

January 2022

Kiwanis®

Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District News



Local Celebrities and Kiwanis Leaders
Help Laurel Club Hold onto Tradition

Improving the world one child and one community at a time.



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BACK COVER



A Message from the Governor

By Rick Latiolais, Governor

I hope that you had a marvelous Christmas Season and that you have great expectations for the New Year. By the time you read this we will have begun the Mid-Winter Regional Conferences. If your region has not yet had theirs, please make plans to attend, and bring as many club members as possible (see pages 12-13 for more information and registration). Our District Education Team has worked long and hard on their programs and I am sure you will come away from the event full of new ideas and renewed enthusiasm.

In December, I received word from Kiwanis International that the club in Laurel Mississippi may need a little help with their pancake breakfast event. So, Past Governor Patrice Cusimano, Trustees Marcel Lashover and Rogena Woods-Mitchell, and myself answered the call to help them out. Like true Kiwanians they needed no more help than “fly to the moon”. They had everything choreographed to a “T”. There were Key Club members galore doing the serving and cleanup, two large separate locations for the event, a giant sausage smoker, five rotating grills to do the cooking, volunteers from the community that became Kiwanians that day, a couple of national television personalities to lend a hand, and more than 2,000 Mississippians to eat every plate of sausage and pancake put before them. This was truly a Signature Project Extraordinaire, and I learned quite a few things that day. My hats off to Billy Taylor,



Rhonda Gilbert, Ralph Smith and all of the members of the Club for a wonderful Saturday in December. If you’re ever in Laurel in December, check out this event, it will make you proud to be a Kiwanian.

Thanks to all of you who held Christmas parades, served food to the needy, rang the bell for Salvation Army, took children Christmas shopping, played Santa or supported him as an elf, reindeer, or Grinch, furnished gifts for Christmas morning, wrote cards and letters to the elderly and ***improved the World one child and one community at a time.***

Key Club will begin their Spring Rallies in January.

- Tennessee’s rally will be held January 8th at Millington High School
- Mississippi will hold their rally January 15th at Stone County High School
- Louisiana’s rally will be held January 29th at a location to be determined

In order to get our Key Clubs up

and running after the pandemic, I sent each of our Lt. Governors a list of the Key Clubs in their division and the name of the sponsoring Kiwanis Club.

They were to contact the Key Club or contact the sponsoring club to see if they needed assistance reopening. If your club or Key Club did not get contacted let me know and I will send the list for your division. It is *imperative* that Kiwanis Clubs support their Service Leadership Programs.

CKI will hold their District Convention in Lafayette this year on February 18-19. If your city has a college or university, please contact the administration to explore the possibility of starting a new CKI club. If there is already a club, invite their members to attend a meeting, to join a service, or help in a fundraising event.

When you meet with your SLP members make sure they are aware of the **Global Leadership Certificate**. Key Club and CKI members can attend (for free) 39 courses on leadership to earn their certificate. Participants will take a deep dive into leadership topics such as: Connection, Inclusion, Empathy, Resilience, Self-awareness, Vision, Critical Thinking, Communication, Volunteerism, Civic Engagement and Change Agent. This program doesn't just **help students stand out as a candidate for colleges/grad school, trade schools or employers** — **it helps them become a stronger leader and changemaker.**

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WWW.LAMISSTENN.ORG

Holding onto Traditions

By Patrice Cusimano, Immediate Past Governor

Traditions are such an integral part of the winter holidays. But what exactly is a tradition? A simple definition is: the handing down of information, beliefs or customs from one generation to another. When I was a small child, I remember the tradition of getting the aluminum (yes, aluminum!) tree out of the attic, erecting it in front of the picture window, hanging glass balls and shining the color wheel on the tree. Hey, the space program was a big deal then! When Sal and I married and blended our families, we would buy a big, fat Christmas tree and place it in the bay window in the living room. Over the years we collected old fashioned ornaments – glass, embroidered, wooden, sequined – and of course the ornaments the kids made in school and

Boy Scouts. Luckily, our decorations were upstairs in a closet when Hurricane Katrina hit and we saved our precious ornaments. Today, I put up my “Jeff” tree in the living room, filled with memories of my son, cardinals, and “fancy” ornaments. This year I added an ornament for my sweet Shadow, my Schnauzer who crossed the rainbow bridge this past year. Despite what you might think, the tree makes me happy every time I pass through the room because it’s filled with happy memories. Sal still buys a big tree for the family room and fills it with our life-long collection of ornaments. More happy memories...

A few weeks ago, I was able to participate in a Kiwanis tradition that clubs nation-wide continue every year.



The Kiwanis Club of Laurel was concerned that it might not be able to have its annual Pancake Breakfast in two locations because of decreased club membership. When Erin and Ben Napier, stars of the HGTV hit show *Home Town*, got word of this, they stepped in to help. You see, Pancake Day is BIG in Laurel (and in so many other communities!) and it just wouldn’t be right to cut back on this tradition. When I heard the *Home Town* folks were involved, there was nothing keeping me away from Laurel. It was magical!

The Napiers and their crew and families were everywhere. I approached one young lady who was walking around serving coffee and asked if I had met her at the Hattiesburg Regional last year – she just looked so familiar. She explained that she was part of the crew and appeared in several episodes. Of course! The crew of *Home Town* fit right in with the Kiwanis members and the hundreds (thousands?) of folks who came out to support Pancake Day in Laurel. I visited the two locations and the line was out the door and down the street at both. Key Club members were smoking sausage and flipping pancakes –

Continued on Page 6 . . .



Serving pancakes at the Annual Laurel Kiwanis Club Pancake Breakfast are from left to right: Laurel Kiwanis Club Secretary Rhonda Gilbert, Region III Trustee Rogena Woods-Mitchell, *Home Town* HGTV Star Erin Napier, Immediate Past Governor Patrice Cusimano and Governor Rick Latiolais.

A Message from the Governor Continued . . .

By Rick Latiolais, Governor

Key Leader - I am sure you have all seen the notification about when, where, and how Key Leader (North and South) will be held this year. If not, Charlie and Tiffany should have it up on the website: www.lamisstenn.org. We are excited to note that Bruce Ham-matt has agreed to work with Rebecca Huff to ensure Key Leader South will be a success. So, Presidents and Treasurers get busy finding the funds and students to attend.

MEMBERSHIP - In November I was informed by our International President that our goal for membership was to add 450 members to the District's Rolls. That equates to every club increasing their membership by 12.5%.

<u>A club with</u>	<u>would have to add:</u>
15 members	1.8 members
30 members	3.7 members
50 members	6.2 members
100 members	12.4 members

This means that every club will have to pull their own weight. To assist, beginning in January, our District Membership Committee under the leadership of Dorothy Kemp from the Kiwanis Club of Baton Rouge will begin work to bring Zoom meetings to teach our clubs how to successfully recruit and retain members. Your District Educational team will present at the Mid-Winter Regional Conventions ideas and proven methods to increase your club's population. Kim Champagne the Dis-

trict's Club Coach remains available to evaluate the operations of your club and suggest methods for improvement. Last, but not least, "little ole buttercup" (Rogena Woods-Mitchel) is going to help our organization build new clubs.

BUT IN THE END IT, WILL TAKE EVERYONE OF US TO DO OUR PART AND ASK SOMEONE TO JOIN OUR ORGANIZATION. (Just like the Laurel Club – We can do this!!)

Bonne année

(Happy New Year)

Rendez-vous en 2022

(See you in 2022)

Holding onto Traditions Continued . . .

By Patrice Cusimano, Immediate Past Governor

such a wonderful sight to see Key Clubbers helping.

The folks from *Home Town* had their own film crew and I have my fingers crossed that something about the Laurel Club's Pancake Day appears in an episode. Ben was flipping pancakes and Erin was serving them. I had the opportunity to move around the room and thank people for coming, sometimes sitting down to chat. People were so excited that Pancake Day was back. A lovely lady of 90+ explained that she had attended Pancake Day for as long as she could remember and looked forward to seeing old friends every year. Governor Rick, Trustees Rogena Woods-Mitchell and Marcel Lashover,

and I had a blast. This may be a new tradition for me.

Never willing to miss an opportunity to recruit new members, Rogena and I worked the room and asked folks to join the club and be a part of this wonderful tradition. Adam Trask, a local artist who has appeared on the show, told me he was a Key Club member who worked the Pancake Breakfast throughout his Key Club career. Of course, he was asked why he hadn't joined the Laurel Club yet. Hmmm???

The Pancake Day tradition in Laurel, Mississippi is alive and well, and thanks to a little outside help, hopefully the club will grow and continue its fabu-

lous fundraiser tradition for many years to come. I know so many of our clubs have pancake fundraisers every year, each one dear to that community. Just like in my family, traditions sometimes change but remain the same. Traditions come from our hearts and celebrate our most cherished memories. Our Kiwanis families are no different. Our clubs change, but remain the same, with the everlasting goal of making our world better one child and one community at a time.

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas holiday and that you all have a happy, healthy, prosperous and blessed New Year.

Cherish the Time Spent with Older Friends

By R. Bruce Hammatt, Governor-Elect



I had the distinct pleasure of attending two events over the last month or so that I wanted to share with you. Although the events themselves were special I want to talk about two senior Kiwanians that I met for the first time and why those two were so remarkable.

For almost a year now, my wife, Joy, has been telling me about an elderly gentleman she met many years ago in Washington, Georgia. Last year she went back to Washington with her father, Irv Cheney, and her two sisters for a short visit to her father's place of birth. Joy and her sisters have always enjoyed these trips back to her grandparent's home where they had so much fun with their many cousins and extended family.

While there, they met with their old friend Steve Blackmon who was a former classmate of her dad's. She found out that he had been a member of the Kiwanis Club of Washington, Georgia for over 74 years. Since Joy was president of the Kiwanis Club of Baton Rouge during this trip, she listened quite closely to his Kiwanis stories and was amazed when he indicated that he had per-

fect attendance over that entire time.

She mentioned to him about my alligator escapades and he asked Joy if she would convince me to go over and give my alligator talk to his Kiwanis club. Because of the complications with Covid, it took several scheduling attempts before we were finally in Atlanta ready to meet Steve Blackmon on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving at the Kiwanis Club of Washington, Georgia.

