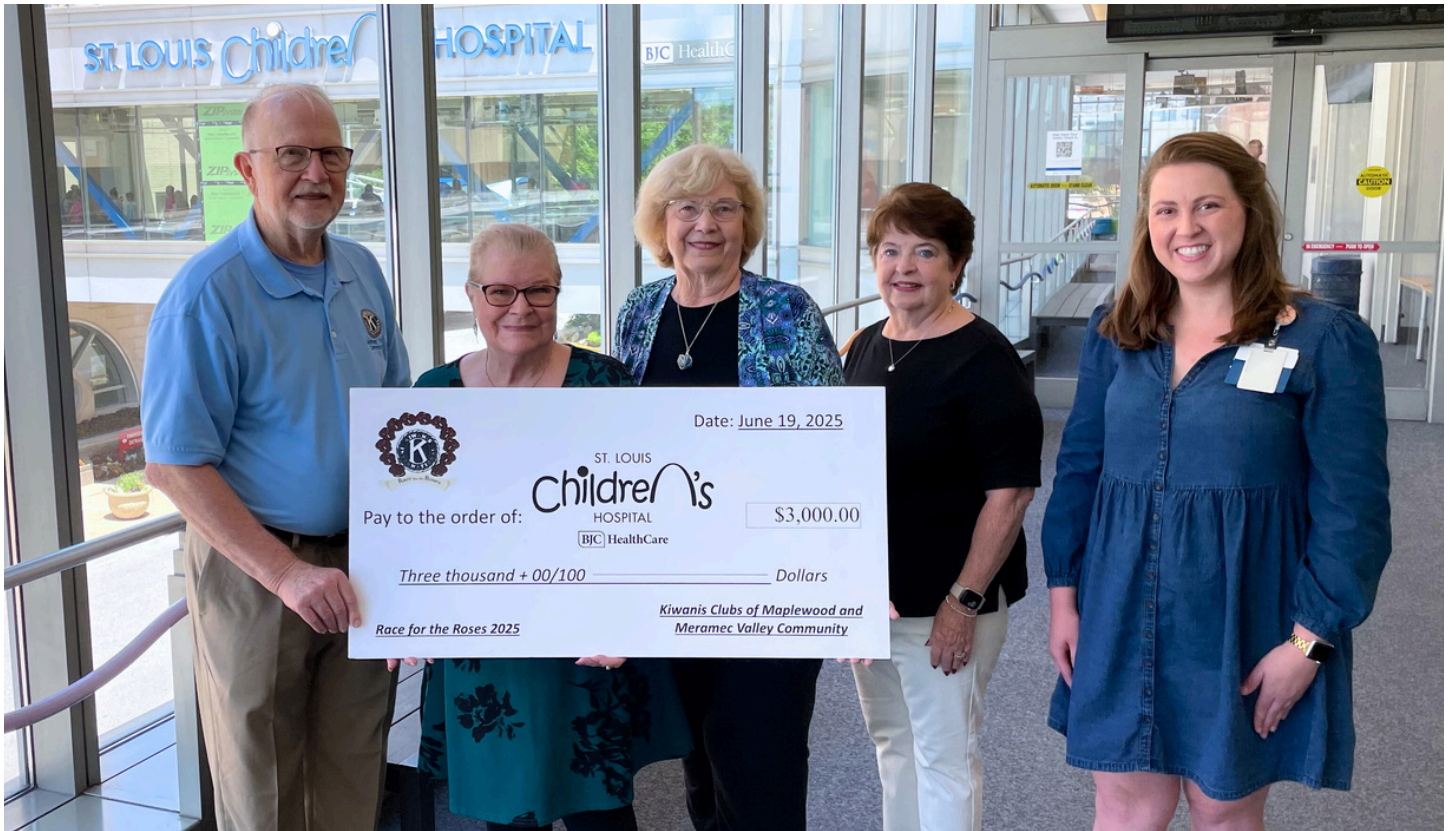
TAKE KIDS OUT TO THE BALLGAME

Downtown Springfield Kiwanis Club hosts
10th Annual Baseball Camp.



ST. LOUIS AREA KIWANIS CLUBS

ST. LOUIS AREA KIWANIS CLUBS PRESENT
DONATION TO ST. LOUIS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



BY KATHY JOSEPHSOHN

Representatives from two Kiwanis Clubs presented a check to St. Louis Children's Hospital. Their inaugural "Race for the Roses" 5K held in the spring raised \$3K for the hospital. Pictured from left are: Kiwanis Club of Meramec Valley Community's Roger Jespersen, president and Nancy Willimon, director; and Kiwanis Club of Maplewood, Missouri's Bonnie Paulsmeyer, secretary and Karen Wood, president.

Far right, accepting the check is: Philanthropy Officer St. Louis Children's Hospital Foundation Hailey Cooper. Willimon and Paulsmeyer coordinated the event.

Hot Springs Village awards multiple



BY HANK JARVIS

Each year the Kiwanis Club of Hot Springs Village receives applications from high school seniors from the local schools for the Scholarship Program. With the expansion of the Kiwanis club area and commitment, scholarships were awarded at Fountain Lake, Jessieville and Mountain Pine.

