

CRAWFISH TALES

LOUISIANA-MISSISSIPPI-WEST TENNESSEE DISTRICT



Volume IX Issue VII

January 2024

The official Newsletter of the Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District of Key Club International



KEY CLUB

Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District



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KEY CLUB



Call to the 2024 District Convention

Written by: The District Board

Hello everyone!

On behalf of the Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District of Key Club International, we want to invite you to our biggest event of the year, our District Convention (DCON)! This year's 81st Annual District Convention will be held from April 5-7, 2024 in Natchez, Mississippi with the theme "Service Out of This World!"

At the District Convention, students will have the opportunity to meet Key Clubbers from all over Louisiana, Mississippi, and West Tennessee, as well as hear from engaging Keynote Speakers and attend various interactive, educational, and fun workshops!

This is one of the BIGGEST events of the year and your club does not want to miss it! We highly encourage clubs to start fundraising for DCON as soon as possible. If you're interested in your club taking part, make sure to talk to your Club Advisor and check out the informational flier on the next page.

Stay tuned for more information regarding registration and logistics! If you have any questions about the District Convention, please contact our District Administrator, Mrs. Judi Zimmermann, at districtadmlmtkcjudi@gmail.com. For more information, please visit our District Website: lmtkc.org. Follow our District Instagram page (@lamisstenkeyclub) to keep up with all the latest updates!

We look forward to seeing you all there!

LOUISIANA-MISSISSIPPI-WEST TENNESSEE KEY CLUB PRESENTS



**SERVICE OUT OF
THIS WORLD!**

81ST ANNUAL DISTRICT CONVENTION

**NATCHEZ CONVENTION CENTER
NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI**

APRIL 5-7, 2024

QUESTIONS?

EMAIL DISTRICTADMLMTKJUDI@GMAIL.COM



Governor's New Year Address

Written by: Ben Hader, Governor

Happy New Year, LaMissTenn Key Clubbers! This new year, I challenge you to set a small goal for yourself: whether that's to give out one compliment a day, start walking outside more, or whatever you envision it to be, it's important to not just set big goals. Small goals help you stay grounded and driven, keeping the big picture in sight while still celebrating the little victories along the way that help you achieve bigger ones. While the calendar year is new, though, the service year is still in full swing! Keep up all of your volunteering efforts in your communities. You did incredible work in 2023, so let's do even more this year! Small goals like one extra hour volunteering per week or even picking up litter when you see it can make a substantial difference in your homes, schools, and communities. Plus, LaMissTenn's biggest celebration—District Convention—is near! Reward yourself for your unwavering dedication to service from April 5th-7th, marking the end of the 2023-2024 service year. Here's to a productive and impactful 2024!

Global Leadership Certificate

Written by: Keya Chanda-Rastogi, Secretary-Treasurer

Do you want to learn how to make a real impact on your school, community, and world? Key Club International offers the Global Leadership Certificate so you can do just that. Through videos, assessments, resources and other activities, you'll learn how to get your voice heard and your community's concerns met. You'll have access to nearly 40 courses on topics including building meaningful relationships, strategic versus tactical leadership, self-awareness, inclusion, civic engagement and being an agent for change. One of the most appealing parts of the Global Leadership Certificate is that it is entirely self-paced. You'll be able to build your Key Club core values of fellowship, leadership, and service on your own schedule! Participants may also take part in special opportunities, such as the Global Leadership Certificate Master Class held during the Key Club International Convention.

ICON Scholarship

Written by: Sameen Enam, Bulletin Editor

One of my favorite parts about Key Club is being able to meet many different people from various backgrounds. A great way to do so is by going to the Key Club International Convention! Last year, a few of the District Board Members and I had the amazing opportunity of attending the 2023 Key Club International Convention in Anaheim, California. It was truly one of the best experiences as I got to meet Members from Districts all over the world! Throughout the week, I attended a variety of workshops, heard from inspirational guest speakers, connected with other Key Clubbers, and elected the 2023 Key Club International Board.