To say that I was excited about getting ready to meet this long-time Kiwanian would be an understatement. I checked with Kiwanis International (KI) and found out he had joined the Club in August 1947. I contacted our friend and fellow alligator enthusiast, Bert West, the KI President-Elect, and he prepared a few comments to include as an "addendum" to my alligator Power-

Point presentation to honor this long-time member.

I readily found out that Steve, at 96, was not the oldest member at the meeting that day. His table partner, besides Joy, was his longtime friend Jimmy Field. I also witnessed why he was such a cherished member. Even at his age, Steve led the discussion at this 101 year-old Club about funding one of their longtime projects of providing Merriam-Webster dictionaries to all of the third grade students in their community.

I have no idea who might be the longest serving Kiwanian. However, I now have a marvelous memory I can cherish of meeting and talking to a 96 year-old Kiwanian that has been an active and valued member of his Club for over 74 years. He says he has had perfect attendance for that long, and who am I to question!

The second special event occurred right before Christmas when I was trying to schedule my weekend of Kiwanis activities. I had a Kiwanis Zoom meeting that morning and another activity scheduled

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Cherish the Time Spent with Older Friends Continued . . .

By R. Bruce Hammatt, Governor-Elect

for later that afternoon. It was the date of many area Kiwanis Christmas parades so I contacted our local District Trustee, Michele Crosby, to see if I could help with her Denham Springs Club's Christmas Parade.

The timing of when they "needed" my help coincided with my availability so my Kiwanis day was set. Although my mind had a little difficulty deciphering Michele's instructions vs. my Waze instructions in my old truck, I made it to the staging area in plenty of time.

When I found Michele, she dutifully introduced me to the Club's membership team handling the concession stand. I met many other Kiwanians with their blue shirts riding in their golf carts or otherwise

handling their responsibilities at the annual event.

One of the many individuals I met was their long-time member Bob Ingalls who was also working at the concession stand. Sure, he was doing his best to help out, but it was his compassion for the other members that impressed me the most. When I was introduced to another member he would tell me a little about that member and how he felt they were such an integral part of their Club.

He was especially proud when he talked about the Club's slate of officers. He was very complimentary of their current President Malayne Sharp and Secretary Meg Williams. He talked about the enthusiasm they brought to their Club.

During my few hours of working with this club on their very special day it was evident that Bob was correct in his assessment. The membership was very active and the younger members were definitely bringing in that level of excitement that gave me the impression this club would be in good hands for many years to come.

We seem to always harp about getting new members to join our Kiwanis family. That is indeed true; however, based on these two events it shows me that it is also important to cherish the times spent with our older friends. It truly takes all of us to improve our communities, one member at a time.

Bruce helps out Denham Springs Kiwanis Club members at the club's annual Christmas Parade's concession stand.



La.-Miss.-Tenn. Executive Director to Retire

By Charlie Ford, Executive Director

As you may have heard, it is my plan to retire as your District Executive Director at the end of this Kiwanis Year. After forty-something years, I believe that it is time for me to stay home and work on the “honey-do’s”! And with this news, your District Leadership Team has started the effort to find my replacement.

Please find a synopsis of the duties of the District Executive Director below and the Employment Application form on pages 10-11. When completed,

the application should be mailed to Governor Rick Latiolais at his address shown on the form.

If anyone in your club would be interested in applying for this position, or have any questions about the job, please email one of the Executive Officers of the District: Governor Rick Latiolais, rlatiolais1@gmail.com; Governor-Elect Bruce Hammatt, bruce.hammatt@gmail.com; or Immediate Past Governor Patrice Cusimano, patricecusimano60@gmail.com.



It has been a pleasure to serve this great District for over 40 years, and I hope that I can do what is needed for a smooth transition for our to-be-named District Executive Director.

Qualifications and Responsibilities of the Executive Director

The Executive Director of the La.-Miss.-W. Tenn. District operates as its Executive Director, Secretary and Treasurer.

Qualifications:

- Member in good standing of a club in good standing of the La.-Miss.-W. Tenn. District of Kiwanis International
- Resident of La.-Miss.-W. Tenn. District
- Four-year degree from an accredited university, preferably with a concentration on business, marketing, and or finance/accounting
- Availability to work weekends or evenings
- Availability to travel to District and Kiwanis International events
- Submit to and pass a drug test, background check, and any bonding requirements
- Working knowledge of social media platforms (e.g. website construction and maintenance, Facebook, Instagram) and possess exemplary computer skills (e.g. Word, Power Point, Excel, QuickBooks)

Responsibilities:

A. Executive Director

- Maintain with board approval all necessary insurance policies, bonding protection, warranties and contracts necessary for the operation of the District.
- Attend the following events: International Convention, International District Secretary Meeting, District Convention, Mid-Winter Conference, Executive Board Meetings, District Foundation Board Meetings, Lt. Governor Training, Key Club District Convention and Circle K District Convention.
- Schedule, organize and coordinate District Conventions and all other meetings that require hotel accommodations, food

service and speakers.

- Maintain the official master calendar for the District.

B. Secretary

- Assist the Governor and the Executive Board by maintaining, updating and protecting all district records, and archiving appropriate records.
- Manage and timely update the District directories, newsletters and social media platforms.
- Facilitate communication between Kiwanis International, the District officers and Committee Chairs, the clubs and their officers.
- Timely file all necessary reports with Kiwanis International, and any government agencies when applicable.

C. Treasurer

- Keep current financial records and account for the District, District Organizations (e.g. District Foundation, Past District Officers, CKI, and Key Club), as the Executive Board deems necessary, including receipts and disbursements.
- Regularly review the financial condition of the District, Circle K and Key Club, and report to the Executive Board at its quarterly meetings, or whenever otherwise requested by the Executive Board, and to the District at its annual convention.
- Prepare a yearly prospective budget for the District, CKI, Key Club and Foundation, which shall be made available to the Executive Board prior to the August meeting.
- Comply with a yearly audit by a Certified Public Accounting firm for the accounts of record as required by Kiwanis International.

Application for La.-Miss.-Tenn. Executive Director PAGE 1

Name: _____ **Email Address:** _____

Address: *Street* _____ *City* _____ *State* _____ *Zip* _____

Phones: *Cell* _____ *Home* _____ *Work* _____

Education History: *Please provide college information, including colleges/universities and years attended, degrees received (if any), campus organizations and offices held (if any) brief description of responsibilities.*

Employment History: *Please provide a 5-year employment history, including company/organization, number of years employed, position and brief description of job responsibilities.*

Total Years in Kiwanis: _____ **Kiwanis Club(s) to which you belong/have belonged:**

Club(s): _____ *Region(s):* _____ *Division(s):* _____

Have you served as a Lt. Governor? Yes No

If yes, Division(s) and years served: _____

Have you served as a Regional Trustee? Yes No

If yes, Region and years served: _____

Have you served as District Chair, including the District Foundation? Yes No

If yes, please list position(s) and years served:

Have you served on a Kiwanis International committee(s): Yes No

If yes, please list position(s) and years served:

Have you received any awards for your service to Kiwanis. Yes No

If yes, please list and indicate whether it is a club, division, district or international award:

Please list other community boards/committees on which you serve:

Continued on page ?.

Application for La.-Miss.-Tenn. Executive Director PAGE 2

Please explain why you are interested in this position (100 words or less):

Lined area for writing the response to the first question.

What unique skills do you bring to this position (100 words or less)?

Lined area for writing the response to the second question.

Are you available to begin work part-time or full-time prior to October 1, 2022? Yes / No

If yes, when: _____

Signature

Date

Deadline for applications is February 15, 2022. Please mail your completed application to:

Richard Latiolais, Governor
Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee
District of Kiwanis International
407 Marguerite Blvd.
Lafayette, LA 70503



Kiwanis®



Kiwanis

Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District

The 2021-2022 Mid-Year Regional Conferences:

HOW TO...

...MEMBERSHIP...

Recruit! Retain!

...FUNDRAISING...

Be Fun! Be Sustainable! Promote Your Cause! Highlight Your Community's Culture!

...SIGNATURE PROJECTS...

Recurring! Brand Enhancing! High Impact! Membership Focused!

Who should attend the Mid-Year Regionals?

Any Kiwanis Club officer and/or member who is looking for ideas on how to...

- Discover new and proven ideas on how to find and retain club members
- Look for ways to improve your club's current fundraising projects or find new ways to raise funds
- Plan meaningful projects, ones that your community automatically know it's your Kiwanis Club that is make an impact for your community!

Ideally, all clubs are encouraged to send **at least four members - and even more!** to the Mid-Year Regional Conference, to develop, as a team, working plans for your club. The Regionals are planned to help clubs - bring 4 or more members to make plans to benefit the club.

The 2021-2022 Mid-Year Regional Conference will be...

- **A working meeting**, to help each club plan and improve your vision for the community
- **A one-day event**, starting around 8:00 a.m., and ending before 3:00 p.m.
- **Centrally located**, at a convenient location within the Region.
- **Less expensive!** Registration is \$15 per member in advance; on-site fee is \$30 per member. This fee will include refreshment breaks during the day, and lunch.

TYPICAL 2021-2022 MID-YEAR REGIONAL AGENDA

NOTE: Times may vary slightly by Region

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

REGISTRATION

Continental Breakfast (*recommended*)
District Foundation Gift Basket Raffle

8:30 a.m.

Governor Rick meets with Club Presidents & Lt. Governors

9:00 a.m.

OPENING SESSION

- Welcome by Regional Trustee & Introductions

9:15 a.m.

HOW TO ...

LUNCH

Governor Rick Latiolais makes his "official visit" to the Divisions of the Region; presentation of the 2020-2021 Awards, and drawings for the Foundation Raffle

FOLLOWING, if needed...