At Fountain Lake, Payton Richard received a \$1,500 scholarship to attend University of Central Arkansas to study Exercise Science. Troy Riggs was the recipient of the Bob Grinnell \$1,500 Memorial scholarship to study Pre-Medicine at UCA.

The Jessieville seniors each receiving \$1,500 scholarships were Zhen Denger, Shelia Pickering and Emma Storment. Planning to attend University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, Zhen will study Geology and Emma will pursue a degree in Nursing. Shelia will be attending Arkansas Tech to study Vocal Music & Math.

At Mountain Pine, Nevaeh Poteete was the recipient of the Dennis Stephanie Memorial scholarship for \$3000 to study Criminal Justice at University of Arkansas in Fort Smith or Little Rock. Carrie Wright, Christopher Christman and Carley Shaw each received a \$1,500 scholarship. Carrie plans to attend Arkansas Tech to study to be a Physicians Assistant and Christopher will study Information Technology at Arkansas Tech. Carley will study Physical Therapy at Henderson State University.

The funding of the scholarships is accomplished after the Scholarship Chairperson of Kiwanis, Ted Hart, receives written confirmation from the university's Registrar that the student is officially enrolled.

The Kiwanis club appreciates the work of the scholarship committee, Ted Hart, Carl Burns, Rick Martinek, Barb Grinnell and Iris Hart.



KIWANIS CLUB OF VERNON COUNTY

A FIRST MEETING OF A NEW KIWANIS CLUB CELEBRATED IN SOUTHWEST MISSOURI



FROM LEFT, (FRONT): AMANDA DAVIS, BETH WALDRIP, HANNAH WILLIAMS, JODI POLK, KALLI GOBER, MASON HEARD, THABENA BOWER (BACK) CHRIS NILES, JASON FLEENER, JOE WILSON, CAROL BRANHAM, MIRANDA SELBY, PATTI ALEXANDER, AND JEFF MAXWELL, CLUB COACH

BY CARLA OBRIEN

Welcome to the new club in Nevada, MO
organized 5/22/25, known as Kiwanis Club of.
Vernon County, photo of their first monthly
meeting.



KIWANIS CLUB OF MERAMEC VALLEY COMMUNITY COMMUNITY SERVICE AT ST. LOUIS AREA SAFETY FAIR



PICTURED FROM LEFT: DAVE BERTOLINO, CLUB TREASURER; PEGGY KOENEN, CLUB DIRECTOR; JIM GRANT, PRESIDENT-ELECT AND JOHN RICHARDS, CLUB DIRECTOR HANDED OUT SAFETY BROCHURES FROM THE KIDS AND CAR SAFETY ORGANIZATION. ALSO, FREE EMERGENCY ESCAPE TOOLS THAT FEATURE A WINDOW BREAKER AND A SEATBELT CUTTER WERE DISTRIBUTED TO PARENTS.

BY KATHY JOSEPHSOHN

In June, the Kiwanis Club of Meramec Valley Community sponsored a booth at the 2025 Valley Park Safety Fair in Valley Park, Mo. This year, the free public fair that focuses on kids' safety welcomed more than 250 visitors.



KIWANIS CLUB OF DOWNTOWN SPRINGFIELD

10TH ANNUAL BASEBALL CAMP FOR SPRINGFIELD BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB



DOWNTOWN KIWANIAN NIKI KIRUKI IS WELCOMING THE CAMPERS FOR THEIR DAY.

BY MARSHA MCCLANAHAN

The Kiwanis Club of Downtown Springfield held their 10th Annual Baseball Camp for the kids of Boys and Girls Club. Campers were shown proper hitting, catching and running bases techniques.



ST. JAMES KIWANIS CLUB

PRESENTING THE 2025 AMY TURNER AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE



DOWNTOWN KIWANIAN NIKI KIRUKI IS WELCOMING THE CAMPERS FOR THEIR DAY.

BY MARETTA DIESTELKAMP

The St. James Kiwanis Club was honored to award Kelly Money the 2025 Amy Turner Award. Kelly currently serves at the St. James Chamber of Commerce Director. Kelly works hard to promote St. James and provide opportunities for the youth of St. James. In the past Kelly has been a coach for the Kiwanis Boys Basketball program and always helps promote the Kiwanis Club and our programs. The Amy Turner Award was developed in 2022 to honor Amy Turner how was a member of the St. James Kiwanis Club for many years. Amy passed away in 2023.



GRAVETTE KIWANIS CLUB

KIWANIS CLUB HOSTS ANNUAL
PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER.



PICTURED FROM LEFT: BRENDA YATES, BOB KELLEY, GALA MCKENZIE AND NANCY JONES.

BY NANCY JONES

The Gravette AR Kiwanis Club started off Gravette Days with their annual Pancake Breakfast. This is our club's biggest fundraiser of the year and we estimate that we fed around 500 people. The Gravette High School Key Club also kept the tables clean and the line moving. Our club is getting ready to celebrate our 50th anniversary as a club.

