



South County K-NEWS

Kiwanis Club of South County - St. Louis

"Serving the Children of the World"
#KidsNeedKiwanis



Kiwanis International
Volume 38

February 1, 2023

Missouri-Arkansas District
Number 15

NEXT MEETING
February 8, 2023
Outstanding Students
12:30 pm

- Feb 1** - Laughing Bear Bakery - Kalen McAlister.
- Feb 4** - **TRIVIA NIGHT, SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS CHURCH HALL.**
Set-up 3:30pm, doors open 6pm, games begin 7pm.
- Feb 8** - Outstanding Students, Bernard MS & St. Mark Catholic School.
- Feb 15** - Trivia Night Recap and Evaluation, Louann.
- Feb 22** - Board/Business Meeting.

12 members and 1 guest: Kalen McAlister from Laughing Bear Bakery. Connie opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and Pauline followed with the Invocation. Connie stated that Chad is putting together a fundraiser at Freddie's for late March. Louann stated that on Jan 23 they had a total of 11 kids from both high schools for "Reading is Fun". Louann again stated that both the high school kids and the preschoolers are having a great time. Thank you, Chad and Louann, for your services.

Kalen McAlister is the founder of Laughing Bear Bakery. It is a company whose employees are ex-convicts. Kalen had been a prison Chaplain at a state facility in Farmington for 5 years. After retirement, she decided that she wanted to help newly released inmates because many would have no other form of employment. She started fund raising in April and opened the bakery business in Nov with only \$2,000.00. After 5 ½ years she was able to purchase her own building. She currently has 5 employees, but the business has been a stepping-stone for around 47 ex-convicts over the years. Most of the business is wholesale. Among others, current customers include Straubs, Starbucks, Local Harvest, Washington University and the Kennedy Center. The next goal is to go big with retail. Kalen has been in business for 7 ½ years now and has had many success stories. Over the years, she has seen only three employees return to prison. This is an amazingly small percentage compared to the states return of 65%. This is an amazing business! Thank you, Kalen, for giving those in need a second chance.

Happy Dollars: All members were happy for today's presentation.

50/50 Drawing: Jeanne,
Lottery Ticket: Linda K

Club Cancellation Policy

This winter we will again follow the Mehlville School District Snow Day policy if inclement weather should occur on one of our meeting days. If the Mehlville School District declares a snow day or a virtual instruction day, our meeting will also be cancelled. In other words, if the students do not go to school, neither will we go to our meeting. On questionable days, tune in to the TV or radio for school district cancellation announcements.

Trivia Night

Our Trivia Night is this coming Saturday, February 4, 2023 at Seven Holy Founders Church Hall, 6741 Rock Hill Rd., 63123 (at Gravois). Doors open at 6pm, Trivia begins at 7pm.

Member News

Bill Leonard is back at the Delmar Gardens Fenton. **Pauline Roth** had hip replacement surgery recently and is progressing nicely. Pauline Roth's husband, **Gene**, has recently been hospitalized. **Carla Rowell** also recently was hospitalized with colitis and is back home. Several other members have had some ailments lately as well. Please keep all our members and their families in your thoughts and prayers as they recover.

Oakville HS Key Club News

The Oakville HS Key Club meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month after school, 2:15pm, in the library/.

Feb 14 - Key club Meeting.

Feb 28 - Key club Meeting.

OHS Key Club hosted our first meeting of 2023 on January 9th to welcome our members back from school winter break and provide emotional support for their finals week. During the meeting, we reflected on our previous community service at TSA STEM Night. Then, we reminded the members of the upcoming service opportunity: Reading is Fun! We intended to keep the meeting short and simple due to finals week. At the end of the meeting, we acknowledged to the members that we will not be hosting our second meeting in January due to a lack of meeting space, and we sent them home with encouragement to stay positive during the most stressful time of the year.

Mehlville HS Key Club News

The Mehlville HS Key Club meets on the 1st Thursday of each month after school.

At our February meeting we discussed various service hours opportunities: Reading is Fun on February 27 at the Lemay Child and Family Canter; MHS Preview Night February 16 for next year's freshmen to learn about the various clubs at the high school; taped labels on containers for the collection of tab tops and made fliers to post around school to promotes the collection of tab tops.

Mar 2 - Key Club Meeting.

Reading is Fun

Our Reading is Fun program is once again on the 4th Monday of each month, September thru May except for December since that is such a busy month, at the Lemay Child and Family Center, 9828 S. Broadway, 63125 at 3:00pm. The young children love having the teenagers read to them and then they get to keep the books to take home.

South County Kiwanis Web Page and Face Book Page

We 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. Thanks also to Jennifer Bess for volunteering to work with them.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

Birthdays:

Judy Burnette - 1/1
Steve Dodson - 1/18
Carla Rowell - 2/3
Shirley Zoellner - 2/12
Connie Kuchar - 2/14
Pauline Roth - 2/18

Anniversaries:

None in January.
Vern & Carolyn Langenfeld --2/8/97
Ed & Carol Kurmann - 2/12/66

Kiwanis Anniversaries:

Judy Burnette - 1/25/95
Bill Leonard - 1/30/13
Pauline Roth - 1/30/13
Shirley Zoellner - 1/10/08 Bridgeton Kiwanis
- 10/9/12 South County Kiwanis

Linda Hoppe - 2/4/20
Lee Bodendieck – 2/15/10
Mary Howard – 2/20/02



President Connie Kuchar presented a check and a South County Kiwanis pen to Kalen McAlister in appreciation of her presentation today about the Laughing Bear Bakery.