DIVISION COUNCIL MEETING to share information and to elect Lt. Governors and Lt. Governors-Elect if necessary

TRUSTEE ELECTION (if needed for Regions V or VI)

2021-2022 MID-YEAR REGIONAL SCHEDULE

<p>January 22nd <i>"Florida Parishes Region"</i> Region V - Divisions 8A, 8B & 13 The Mezzanine Event Hall 308 So. Cate St., Hammond, La.</p>	<p>January 29th <i>"WestTenn Region"</i> Region I - Divisions 1A & 1C Baker Community Center 7942 Church St., Millington, Tenn.</p>	<p>February 5th <i>"Southwest Region"</i> Region VI - Divisions 7, 12 & 17 Lafayette Fire Training Center, 300 Dugas Rd., Lafayette, La..</p>
<p>February 12th <i>"Natchez Trace North Region"</i> Region II - Divisions 2 & 10A, 10B, 10C FUMC - Christian Life Center 200 W. Lampkin St., Starkville, Ms.</p>	<p>February 26th <i>"Magnolia South Region"</i> Region III - Divisions 3, 5, 14, & 15 St. John Episcopal Church 705 Rayburn Ave., Ocean Springs, Ms.</p>	<p>March 5th <i>"Piney Hills Region"</i> Region VII - Divisions 6, 9 & 11 First United Methodist Church, 3900 Loop Road, Monroe, La.</p>
	<p>March 12th <i>"The Bayou Region"</i> Region IV - Divisions 4A & 4B Crescent City Christian School, 4828 Utica St., Metairie, La.</p>	<p>Kiwanis® CONVENTION 2022 INDIANAPOLIS June 8-11, 2022</p>

2021-2022 MID-YEAR REGIONAL REGISTRATION

Club: _____
 President: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Daytime Phone: (____) _____

Please print information below-use additional sheet if necessary:

NAMES of those attending: **OFFICE HELD (if any):**

Registering for Regional Conference...

- Reg. I: Jan. 29th Reg. II: Feb. 12th
 Reg. III: Feb. 26th Reg. IV: Mar. 12th
 Reg. V: Jan. 22nd Reg. VI: Feb. 5th
 Reg. VII: March 5th

REGISTRATION FEE MUST BE ENCLOSED:

Registration: \$15.00 per person = \$ _____

NOTE: If 4 (four) are attending from same club,
 4 @ \$12.50 for a total of \$50.00!
 (and then \$15 per person for each additional person)
 Total included: \$ _____

Make check payable to:
La.-Miss.-W.Tenn. Kiwanis
 Mail to:
5253-B Dijon Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70808-4393
Mail at least 2 weeks
before Regional is scheduled!

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Looking for a way to help **YOUR** District Foundation?

Try a Gift Basket Donation!



Be creative! Gift baskets may have any theme... such as local flair, sports teams, gardening, cooking, outdoors, holidays, decorating or simply cash.

Baskets are raffled (\$1 per ticket) at all of the Mid-Year Regionals from January-March and at District Convention in August. All proceeds benefit your District Foundation in the form of grants, scholarships and leadership trainings.

Wrap basket with cellophane, label contents and provide estimated value of contents.



Kiwanis
LaMissTenn Foundation

Ways to Get Involved with Your District Foundation

By Jennifer Kelly-White, Foundation President



Greetings and Happy New Year from your District Foundation! We are here to assist and help our clubs in numerous ways such as Community Service Grants, SLP scholarships and leadership trainings, AED grants and recently, Disaster Relief Grants. In the wake of Hurricane Ida, the need to help affected communities remains. The District Foundation has **Disaster Relief Grants** available for up to \$1,500 to bring immediate relief into communities within our District, whenever a disaster strikes. Additional information for the disaster relief grant or how to donate is provided at www.lamisstenn.org/disasterrelief.

With all of these ways the Foundation provides assistance, we need contri-

butions from our clubs and members to help pay it forward. This can be done by way of Annual Club Giving, endowments and Friends of the Foundation. The **Annual Club Giving campaign** begins each year on October 1 and ends on September 30. The District Foundation invites all Kiwanis clubs in the District to become a “club in good standing” with the District Foundation by donating a minimum amount of \$5.00 per member as of October 1 roster. This is a requirement in applying for a Community Service Grant.

Individual members may become a **Friend of the Foundation** with an annual tax-deductible donation of \$120 or monthly payments of \$10 (see page 17). As an added convenience, your “Friends” pledge may be set up as a recurring monthly or yearly charge on your credit card to maintain your status as a Friend of the Foundation for years to come! As a thank you for your contribution, you will receive a Friends of the Foundation lapel pin.

At our recent face-to-face District Foundation Board meeting, we are wanting to increase our communica-

tions with our clubs/members by having a greater presence on social media, emails and at Mid-Year Regional Conferences. Our focus is to reach out to our newest clubs and educate them on who we are and how we may assist. If you need a speaker for one of your programs, ask one of our Foundation Board members and we can present information to your club members. We want to encourage more club participation in the form of giving as well as applying for grants. If you have questions or would like additional information, check out our website at www.lamisstenn.org/foundation or contact me by email at jenniferwhite920@gmail.com. We are looking forward to working with you this upcoming year!

And last but not least, Mid-Year Regional Meetings are approaching (see pages 12-13 for information and club registration). Our Mid-Year Regional Meetings would not be complete without gift baskets! Attendees love to shop around and see what treats are available. Please consider bringing a basket of items and goodies to highlight some of your local specialties or go with a theme of gardening, cooking, grilling, etc. Be creative! Here is a handy tip for when it comes time to filling out contact information on that gift basket ticket – use small labels with your name/contact info to save yourself some time!





The La.-Miss.-Tenn. Foundation is on a Mission!

By Cathy Simmons, Foundation Grants Chair

As your foundation, we raise funds through Annual Club Gifts (ACG), Gift Basket Raffles, Friends of the Foundation, Endowment Program and individual contributions. Because of the generosity of our clubs and members, many of these donations are then used to financially support club projects and programs, within our District.

Community Service Grants:

(75% reimbursable up to amount of award)

*Up to \$2,000: reviewed/awarded monthly

*Up to **\$5,000:**

Round one due Feb 1st

Round two due July 1st

***New Super Grant** for 2023-2024 Kiwanis Year

\$10,000 – woo hoo!

Disaster Relief Grants:

*Up to \$1,500: available for clubs to assist communities after a natural disaster, by bringing immediate and essential relief to that area

New Club Grants:

*100% reimbursable up to \$1,000

For NEW CLUBS within one year of official Kiwanis Charter

AED Grants:

*To assist clubs in placing Automatic External Defibrillators in elementary, middle or high schools (\$750), or other facility (\$500) like a camp or senior center

Visit www.lamisstenn.org for the criteria, forms and history of grants since 1999.

FEBRUARY 1st is the deadline for the next round of \$5,000 Community Service Grant!

Flying that KIWANIS Spirit!

Special Sale: 2 for \$35



The “Kiwanis Garden Flag” has been flying in gardens all over the USA and our District! As a “fun”raiser for the District Foundation, 1,000 were produced and we have just 268 remaining! **The flags will be traveling to the different Regionals**, so you can save the shipping costs! Made of

weather-resistant, heavy duty polyester, the flag has a double-sided design that is DYED into the fabric in layers for a long lasting, vibrant work of art! (Scotchguard still recommended)

Size: 12” across by 18” down. Cost: \$20 OR 2/\$35

To pre-order and have flags delivered to your club at your Regional:

VISIT: KiwanisGardenFlags@gmail.com **CALL:** (504)874-2816

The Foundation Needs You!



During the last District Convention, members voted to have each Region hold 2 seats on the board. Nominations are on-going and the election will take place during the 2022 District Convention. Current board members will complete their 3-year terms. Beginning in October 2022, the following Regions will have open seats:

Region I (0), Region II (1), Region III (1), Region IV (1), Region V (2), Region VI (1), Region VII (1)

More info will be given at the Mid-year regionals held January-March of 2022.

Visit www.lamisstenn.org for the qualifications and application form.



Kiwaniis District Office
 5253-B Dijon Dr.
 Baton Rouge, LA 70808-4393
 (225) 769-9233 | 866-LAMSWTN
 foundation@lamisstenn.org
www.lamisstenn.org/foundation

FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION

Help Strengthen The Foundation's Endowment Fund

We have had founders of the LaMissTenn Kiwanis District Foundation, followed by pioneers forging the dreams of those founders, build the endowment funds bigger and better each year. Your District Kiwanis Foundation has given more funds back to YOU and YOUR CLUBS through grants due to the Endowment Fund. Your continued support CAN and DOES make a difference!

- An annual tax-deductible donation of only \$120 - or make it as easy as a donation of only \$10 per month! Set your "Friends" pledge up on a recurring monthly credit card charge to maintain your status as a **Friend of the Foundation** every year!
- ANYONE, not just Kiwanians, may become a 'Friend of the Foundation.'
- Receive a distinctive **Friend of the Foundation** lapel pin.
- For every \$1,000 donated, you have the choice of River of Life Fellowship, John T. Roberts Fellowship plus other levels thereof.



Sample of lapel pin

Friend of the Foundation Donor Information Form

Name: _____

Kiwanis Club: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Day Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

My total gift/pledge is \$ _____ *Remember your \$120 Friends of the Foundation donation is tax deductible.*

I wish to make my donation by:

- Check (payable to "Kiwaniis District Foundation")
 Credit Card
 Cash

For Credit Card Payments:

Card Number _____ Exp. Date (MM/YY) _____

Name as it appears on credit card _____ Card billing zip code _____

Signature _____ Date _____

I would like my credit card payment of \$ _____ scheduled (choose one):

- Monthly Quarterly Semiannually Annually

Beginning _____ and ending _____
 (MM/YY) (MM/YY)

Thank you for your generous support of the Kiwanis District Foundation!



Kiwanis[®]

CHILDREN'S FUND



Kiwanis Clubs & Individuals CAN & DO Make a Difference!

By Cathy Simmons, Ambassador South East Area

We are a **resource** for your club, as well as the fundraising arm for Kiwanis International. We can assist your club with developing fundraising strategies, managing district and club foundations, grants and so much more! Do you know about the “Ready Made Meeting”? This resource gives your club insight into what the Children’s Fund does, but also gives fundraising tips and strategies YOUR club can use for successful projects.

Grants are another big part of the Kiwanis Children’s Fund. Clubs can apply for funding in the areas of **Health and Nutrition, Education and Literacy, and Youth Leadership Development**. There is no limit to the

amount – your grant can be funded up to 40% of the projected amount! There is also a District Grant that can assist with those same causes. It is based on giving ... which means, 15% of the total funds collected from the clubs in LaMissTenn last year, generated a grant of \$5,360 to be used this year! Win-Win! So, thank you very much for your contributions!

The LaMissTenn District Chair is **Lenny Simmons**. Your club President and/or Secretary will be hearing from him, as he reaches out to all the clubs of our district, over the next 6 months.