This year, the 2024 Key Club International Convention will be held in Atlanta, Georgia. The LaMissTenn Tour will be July 7th to 14th. While the trip can be expensive, Key Club International is offering an International Convention (ICON) Scholarship for 2024. This program provides financial assistance to Key Clubbers to alleviate costs associated with the trip. With this scholarship, eight Key Clubbers will be awarded \$750 each to help with the cost of their trip!

Remember, this scholarship is not meant to pay for your entire trip. If you need to fundraise, Key Club International has articles about how to [raise money for ICON](#), [general convention-funding](#), and [how to find sponsors](#).

The deadline to apply for the ICON Scholarship is February 1st at 10:59 PM. You can find the link to the application [here](#) or in our Instagram bio at @lamisstennkeyclub! Good luck to everyone who applies!



How International Dues are Spent

Written by: Ryleigh Johnson, Division 1B Lt. Governor

Out of the \$13.50 each LaMissTenn Key Clubber pays in dues, \$7 of that is International Dues. Key Club International uses this money in a variety of ways. Administrative Fees make up 18% of the \$7 and the other 82% is used for Program Support. Administrative fees of \$1.27 are for the utilities, membership database, information technology support, building service, support for Key Club International Board Advisors and accounting. Program Support includes things such as membership materials, marketing and advertising, and travel expenses for International Board Members. \$2.10 per member is dedicated to membership materials and recognition, \$.69 is dedicated to travel for the International Board to visit their Districts, \$.98 is dedicated to marketing, and \$1.96 is dedicated to education and training, such as the Global Leadership Certification. More information on dues can be found using this link <https://www.keyclub.org/dues-reporting/>.





Running for Office

Written by: Gracie Reounodji, Division 8A Lt. Governor

This is the time to search your club for new and fresh leadership. Do you plan on running for office or even running for a higher office? If so, there are so many benefits if you do. Running for an Officer Position in Key Club helps you expand your leadership skills, teaches you important skills outside of your high school life, and implies your commitment to community service to the next level. When making a commitment to run for an officer position, you must ask yourself some questions. Do you want to run on a Club, District or International level? Club Officers are in charge of their school/home club. Their positions consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Historian. District Officers are Governors, Secretary-Treasurers, Lieutenant Governors, and Bulletin Editors. On the District Level, the Governor and Secretary-Treasurer oversees the whole District while the Lieutenant Governor oversees their Division within the District. International Officers are President, Vice-President and International Trustees. The International President oversees all active Key Clubs around the world with the assistance of the Vice-President. International Trustees are appointed 2-3 districts to help oversee and share International information to them. Lastly, running for an office position in Key Club is an amazing experience for every Key Clubber, but you must be willing to work and stay on tasks all throughout your term.

Boundaries

Written by: Aditi Arunprakash, Division 1A Lt. Governor

For each and every one of us, the only boundaries that we have are the ones we set for ourselves. Regardless if the situation is school, sports, or a hobby, if you start with a positive and open mindset you are ready to succeed. Working to overcome mental boundaries makes you a stronger and more resilient person. While it can be difficult to develop and maintain a positive mindset it is important to persevere. Others may even try to discourage you and tell you that you can't do something. By letting others tell you what you can and can't do you are restricting yourself from trying and succeeding. As someone once told me, "The person who says that they can and the person that says that they can't are both right. Which person are you?"

Tips for the End of Senior Year

Written by: Kaitlyn Huff, Division 11 Lt. Governor

As a Senior, I have felt the effects of Senioritis, and I am sure many Key Club Seniors are feeling the same way. Even though this is a feeling for many, do not let it affect you too much. Let's finish this year off strong!

My biggest suggestion is learning how to balance academics, extracurriculars, and free time. Since it is our last semester in High School, we often feel the need to pack our schedule full of activities, when in reality, it may be doing more harm than good. Packing your schedule can cause a ton of stress both physically and mentally. You should learn to take breaks and give time to yourself. Also, designate a time to do your homework. I often cannot do my homework later in the day because I am too overwhelmed from school and practice.

We are all counting down the days, but there are so many other great things to look forward to. Some examples are prom and sports banquets. If you are too run down from school, find something for you to look forward to doing.