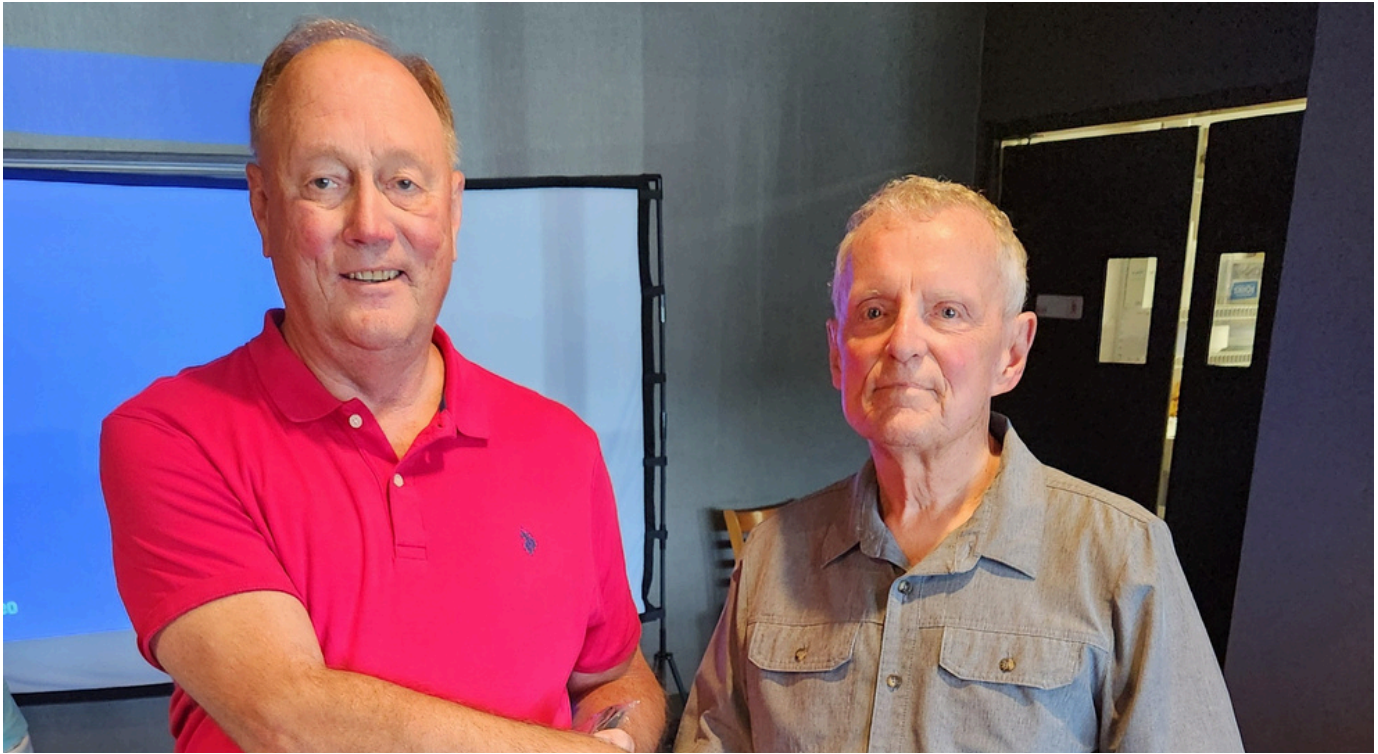


From left: Brenda Yates and Hope Duke.



JOPLIN KIWANIS CLUB

JOPLIN KIWANIS CLUB HONORS LONG-TIME EDUCATOR AS HE RETIRES.



SHOWN ON THE RIGHT, PRESENTING A PLAQUE AND GIFT CERTIFICATE TO DOSS IS DAVID NIEBUR, DIVISION 12 KIWANIS LT. GOVERNOR.

BY DAVID NIEBUR

The Joplin Kiwanis Club awarded retiring Webb City R-7 School Teacher Tim Doss its Educator of the Month award.

Tim Doss has been teaching Webb City teens how to drive since 1977. He initially started at Webb City Schools as a Physical Education Teacher. He points out the process and expectations for Driver's Ed have changed a lot over the years, everything from additional permit requirements to the risks of cell phones while driving.

Doss has taught hundreds of students over the years, adding he's very thankful the driver's ed cars come with a second brake pedal.

Amazingly, during all those years and hundreds of students, not one accident occurred! Webb City Schools Superintendent Dr. Brenten Byrd, said they will miss Tim Doss, noting that Doss was his Physical Ed teacher when he was a student there.

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 as a .mp4 or .mov
- Anyone who submits a video agrees to be published on Mo-Ark's social media/website

In Memoriam

ELMER AUSTERMANN

Mo-Ark Governor 1964

Elmer was a lifelong member of Kiwanis International, serving in a variety of leadership positions. He passed away on April 30, 2025. We honor his service and remember his legacy of leadership.



Kiwanis[®]
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KIWANIGRAM SUBMISSIONS

Information to be considered for the Kiwanigram should be submitted by email to 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.

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



Kiwanis