Here are some **links** that will help your club get to know the Kiwanis Children’s Fund:

- Impact stories and news: kiwanis.org/childrensfundimpact
- Meeting Ideas: kiwanis.org/readymademeeting
- Club grants: kiwanis.org/clubgrants
- Link to give: kiwanis.org/give

I am proud to represent our District, as the Kiwanis Children’s Fund Ambassador, in my 5th year for the South East Area, which covers 6 districts: LaMissTenn, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Carolinas and Kentucky-Tennessee. Feel free to contact me by email if you have any questions, concerns or inquiries about the Children’s fund at cathysimmons@cox.net.



THIS IS WHY WE VOLUNTEER

Kiwanis Opportunities

By Dorothy Kemp, Membership Growth & Engagement Chair

Hello Everyone! This is my first opportunity to address everyone as Membership Growth and Engagement Chair. I'm very excited to serve in this capacity and I know I have some big shoes to fill. We're at the end of the first quarter and we have a few new clubs on the horizon. Along with new clubs, my role involves initiatives to keep clubs strong and members active and engaged. Here are some opportunities to consider as we head into this new year.

What's Brewing: Virtual Member Education and Engagement

What's Brewing is a virtual educational gathering of LaMissTenn Kiwanis members. Each meeting, we

share a topic of interest about what is going on in the District or International and provide time for members to talk about *what's brewing* in their clubs, the district, and in their areas. We will also feature a local coffee house, brewery, or distillery from each area as well. **So, grab your brew of choice and join us on January 27th for our first virtual event.** Sign-up here - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4BA5A622A5F49-whats>.

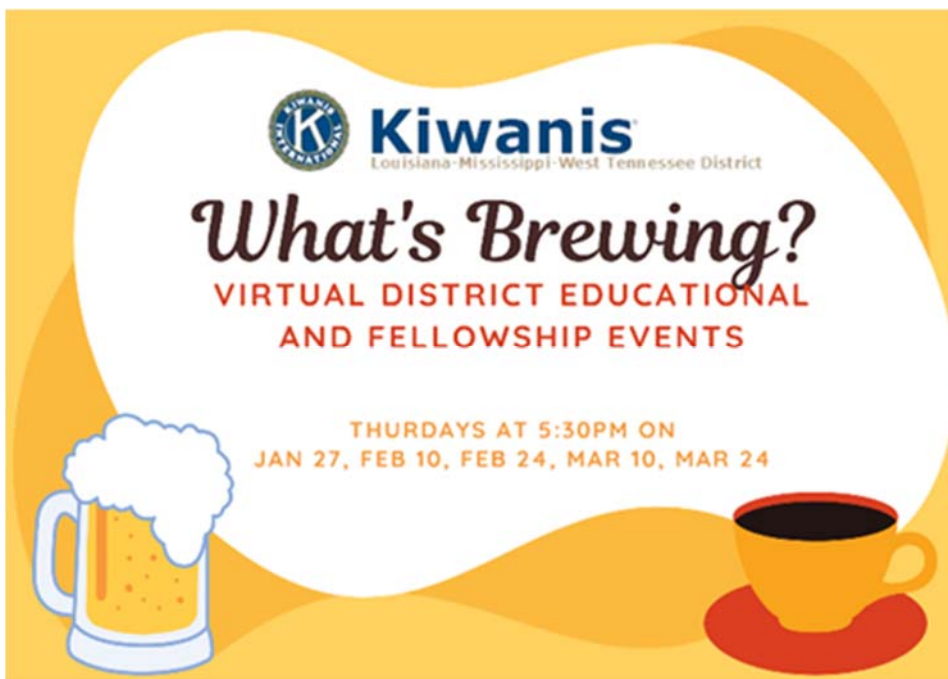
ACE Tools

Did you know that Kiwanis International provides tools to help create and support club service, fellowship, growth, and fundraising opportunities? **Achieving Club**



Excellence tools (<https://www.kiwanis.org/clubs/member-resources/training/division-leader/club-strengthening/achieving-club-excellence>) will help you and your club walk through processes to strengthen and support several areas of focus. What a great activity to consider as we head into setting goals for this new year.

Over the past two years we've faced challenges that we could have never anticipated, but I am encouraged by our commitment to serving the children of our communities and the fortitude that we have exhibited thus far. We now have more opportunities to meet in person and to participate in projects. The new normal brings opportunities to engage with potential members like we never have before. Let's be excited for these new opportunities and hope for all 2022 has in store for Kiwanis and the communities we serve.



Aspire to Inspire: VOIDS

By James A. "Jeems" White, III, Past Governor

This article is about nothing. Nothing is the absence of something. There is a lot more nothing than there is something. In fact, in a single atom 99.999999999% is empty space. Were you to remove all the space from all the atoms in all the people in the entire human race, the solid matter would fit into the volume of a sugar cube. It would be extremely dense and the space you removed would be a very large void. Let's talk about voids.

The noun 'void' means a space containing no matter, i.e., completely empty. (The word 'void' can also be used as a verb and an adjective but those are topics which would be making something out of nothing and would devolve into differentiation between the words 'void,' 'avoid' and 'devoid' which should be left to semanticists.)

VOID has many ramifications. There can be a void in someone's character, in an emotional response, in performance and in most anything not considered complete. The subject of this article is about two



important voids: 1) an upcoming void in our Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District of Kiwanis International and 2) the ongoing continuing voids in the lives of the children we serve.

1. Charlie Ford is retiring soon.

We are going to have a HUGE void in the operation, administration and smooth functioning of our LMT District. Only Charlie and Sharon Ford know and fully understand the magnitude of what they do for our district, for us in our clubs and for the children whose lives we impact. We take so many things for granted because Charlie just quietly and efficiently makes them happen. An awakening awaits us when Charlie's steady, experienced and professional hand is no longer at the helm. Be

sure to thank Charlie and Sharon for all they have done for all of us for so many years. Also get ready to roll up your sleeves and redouble your efforts as we try to overcome the void of Charlie's retirement.

2. Children's Voids. Were there not voids here and there in the lives of most children would there even be a need for Kiwanis? But the voids are there and will always be the *raison d'être* of Kiwanis. With the new calendar year come our resolutions to improve ourselves, our habits, our actions and shall we resolve also to "kick up a notch" our efforts to assist children with their passage to successful adulthood? Shall we fill more voids in more children's lives? Shall we make a difference for them in these difficult times?

Best wishes for the new year to you all, to Charlie and Sharon and to the children of our LAMISSTENN district and in the many other nooks and crannies of the void.

Germantown Pirate Commandeers K-Kids Ship in Christmas Parade

Germantown Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

The **Germantown Kiwanis Club** entered a float in the 2021 Germantown Christmas Parade. The ship was commandeered by the infamous Captain Black Jack Joonie, a.k.a. Claude Vinson, and his band of pirates from **K-Kids** programs at Forest Hill Elementary and Germantown Elementary. The float won 2nd place.



KEY CLUB NEWS

South Fulton High Key Club Collects Supplies for Wellness Center

The Twin Cities Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

The **South Fulton High School Key Club** collected office and cleaning supplies for the Good Samaritan Health & Wellness Center in South Fulton. They are a non-profit organization providing low cost health care to uninsured residents of Northwest Tennessee and Western Kentucky in the Fulton/South Fulton area. They rely on donations from the community and volunteers for their operations. We are proud of these Key Clubbers for taking the initiative to help out those in need in our community.

The pictured students collected the most supplies for their respective grades. They are from left to right Daniel Pitts (10th grade), Jami Swift (11th grade), Anna Robertson (10th grade), Kyle Meyers (Middle School), and Mayce Glasgow (9th grade).



Key Clubs Help Mighty Moms

Denham Springs Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

On the morning of October 23rd, Key Clubbers from **Live Oak High School** and **Denham Springs High School** helped **Mighty Moms** unload and organize food donations. **Mighty Moms** is a not-for-profit organization committed to fighting the battle against childhood hunger in our local community. We love supporting this amazing organization!! Thank you to our helpers from the Key Clubs and members of the **Denham Springs Kiwanis Club**.



BRMHS Key Club Prepares for Pancake Day

Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Thank you **Baton Rouge Magnet High Key Clubbers** for helping the **Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club** get to-go boxes labeled and syrup put in portion containers. These supplies were used to help feed the **Baton Rouge General Hospital** at **Bluebonnet pancakes** on October 29th.



Vicksburg Makes a Difference

Vicksburg Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Vicksburg Kiwanians and **Vicksburg High School Key Clubbers** made a difference at the **Vicksburg Community Garden**. Track symbols were repainted. Signage was cleaned. Benches were painted. Birdhouses were painted. Fence was replaced and painted.

Pearl High Key Clubbers Vital to Pancake Supper

Pearl Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Here are just a few pics from the **Pearl Kiwanis Club** Pancake Supper. A big thanks goes to all Kiwanians that worked so hard to make this fundraiser a huge success. And a very special thanks goes to the **Pearl High School Key Club** for volunteering and being such a vital part of the pancake supper!



BRMHS Key Club Helps out at Red Stick Kiwanis Poinsettia Sale

Red Stick Kiwanis Club Facebook Page



Westview Key Club Grows Operation Christmas Child

By Seth Frields, Westview High School Key Club Advisor

When **Westview High School Key Club** Advisor Seth Frields first brought the idea of students filling Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child boxes to club membership, he anticipated a response of around 15. By that Wednesday, 175 boxes were stacked in the halls of Westview waiting to be prepped for the next step in the process. First, Westview's donations went to an Atlanta, Georgia, processing plant of the North Carolina-based ministry that promotes the project. Then the bright red and green boxes filled with "things children will need and things they will want" were distributed around the world.

Last year, Frields and wife Areli filled a box and connected with a child in Paraguay as part of a ministry of their church at South Fulton Baptist. This year, he was challenged to consider making the opportunity available to Westview students.

When the anticipated 15 were grabbed on the first day by Key Club members, club organizers opened the opportunity schoolwide. Frields estimated that the total boxes collected went way beyond Key Club membership which totaled 20 and may have reached as high as 85 students participating.

The objective is for those filling the boxes to choose to fill for a boy or girl and then select an age range of 2-4 years old, 5-9 years old, or 10-14 years old. Toys and hygiene products must fit in the shoebox-sized box provided by Samaritan's Purse. Students could also include a completed "getting to know me" form and photos in the hopes of connecting later with the recipient.