My final tip has to do with applying for college and scholarships. Do not wait until the last minute to apply for these things. In the end, it will cause a lot of stress. Scholarship opportunities come and go, so you do not want to miss a deadline. This also goes for your college application. You would rather have it figured out far ahead of time than scrambling to get all of the required materials together.

I hope all of you have a great rest of your school year. You've all got this! Also, make sure to remember you can still do good for your community by joining Circle K at your college, joining a KIWANIS Club if there is no Circle K, or purely volunteering at organizations in your community.





Resolving Conflicts with Grace: A Guide to Effective Conflict Resolution

Written by: Jacob Tatum, Division 5 Lt. Governor

Conflicts are a natural part of life, but how we handle them can make all the difference. Whether it's a disagreement with a friend, a clash at work, or a family dispute, conflict resolution skills can help us find common ground and foster healthier relationships. This article will teach you five simple skills that will conclude to a more efficient conflict resolution.

Understanding the Conflict: To effectively resolve conflicts, it's crucial to understand their nature. Conflict arises from differences in opinions, values, or needs. It's important to recognize that conflicts are not inherently negative but rather opportunities for growth and understanding. By embracing conflicts as learning experiences, we can approach them with an open mind and a willingness to find mutually beneficial solutions.

Active Listening and Empathy: Active listening is a powerful tool in conflict resolution. It involves fully engaging with the other person's perspective, without interrupting or judging. By actively listening, we show respect and validate their feelings. Additionally, empathy plays a vital role in conflict resolution. Putting ourselves in the other person's shoes helps us understand their emotions and motivations, fostering a sense of connection and empathy that can lead to resolution.

Effective Communication Techniques: Clear and effective communication is key to resolving conflicts. It's important to express our thoughts and feelings assertively, using "I" statements to avoid blame or accusations. Active communication involves expressing our needs and concerns while also being receptive to the other person's viewpoint. By maintaining open and honest dialogue, we create an environment where both parties feel heard and understood.

Problem-Solving Strategies: Resolving conflicts often requires finding solutions that meet the needs of all parties involved. Collaborative problem-solving techniques, such as brainstorming or compromise, can help identify creative solutions that address everyone's concerns. By focusing on common goals and seeking win-win outcomes, we can foster cooperation and build stronger relationships.

Managing Emotions: Emotions can run high during conflicts, making it challenging to find resolution. It's important to manage our emotions and encourage emotional intelligence in others. Taking a step back, practicing deep breathing, or engaging in self-reflection can help us approach conflicts



Schoolhouse

Written by: Madison Pitre, Division 7A Lt. Governor

Key Club International is partnered up with Schoolhouse, a free online platform where students can receive tutoring from their peers in Math and SAT Prep. This non-profit organization was started by the same creator as Khan Academy, Sal Khan, to help children around the world. Volunteering as a tutor is a great opportunity to help you peers while earning service hours. Tutoring other students not only helps them get better, but also refreshes and reinforces your own math skills. Schoolhouse has already helped over 7,000 students and reached over 100 countries and we encourage you to be a part of this whether you are volunteering to tutor others, or receiving help yourself. Schoolhouse has also just launched a new feature called Subworld that allows Key Club members to join discussion boards and further communication on how to better their math skills. A part of this launch is the Tutor-a-Thon for which the winning District will earn rewards. For every hour of tutoring you complete, you earn ten points. For every hour of learning you complete, you earn five points. The District with the most points at the end of the Tutor-a-Thon wins! Let's prove that LaMissTenn is indeed a mighty District and work towards winning the Tutor-a-Thon. To sign up and learn more about our partner, Schoolhouse, go to <https://www.keyclub.org/news/schoolhouse/>.

Do you want to be a part of Crawfish Tales?

Have you recently participated in an amazing service project? Do you want to contribute to our Newsletter and Local Submissions section? If so, you can submit an article too! Simply fill in the questions about the service project you have completed in the form below:

<https://forms.gle/dLULgLYqPZmNCqEr7>