



South County K-NEWS

Kiwanis Club of South County - St. Louis

"Serving the Children of the World"
#KidsNeedKiwaniis



Kiwanis International
Volume 37

July 13, 2022

Missouri-Arkansas District
Number 41

NEXT MEETING

July 20, 2022
Oasis St. Louis
12:30 pm

JULY

- Jul 13** - Kiwanis Meeting. Oasis International, Mark Akers.
- Jul 20** - Kiwanis Meeting. Oasis St. Louis.
- Jul 27** - Kiwanis Meeting. Board/Business Meeting.

AUGUST

- Aug 3** - Kiwanis Meeting. Budget Planning Session - Bill.
- Aug 10** - Kiwanis Meeting. Child Protection Guidelines - Ed.
- Aug 17** - Kiwanis Meeting. TBD.
- Aug 24** - Kiwanis Meeting. TBD.
- Aug 31** - Kiwanis Meeting, Board/Business Meeting.

13 members and 1 guest present: Mark Akers, today's speaker from Oasis international. Louann opened the meeting with a greeting to all and the Pledge of Allegiance. Pauline followed with the invocation. Louann reminded us of the summer scratch-off raffle deadline, candy sale dates and the service date for Feed My Starving Children. Ed stated that so far counting today's proceeds, we have received roughly \$1,000 for the raffle. The drawing is fast approaching (July 27). Lee asked if we were providing back packs for the schools this year. It will need to be addressed soon since school starts again in the middle of August. Rick is checking on prices of backpacks that are available for purchase through the Kiwanis Warehouse. Further discussion will take place in the next week or so.

Mark Akers is the Founder and Director of Oasis International. This organization helps furnish the apartments of the incoming refugees to the St Louis area. Mark was a pastor for 18 years and he and his wife served many people on missions throughout the world. In 1989, he had seen the need for the local refugees and therefore established this foundation. He and his wife had no longer needed to travel any further than home. The foundation receives donations of furniture and cash from a network of local churches. Oasis International is located at 5035 Gravois and provides English and Citizenship classes. They also give baby showers to all pregnant refugee mothers. A group of women from church visit the mothers before and after birth of the children. This provides somewhat of a relational support group for

Meetings: Wednesdays – 12:30pm - Frailey's Southtown - 4329 Butler Hi ll Rd. 63128 (at I-55) - 314-892-1866

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the women. They gave out 800 Christmas gifts last year. The foundation provides the addresses, and the churches provide the presents and the delivery. In a normal year, the foundation helps about 500 people. These people are selected by an organization called the International Institute. The International Institute gets their list of refugees from our government. Due to the Afghanistan demand, the Institute took in 800 refugees for which the foundation has been helping. Help is given continuously but as families adjust and find jobs, they will normally go on to live their lives independent of the organization. During the pandemic, 42 teams were assembled to deliver food to 300 people every other week. Mark says that the real gift to these people is friendship. Most come with nothing from war torn countries, not speaking our language, and not knowing our customs. Very scary!!!

Happy \$\$: All happy dollars were for Mark's great presentation.

50/50: Drawing - Bill.

Lottery ticket - Judy.

Thanks to Jeanne McKenna for taking the notes of today's meeting.

Member News

Linda Hoppe's daughter, Carmen, has been diagnosed with large B-cell non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and begins treatments next week. Linda will be out of town for a while watching the grandkids as Carmen takes her treatments. Please keep our members and their families in your thoughts and prayers for a full and speedy recovery.

Feed My Starving Children

Due to the fact that there was vandalism to the air conditioning at the construction site at Queeny Park, our group could no longer be accommodated in August. However, we have some Good News because we have now secured the **St. Louis County Kennedy Recreation Complex in South County** - -- 6022 Wells Rd., St. Louis, MO 63128. We also have new dates which we feel will work better for schools and churches -- New dates --- **September 8, 9, 10 and 11th**! Also, Parking is much more plentiful and more accessible. We think this will be a blessing to FMSC's outreach program. We will need up to 3500 volunteers in order to pack our goal of 1 million meals. So, we are hoping you will spread the word and possibly we can encourage many of the schools and churches to participate in this community project! Canned Goods will also be collected for Operation Food Search during this mobile pack. Please visit us at feedtheneedstl.org.

For your information, Feed My Starving Children has sent over 15 million meals to the Ukraine Area.

Oakville HS Key Club News
OHS Key Club Meetings TBD.

Mehlville HS Key Club New
MHS Key Club meetings TBD.

With school out for the summer, the Key club meeting times and days will have to be determined when school starts up again in the Fall.

South County Kiwanis Web Page and Face Book Page

We now have a Web Page and a Face Book Page up and running. You can now follow us on either page by going to them with their addresses, or you can click a link on either of them to get to the other. We encourage you to follow us through either of them to keep abreast of our activities.

Web Page: <http://k11339.site.kiwanis.org/>

Face Book Page: [South County Kiwanis](#)

Thanks to Mary Howard for taking care of the Facebook page and to Katie Keeven for taking care of the Web Page.

JULY/AUGUST

Birthdays: Linda Hoppe - 7/1
Sherry Stevenson - 7/5
Gerry Abeln - 8/4
Chad Dickemper - 8/21

Anniversaries: Lee and Sandy Bodendieck - 7/6/57
None in August.

Kiwanis Anniversaries: Gerry Abeln - 7/11/2008
John Howard - 7/13/2010
Chad Dickemper - 8/8/2018



President Louann Elledge presents a check to Mark Akers, Founder and Director of Oasis International for his presentation to our club today.