Frields praised the Westview reaction, "We've got a bunch of really good kids. These kids have some big hearts." The final count of boxes totaled 183 at the completion of the project.



Key Club members extended the opportunity to participate in Operation Christmas Child to the Westview student body and 183 boxes of goodies and essentials made their way around the world. Seen here are: (Back, L to R) Nicholas Sterrett, Michael Moon, Joseph Roupe, Joshua Parrish, Hudson Edge, Advisor Seth Frields, Michael Mosiman, Zeke Ivy, Charles Pate; (middle row, L to R) Hunter Terrell, Luke Diebold, Joey Meeks, Samantha Bates, Katelee Roberts, Alina Armega, Cara Brooke Hatler, Braedyn Hazlewood, Betsy Mantooth, Atlantis Taylor, Alyssa Chua; (Front, L to R) Hannah Harrell, Emilee Kendall, Misha Vu, Anna Claire Gallien, Cate Nanney, Kinzey Nanney, Piper Johnson, Abigail Colarullo, Jullian Brigance, Mary Anna Chester, Kaylen Mullins; (out front) Ava Winstead, Harrison Simpson.

Hammond AKtion Club Creates Holiday Cheer

By Judy Couvillion and Vic Couvillion, Hammond Kiwanis Club

Members of the **Hammond Kiwanis AKtion Club** recently dedicated their December meeting to designing gift bags for clients at the Hammond Council on Aging Center and The Phoenix Assisted Living Center. Using a variety of stickers, colored pens and other decorative materials, AKtion Club members delighted in decorating the bags that were filled with “goodies” for the senior citizens. The bags of Christmas cheer were later delivered to the senior centers. The Aktion Club, sponsored by the **Hammond Kiwanis Club**, is an organization for adults with disabilities. The group also enjoyed a Christmas party at the December meeting sponsored by the Hammond Club.



Ascension Feeds Frontline Medical Workers

By Patrick Carpenter, Ascension Kiwanis Club

The **Kiwanis Club of Ascension** recently provided meals to frontline medical workers. Club members prepared over 100 meals and delivered them on Sunday, November 14, 2021. A local primary school, Bluff Ridge’s Beta Club assisted with labeling the containers for service hours. Club President Patrick Carpenter led the cooking team which prepared pastalya and white beans lunch plates. Club members Kristin Rosendale, Courtney Olivia, Chris Harrell, Leah Carpenter and Dana Carpenter assisted in boxing and delivering the meals. The club delivered the meals to the staff at 4 emergency rooms and 8 fire stations feeding over 100 frontline medical workers in Ascension Parish.



Columbus Serves the Homeless

By Ralph Carter, Columbus Kiwanis Club

On November 17th, the **Kiwanis Club of Columbus, Mississippi** members put together hygiene care packages for the Homeless Coalition. These care packages included socks, gloves, hats, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, snacks, gum, and tissues. This quick project will benefit at least 10 homeless in Lowndes County.



We Invite You to Join the eLaMissTenn Internet Club!

By Dennis Oliver, eLaMissTenn Kiwanis Club

Did you know your district, LaMissTenn, has an internet (e)club? YES, our club is beginning its 5th year! Long before COVID, Internet Clubs were gaining in popularity. At first the Internet Clubs were for Kiwanis members who found it difficult to go to their club's planned meetings.

Who can join the internet club? Basically anyone. The eLaMissTenn CLUB is comprised of many members. Many still belong to their home club, but appreciate another avenue for service to others and meeting new friends. Others are new to Kiwanis. We have many members from across the country from Mississippi to Wyoming to Iceland!!

We meet on the first Monday of each month at 5 p.m. CST with a speaker and the opportunity to plan service projects and fundraising activities. We invite any and all to visit with us any month to see if you are interested in joining. Contact me, Dennis Oliver, at 228-343-5444 or dmokiwanis@aol.com for more information.

Hammond Delivers Christmas Cheer

By Judy Couvillion and Vic Couvillion, Hammond Kiwanis Club

A trio of **Hammond Kiwanis Club** members delivered Christmas treats to clients at the Council on Aging Hammond Center that were designed and filled with treats by members of the **Hammond Kiwanis Aktion Club**. At the presentation, from left, were Kiwanis members Mayson Foster and Roy Blackwood; Beverly Brazil, Director of the Hammond Center; and John Bergeron. The Aktion Club is an organization for adults with disabilities sponsored by the Hammond Kiwanis Club.



Dawn Busters: Keeping Busy!

By Cathy Burks, Dawn Busters Kiwanis Club

Trunk or Treat

The Dawn Busters Kiwanis participated in the Trunk or Treat event in Lafreniere Park in Jefferson Parish to promote the Rewards for Reading Programs in Jefferson Parish Public Schools. The club also raffled off 2 meal gift baskets.



Hurricane Ida Relief

The Dawn Busters were awarded a Disaster Relief Grant from the LaMissTenn Foundation to provide disaster relief to LaPlace, La. and surrounding areas. On November 6th, the Dawn Busters Kiwanis, in partnership with the Kiwanis Clubs of Algiers, Acadiana, Crescent City eye Openers, and St. Bernard, came together to serve over 1,000 people affected by Hurricane Ida. In addition to providing meals, cleaning supplies, hygiene products, and clothing were also distributed to the families in need.



Annual Turkey Fry

The Dawn Busters Kiwanis Annual Turkey Fry was a huge success with 100% club participation. Club members and local Key Clubs worked tirelessly to promote, sell, clean, and fry over 1,000 Turkeys. It was very rewarding to have the very same children that participated in the Dawn Busters Kiwanis Club's Rewards for Reading Program for elementary schools in Jefferson Parish, La., volunteering. The Turkey Fry was highlighted by the NFL during the New Orleans Saints game on Thanksgiving Day.

Thanksgiving Baskets

Chef Frank Sclafani, Sr., Chef Pat Ohler, Chef Paula Sanchez and Chef Ron, along with support from the American Culinary Federation of New Orleans, Krewe of Carrollton and Dawn Busters Kiwanis, distributed 15 Thanksgiving food baskets to needy, infirmed, aged, and handicapped people in Jefferson, Orleans and St. Bernard Parishes. Names were submitted by NO Aids Task Force, ACFNO, Jefferson Council on Aging, Jefferson Beautification, Telemundo, and others. Thirteen individuals were selected in addition to 2 more needy families.



Hammond Sends Christmas Cheer Around the World

By Judy Couvillion and Vic Couvillion, Hammond Kiwanis Club

The Hammond Kiwanis Club once again participated in the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child ministry by filling 150 shoeboxes with a wide variety of items that were delivered to children in needy nations spread out around the globe. Three years ago the Kiwanis Club started its participation in the program and that involvement has grown over the past years.

Judy Couvillion, who chairs the Operation Christmas Child project for the Hammond Kiwanis Club, said of the endeavor, "this has turned out to be one of the most rewarding and even fun projects with which our club has become involved. We refer to our great organization as Kiwanis International and the opportunities to become involved in a program that involves helping children literally around the world are frequently hard to find. Through the Operation Christmas Child, Kiwanis members in the United States can discover a relatively easy way to reach out to children in far away nations and give them gifts that they would not otherwise receive."

During the year, a wide variety of items, including such things as crayons, pens, pencils, coloring books, small toys, containers, soap, wash cloths, tooth brushes, combs, socks, tee shirts, flip flops and other items are purchased. Operation Christmas Child asks that shoeboxes be filled with items that are of interest to boys and girls in three designated age groups ranging from the very young to the early teens.

The Hammond club held a packing party at a local agency and a large number of members, assisted by a few volunteers, quickly filled the 150 shoeboxes. The boxes were then delivered to the River Fellowship Church, the collection point for the shoeboxes in the region. From Hammond, the boxes were set to a distribution center in Dallas for final shipment to developing nations overseas.

"Several years ago we had a representative of Samaritan's Purse present a program at one of our meetings and we learned of the tremendous amount of joy a simple shoebox full of surprises can mean to children who have very little. Without the shoeboxes,



Mayson Foster and Anne Guedry put the final touches on shoeboxes loaded with "goodies" for children in developing nations at the Hammond Kiwanis Club's annual packing session. The club filled 150 shoeboxes as part of its contribution to the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child.

most of these children would have nothing for Christmas. Just knowing that these children will get this wonderful surprise at Christmas is worth all the effort that our club puts into this program. We are just doing our part to help change the world one child and one community at a time."



Hammond Kiwanis Club members and volunteers circled tables filling shoeboxes with a wide variety of items at Christmas a packing party.



Members of the Hammond Kiwanis Club along with volunteers celebrate the successful completion of the filling of 150 shoeboxes. Hammond Kiwanian Roy Blackwood, kneeling in his trailer, delivered the 150 boxes to the River Fellowship Church.

Hammond Completes Successful Annual Christmas Food Drive

By Judy Couvillion and Vic Couvillion, Hammond Kiwanis Club

On Saturday, December 18th, the **Hammond Kiwanis Club** successfully completed its annual Christmas Food Drive. More than two dozen Kiwanis members, assisted by a number of volunteers, ultimately filled 125 large boxes with a wide assortment of non-perishable food items.

Kiwanis member Judy Couvillion, who organizes the drive each year said of this year's drive, "the response of our local citizens who consistently show their generosity was simply overwhelming. We collected more food than ever before and by the time we had picked up the donations, and sorted the food items, the tables we use were overflowing with the contributions. This was our most successful food drive ever and those involved just kept remarking over and over again about how much food we had collected."

The food was donated by residents of selected subdivisions in Hammond. The week before the drive, residents in those areas are notified by notes left at their homes on the Saturday of the drive. If they wish to donate food items, they could simply leave boxes or bags by their door that will be picked up by Kiwanis club members and their helpers. "This system has worked well



Marissa Bayer, Maddie Mars and Brody Mars, from left, were among the young volunteers who assisted with the Hammond Kiwanis Club Christmas Food Drive.

for us...this way we do not have to disturb homeowners early on a Saturday morning. Many read our request and did they ever respond! It was amazing."

This year, the Walmart Distribution Center in Robert also donated two pallets of food to the Kiwanis Food drive to augment the items collected. Members of the Hammond Garden Club also collected food for the drive and donated cash to help supplement the effort.

The Kiwanis Christmas Food Drive involves more than just Kiwanis members. Key Club members from St. Thomas Aquinas (STA) High School assisted in distributing the food requests and they along with members of the STA baseball team also helped with picking up the food left on doorsteps

and with the sorting and boxing of the food. Beta Club members from the Southeastern Louisiana University Lab School assisted with the sorting and boxing. Also lending a hand were the spouses and children of Kiwanis members as well as other volunteers.

"A wonderful group gathered at our house, headquarters for the food drive, to work with the food. We had helpers as young as seven-years-old and a couple of Kiwanis members who are eighty-plus years old. Everyone pitched in to make this the great success that it was."

Dr. Rusty Mayer, a veteran Kiwanis member who gives instructions before the boxes are filled, told the gathering, "This is what Christmas means to me...this is the gift of giving...we have come here today to give our time to help feed families in our area who will know a better Christmas because of the work we are doing here today. This is our way of giving back to our community and this is showing the true spirit of Christmas."

In addition to the food in the boxes, the Kiwanis club adds a chicken to each box. The food is given to needy families in the community by local agencies and to families in need who are known to members of the club.



Hammond Kiwanis Club members and volunteers stand behind just some of the boxes of food gathered in select neighborhoods during the club's annual Christmas Food Drive. Volunteers ranged from age seven to more than eighty.

Lake Charles Hosts Spooktacular Coat Drive

By Steven Ek & Jim Meyer, Lake Charles Kiwanis Club



On October 29, 2021, the **Kiwanis Club of Lake Charles**, in concert with the Crying Eagle Brewery and several key donors, put on their annual *Spooktacular Coats for Kids* evening that featured refreshments, live music, and games for kids and adults. Activities included a family hour, raffle prizes, a silent auction, a “split the pot” raffle, and collection of donated coats made by Spooktacular patrons.

The success of the *Spooktacular* event was bolstered by a great marketing effort through local television stations KPLCTV and CBS Lake Charles, the Lake Charles American Press newspaper, with promotion on Digikast

screens and Lamar Advertising, Ultra, and AdSource billboards. Donor solicitation forms were distributed by the Kiwanis Club of Lake Charles members to numerous businesses throughout the Lake Charles area.

The public was invited to join in by encouraging attendees to bring one coat, new or used, which would enable the donor to be eligible to receive a free raffle ticket for a special gift, a free beverage, and an evening of fun.

The public responded by bringing in eighteen 39-gallon bags of used coats and four 39-gallon bags of new coats. The new coats were delivered to DeWanna’s Closet, operated by DeWanna Tarver for direct distribution to needy

students. The used coats were transported to Runte Lake Cleaners for cleaning and distribution by Kiwanis members to nine local agencies that serve underprivileged persons and families.

Donations by local sponsors to *Spooktacular* and funds raised on the *Spooktacular* evening netted \$17,513, which will be equally distributed to those ten (10) local agencies that serve the underprivileged. Donation checks were presented in our weekly Kiwanis meeting on Dec. 21, 2021.



New Orleans Kiwanis Has Busy Little Elves

By Cathy Simmons, New Orleans Kiwanis Club

The **Kiwanis Club of New Orleans** has had some very busy elves this past holiday season! Members are thrilled to be getting back to SERVICE! Also not pictured, the club donated a new mobility chair and gifts galore for families of Angels'

- 1 Socks and glove drive for the New Orleans Mission with our Key Clubs
- 2 Santa and the Kiwanis Elves
- 3 Wrapping Christmas gifts for 165+ clients of Magnolia Community Services
- 4 Delivering boxes & boxes of face masks (5000+ masks!)
- 5 Wrapping gifts for the clients of Covenant House, New Orleans

* Not Pictured: a new mobility chair and gifts galore for Angel's Place

Snapshots from Long Beach

By Howard Lock, Long Beach Kiwanis Club



In October, Long Beach Kiwanis Club members participated in the Long Beach Police Department's Night Out Against Crime! They had a blast and helped make this event a success!

Long Beach Kiwanis presented Treasurer Deb Kurts a Tablet of Honor for her hard work & dedication.

Club Secretary, Howard Lock presented a very special T-Shirt to Region III Trustee, Rogena Woods-Mitchell on a recent visit to the Long Beach Kiwanis Club.

Pontchartrain Salutes COVID Heroes

By Myra Lewis, Pontchartrain Kiwanis Club

The **Kiwanis Club of Pontchartrain** (KCP) bought and decorated a tree in this year's Celebration in the Oaks, an annual City Park project. The project features trees with a theme decorated by schools and other organizations. The trees are displayed on a walkway within the Carousel Gardens and can be viewed by the public as part of a walking tour.

KCP chose as its theme: Saluting COVID Heroes. The decorations featured images of first responders, medical personnel, clerks and drivers who met the challenge of the pandemic by providing essential services to all of us who were isolated within our homes during the crisis. The committee, Ellen Decou-Robinson, Deidre Charlot, Myra Lewis, Joe Perriatt and Willie Williams, assembled the decorations and decorated the tree for its display during the Christmas season.



South Lake Charles Treats Kids to Shopping Spree

By Tim Woods, South Lake Charles Kiwanis Club

Each year at Christmastime the **Kiwanis Club of South Lake Charles** holds its signature Christmas Shopping Spree event. The club asks local school administrators and others to identify about forty children who Santa would probably end up missing. Club members take these kids to Target and buy them whatever they want, one child at a time. The club allows each child a budget of \$125 and it's amazing to see the joy in their faces (and their parents) as they realize that yes, they will have a Christmas!

The club also involves additional students by asking the **Barge High School Key Club** to volunteer by escorting the children and their parents through the store, assisting them in picking out items and keeping tabs on their budget. The Key Clubbers wind up having a great time too as they experience how fulfilling it can be to volunteer.

The Kiwanis Club of South Lake Charles has been doing this at Christmas time since 1980 and it never gets old seeing the joy in the children's faces.



St. Bernard-Arabi Gives Back

By Kathy Huff, St. Bernard-Arabi Kiwanis Club

Books for The Gathering - Early Childhood Prep Center

In late August, as a result of Hurricane Ida in St. Bernard Parish, the Gathering lost their roof and the childcare center was displaced. **St. Bernard-Arabi Kiwanis** purchased books for the center which is still displaced in the community.



Above pictured from left to right: Charles Jackson (Vice President), Emily Alphonso (Director of the Gathering Early Childhood Preparatory Center), and Kathy Huff (Secretary)

Left: The children at the Gathering are enjoying the new books.



Kicking Cancer out of the Park

St. Bernard Parish held a Kicking Cancer out of the Park benefit for Mary Nadler who is a student in the parish with cancer. **St. Bernard-Arabi Kiwanis Club** members passed out food and drinks.



Celebrating Our Veterans

Kiwanis Club of St. Bernard-Arabi celebrates Veteran's Day each year with a luncheon to which guest Veterans are invited. This year's celebration was held on November 9th at Rocky and Carlos Restaurant and Bar in Chalmette.



Santa Visits Club



Trunk or Treat



St. Gabriel Cares for the Community

By Milisa York, St. Gabriel Kiwanis Club

On November 23rd, the **Kiwanis Club of St. Gabriel** traveled to East Iberville School and helped to distribute a total of 115 Thanksgiving meal bags to members of the community. Even the boys' basketball team of EI came out to support this great event! And on October 30th, the Kiwanis Club of St. Gabriel volunteered their time to participate in Cleanup Day at East Iberville School!



Thibodaux Shines

By Kassie Barrancotto, Thibodaux Kiwanis Club

The **Thibodaux Kiwanis Club** donated money to help fund the new Circle K Club at Fletcher Community College. We are excited to grow our Circle family. Also, the Thibodaux Kiwanis Club participated and won first place in the "Out da Pot" category at the Huddle Up Cook-off benefiting Nicholls State University Athletics. The club is 3 for 3 consecutive years of winning!





Abbeville Kiwanis Surprise Family for Thanksgiving

Abbeville Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

On November 19th, Abbeville Kiwanis surprised a family with all the fixings for a Happy Thanksgiving and much more!

Acadiana Provides Disaster Relief with Other Clubs

Acadiana-Lafayette Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

In October, Acadiana-Lafayette Kiwanis enjoyed serving the residents of the LaPlace area recovering from Hurricane Ida. A huge thanks goes to those who coordinated the event and to members from Dawn Busters Kiwanis, Cortana Kiwanis, New Orleans Kiwanis, Algiers Kiwanis, Pontchartrain Kiwanis, and Thibodaux Kiwanis for their collaborative efforts. We loved the fellowship of serving together!

Pictured to the right is Governor Rick Latiolais leading the volunteers in prayer.



Algiers Hosts 31st Pancake Breakfast with Santa

Algiers Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

The Algiers Kiwanis Club hosted its 31st Annual Pancake Breakfast with Santa on December 11th and it was a hit! Thanks to Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser for helping out!



Alexandria Gifts Jackets to Elementary School

Published by Greg Beard, Alexandria Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

In December, the **Kiwanis Club of Alexandria** distributed over 500 jackets to the students, teachers, and support staff of Huddle Elementary School. The focus of this project was part of the club's Coats for Kids service to the children of our community. Of course, none of this would have been possible without the help of the principal, Mrs. Tonya Normand, as well as my fellow club members. To all who participated, thank you very much for guaranteeing each child received a jacket and making a very memorable day.

"We see the community is giving back, and they're invested in the education of the students and providing for our students what some of them don't have," Principal Tonya Normand replied when asked what the jackets mean to her and the school. "It's just a wonderful opportunity for the students to see the community giving back to them."



Amory Participates in Chilifest

Amory Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Amory Kiwanis participated in the Amory Main Street Chilifest. Club members cooked chili, competing for one of the top chili awards. The club provided candy for the kiddos, took pictures of some of the children with the cows, laughed and fellowshiped, and had a great time!



Ascension Participates in First Drive-thru Trunk or Treat

Ascension Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

The night of Thursday, October 28th, several members of the **Kiwanis Club of Ascension** participated in The Arc of East Ascension's first drive-thru Trunk or Treat. The mission of The Arc of East Ascension is to enhance the quality of life for persons with disabilities and their families through services and advocacy that support choice, independence, and dignity. This was a great event the club was proud to be a part of!



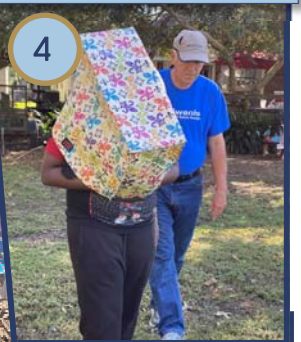
Pictured to the left are Dana Carpenter, Leah Carpenter, Amy Rossi, Kristin Rosendale, Courtney Olivia, Judy Stracener, and Doug Stracener.

Baton Rouge Kiwanis Loves Their Cubs

Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

The **Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club** stays busy with their sponsored Cub Scout Pack throughout the year!

- 1 Making Thanksgiving Dinner
- 2 Fall Gardening
- 3 Winter Camping
- 4 Orienteering
- 5 Spooky Halloween Snacking
- 6 Making Kazoos: A Musical Experience
- 7 Preparing for Christmas



Booneville Hosts First Annual Kiwanis 5K

Booneville Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Thanks to everyone who joined the **Booneville Kiwanis Club** for their first Annual Anthony Pettigo Memorial Kiwanis 5K Run/Walk. An awesome crowd came out on a beautiful morning helping the club raise money to help kids in the community. Special thanks to the event sponsors: Baptist Memorial Hospital-Booneville, Booneville Fitness Co., Coca-Cola, and Time 2 Run.



Camellia City Kiwanis Shares Christmas Spirit with Family in Need

Camellia City, Slidell Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Every year, the **Kiwanis Club of Camellia City, Slidell** gets together and selects a family that needs some extra Christmas joy. This year Evan and his family were selected. Evan is a 7 year old boy struggling with brain cancer.



Crowley Kiwanis Christmas Parade Rolls Again

Crowley Kiwanis Club Facebook Page



Denham Springs Spreads Christmas Cheer

Denham Springs Kiwanis Club Facebook Page



Denham Springs Kiwanis along with Key Clubbers from Live Oak & Denham Springs High Christmas shopped for 40 kids on December 20th. And the club's annual Christmas Parade was held on the afternoon of

December 11th and was a huge success.

Columbus Hosts Children's Christmas Party

Columbus Kiwanis Club Facebook Page



The Denham Springs Kiwanis Club's 32nd Christmas Tree Lighting took place on December 16th and included a performance by the Livingston Parish Children's Choir.

Cortana Kiwanis Cares

Cortana Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Three Kiwanis One Day Projects in One Weekend



The Cortana Kiwanis Club's first service project of the Kiwanis One Day weekend was cooking and serving jambalaya for 425 people at the Hallowheel Tennis Tournament. The Hallowheel Project is an annual tennis tournament for wheelchair tennis players; wheelchair participants are paired with abled participants. Funds raised help with scholarships for wheelchair bound junior tennis players to play in the Cajun Classic Wheelchair Tournament. For the second service project, Cortana members volunteered at Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank filling almost 400 backpacks. The Backpack Program is designed to help fill a void for children who are at risk of missing meals when they are not in school. And finally, the club's third project was cooking jambalaya for 450 healthcare workers at Baton Rouge General Hospital Mid-City. The club also partnered with the Kiwanis Club of Baton Rouge while they cooked pancakes for the Bluebonnet and Ascension locations.



Christmas & Thanksgiving Food Distribution

Members of Cortana Kiwanis donated and delivered 25 Christmas dinners on December 23rd and 25 Thanksgiving dinners on November 23rd. Members met early each morning at 7 a.m. to provide needy families with delicious dinners of ham and all the trimmings. The club appreciates the assistance of Delaune's Supermarket for boxing the food for us.

70th Annual Cortana Kiwanis Christmas Parade

Here are some scenes from the 70th Annual Cortana Kiwanis Christmas Parade on December 11th. Thanks to our sponsors and volunteers!



Denham Springs Helps the City

Denham Springs Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Denham Springs Kiwanis had a great time the morning of Saturday, November 13th helping the city with landscaping at the new Municipal Oaks Pavilion on Government Dr. Thank you to everyone who helped!



Dyersburg Spruces up Park on Kiwanis One Day

Dyersburg Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

On Saturday, October 23rd for Kiwanis One Day, the **Kiwanis Club of Dyersburg** members started their day improving Kiwanis Park by planting shrubs and pansies.



East St. Mary Teams up with Rotary Club

East St. Mary Parish Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

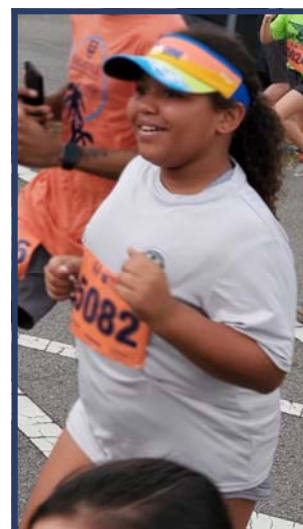
East St. Mary Parish Kiwanis Club and Morgan City Rotary Club participated in a joint service project at Trailhead Park in Morgan City on the morning of October 23rd.



Gulfport Surprises Running Club with New Shirts

Gulfport Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

The Kiwanis Club of Gulfport surprised the Anniston Avenue Elementary Running Club with new Dri-Fit shirts to wear as they worked toward their goal of running 26.2 miles by December. The Running Club's hard work paid off on Saturday, December 11th at the Chevron Gulf Coast Kid's Marathon when they completed their goals while wearing smiles.



Martin Kiwanis Christmas Parade is a Success

Martin Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Martin Kiwanis Club held its Annual Christmas Parade on December 6th.



Houma Hosts 2nd Annual Howl-O-Ween

Houma Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

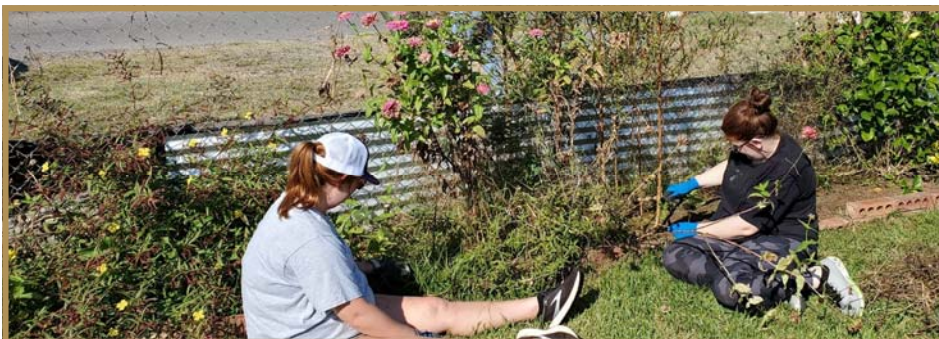
The Kiwanis Club of Houma's 2nd Howl-O-Ween Festival was a big success. Thanks to all of our doggie participants and their owners. Everyone had a great time!



Natchitoches Helps out in Legacy Garden

Natchitoches Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

As a part of Kiwanis One Day on October 23rd, the **Kiwanis Club of Natchitoches** helped Legacy Garden, a part of Ben D. Johnson Educational Center with some garden maintenance and harvesting. Club members enjoyed getting to learn about organically growing vegetables for the Legacy Cafe.



Natchez Trace Hosts Mutt Strut

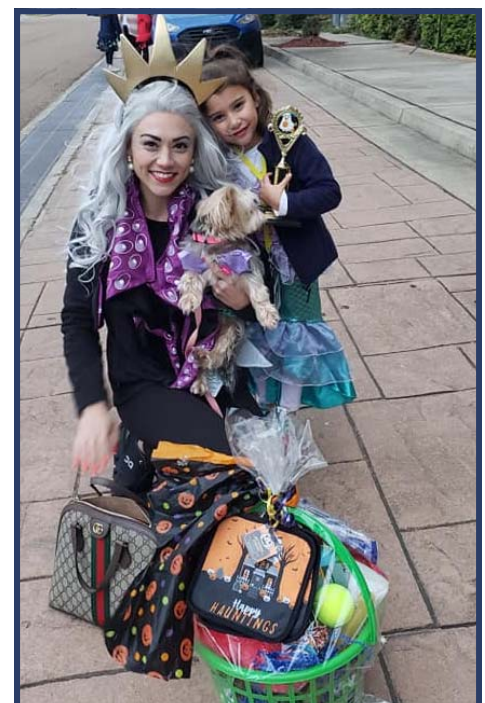
The Natchez Trace Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

On October 29th, the **Natchez Trace Kiwanis Club** held the 1st Annual *Mutt Strut* Kiwanis Fundraiser where participants strutted their pets for the chance to win "Best in Show Small Dog," "Best in Show Large Dog" and most "Paw-some Duo" (owner and dog in costume).

The cost to participate was \$25, which included a swag bag, a picture, the chance to win a trophy and gift basket, and of course....the opportunity for the community to see awesome dogs!

The judges for the event were Mayor Dan Gibson, Devin Heath, Valencia Hall, Margaret Perkins, and Police Chief Daughtry.

The event helped the Club fund the annual scholarships that are awarded to local students. In addition, the event benefitted the Humane Society, to help animals in need of adoption.



New Orleans Kiwanis Kares

New Orleans Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Halloween Treats for Angels' Place Kids

The kids of Angels' Place in New Orleans have medical issues that keep them from being able to go trick or treating. **Kiwanis Club of New Orleans** filled 80 bags with treats and trinkets, then delivered to the families.



Food Drive Benefitting Children

Joining with MC Bank and Fidelity, the **New Orleans Kiwanis Club** held a community food drive, benefitting the children of Boys & Girls Club and NORD. On November 20th, we boxed enough food for 10 families. We are blessed to live in a community who cares about the needs of others!



New Iberia Introduces Harvey the Rabbit

New Iberia Kiwanis Club Facebook Page



New Iberia Kiwanis Club is proud to sponsor the *Harvey the Rabbit and Friends* program for all elementary schools in Iberia Parish. Harvey the Rabbit promotes character education by advocating about the dangers of drugs and bullying. Harvey the Rabbit made a stop at Epiphany Day School on November 30th and also swung by Loreauville Elementary School on December 8th! Harvey even managed to get a couple of teachers and a Kiwanian on stage.



Northshore Mandeville Collects Tremendous Amount of Food

Northshore Mandeville Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

In November, Northshore Mandeville Kiwanis Club members volunteered and collected tremendous amount of food for the North Shore Food Bank.



Kenner North Has Fun at Trunk or Treat

Kenner North Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

On October 30th, members of the Kenner North Kiwanis Club had a great time handing out treats at Trunk or Treat in Lafreniere Park in Metairie, La.



Pascagoula Kiwanis Helps Kids

Pascagoula Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Kiwanis helps kids! For this year's Kiwanis One Day project, members of the **Pascagoula Kiwanis Club** helped Resurrection Catholic School with some fresh coats of paint at the Elementary School. Thanks to our great members for getting out and picking up a brush! It was a blast!



Pine Belt Cares for Kids

The Pine Belt Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

December 21st marked a special day for the **Pine Belt Kiwanis Club** as the club hosted Didi Ellis, Executive Director of Kids Hub Child Advocacy Center. Members are thrilled to be able to support organizations within the community that make a true difference. The club donated \$7,500 to the Kids Hub Child Advocacy Center.

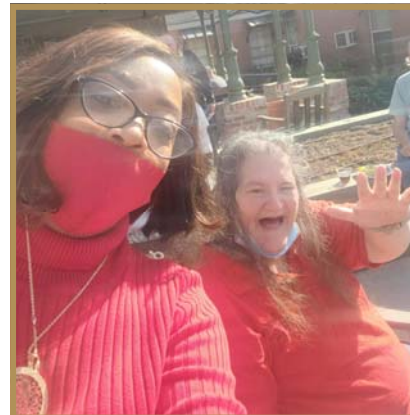
From left to right: Father Tommy Conway; Dean Pace, Club Vice President; Clayton Rush, Club President; and Didi Ellis, Executive Director of Kids Hub



St. Gabriel Host Christmas Social at Nursing Home

St. Gabriel Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

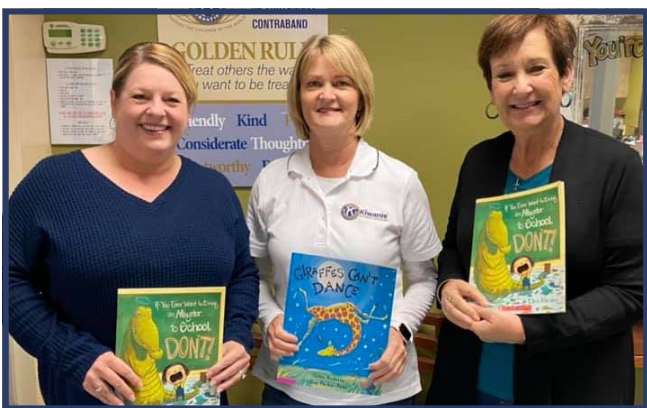
On December 4th, **St. Gabriel Kiwanis** traveled to Capital Oaks Nursing Home and hosted a Christmas Social with the residents. As you can see from the pictures, the smiles were huge! This is what Kiwanis is all about!



South Lake Charles Delivers Holiday Food Baskets

South Lake Charles Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Monday, December 20th the **Kiwanis Club of South Lake Charles** delivered 40 Christmas baskets to some most deserving families. In November, the club also delivered annual Thanksgiving baskets for about 40 families.



Southwest Contraband Reads to Students

Southwest Contraband Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

A few **Southwest Contraband Kiwanis** members had a great time reading to the students of MJ Kaufman Elementary in November. We love these opportunities!

Pictured are: Manette Phillips Pecorino, Cheryl Tucker Heisser, and Kathy Lewis

Stone Provides for Foster Kids

Stone County Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

This holiday season, **Stone County Kiwanis** celebrated another successful Christmas campaign to provide gifts and dinner for all of the foster children of Stone County. Stone County Kiwanis Club would like to thank all the volunteers that raised money, donated gifts, cooked, and gave their time to make this event a success.



Twin Cities: Staying Busy!

The Twin Cities Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Kiwanis One Day at Halloween Fun Festival



Fun was had by all on October 23rd at the Twin Cities Halloween Fun Festival sponsored by the Parks Board of Fulton & South Fulton! **Twin Cities Kiwanis** had the privilege of working at the bounce houses & enjoyed watching all of the local kids having fun. What a great way to spend our Kiwanis One Day!

Star in the Park

Someone was out early on October 23rd revitalizing our Star in the Park! Thanks **John Fry!!**

Food Drive



The **Twin Cities Kiwanis Club's** small, but mighty group braved the elements to help the KenTenn Food Bank on Saturday morning December 11th by collecting food from community residents at the local Walmart. During this holiday season, please consider donating to a charity of your choice!



Community Clean-up

The **Twin Cities Kiwanis Club** members were so proud to participate in the Community Clean Up on October 16th! We assisted other local groups including members of Lions Club of Fulton and Rotary Club of Fulton as well as church & community leaders to pick up trash across the Twin Cities. What a beautiful morning in our beautiful community!



Union City: Making a Difference

Union City Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

A Successful Pancake Day!

The Union City Kiwanis Club's 10th Annual Myrtle Harton Pancake Day on Saturday November 20th was a success! Special thanks goes to UCMS, OC, and UC Key Clubs and of course, every person or business who showed up to eat and fellowship, for their support and cooperation.



Ringing the Bell

The Union City Kiwanis Club helped to raise over \$1330 for The Salvation Army on Saturday, December 11th at Walmart Union City - W. Reelfoot Ave. We love spreading holiday cheer and helping others in our community.



Tupelo Presents Costumes and Cocktails

Tupelo Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

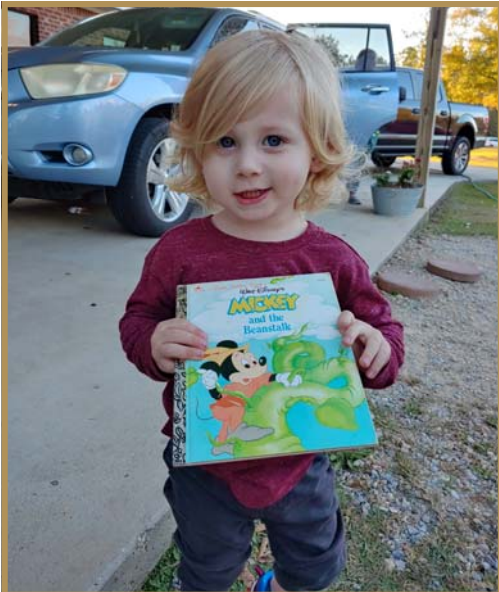
Tupelo Kiwanis Club presented Costumes and Cocktails on October 22nd to raise funds for their community projects. The event included a costume contest and the first two cocktails for attendees were free.



Vancleave Promotes Literacy with Little Libraries

Vancleave Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Vancleave Kiwanis is excited to announce their Free Little Libraries are installed and filled with books! There are three locations in Vancleave: Landry's Land of Learning, Little Feet Learning Center and Jack & Jill of Vancleave. The club encourages kids to stop by, choose a book and enjoy!



Vicksburg has Halloween Fun at Trunk or Treat

Vicksburg Kiwanis Club Facebook Page



Zachary Kiwanis Provides Appreciation Breakfast

Zachary Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

The Zachary Kiwanis Club put together a thank-you and appreciation breakfast for the outstanding workers overseeing ACT Testing at Zachary High School for Kiwanis One Day. Special thank you to Mr. David Jett for partnering with us on this project.

Share Your Club's News!

By Tiffany Domingue, District Bulletin Editor

Submit your article or photographs:

EMAIL: tiffany@lamisstenn.org

ARTICLES & PHOTOGRAPHS: All article submissions must be attached in an email as a Word document along with picture captions. *Please submit original articles written by your club's members. We cannot use pre-published articles due to copyright laws.* Do not include photos within text documents; send as separate attachments in the highest resolution TIFF or JPEG file if possible. *Please send one Word document along with pictures attached together in one email. Multiple stories per club should be sent in one Word Document, preferably an overview of each story in one article.*

DEADLINES:

The deadline for article submissions is always two weeks before the publication's date. Here are the deadlines for the 2021-2022 Kiwanis Year:

April 2022 Issue = Deadline: March 18, 2022

July 2022 Issue = Deadline: June 17, 2022

October 2022 Issue = Deadline: September 16, 2022

Include this information:

CLUB: Club, Division Number, and Author

EVENT: Make sure to answer: **what** was done, **why** it was done, **who** benefited, **when** and **where** it occurred, **how** it was accomplished, etc.

ACCURACY: Please double check all dates, locations, etc., and be sure that all names are spelled correctly. While we do our best to correct issues if we notice them, we do not have the resources to confirm this type of information.

PHOTOGRAPHS: If you're shooting a service project, look for an action photo of the volunteers in progress or interacting with children. Shoot from the front – we are not likely to use a shot with mostly backs. Use as high a resolution as possible. Captions may not always be published, but it is helpful if you can identify subjects.

AND REMEMBER . . . THE BEST SHOT WINS THE COVER!

Keep in mind, the cover photograph for the District News Magazine will be selected based on clarity, action and emotion.

We want photographs showing how your club impacts the community!



"The Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District News" is the official publication of the Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District of Kiwanis International

2021-2022 LA.-MISS.-W. TENN. DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Governor - Elect R. Bruce Hammatt

Immediate Past Governor Patrice Cusimano

Executive Director Charles H. Ford

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John A. Fry, *Union City, Tenn.*

Region II

To be elected

Region III

Rogena Woods-Mitchell, *Vancleave, Miss.*

Region IV

Marcel Lashover, *Dawn Busters, Metairie, La.*

Region V

Michele Crosby, *Denham Springs, La.*

Region VI

Kimberly Champagne, *Acadiana-Lafayette, La.*

Region VII

Malissa Sweeney, *Natchitoches, La.*

DISTRICT OFFICE INFORMATION:

Charles Ford, Executive Director:

charlie@lamisstenn.org

Tiffany Domingue, Administrative Assistant:

tiffany@lamisstenn.org

Phone: 225-769-9233

Toll Free: 866-526-7986 (LAMSWTN)

Fax: 225-769-9215

Toll Free Fax: 866-669-9215

districtoffice@lamisstenn.org

www.lamisstenn.org

MAILING ADDRESS:

La.-Miss.-W. Tenn. Kiwanis District Office

5253-B Dijon Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808-4393

HOURS: Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.