

CRAWFISH TALES

LOUISIANA-MISSISSIPPI-WEST TENNESSEE DISTRICT



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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

Thanksgiving

Written by: **Ben Hader, Governor**

Thanksgiving, a holiday celebrating gratitude, has a fascinating history that traces back to America's founding. The story begins with the Pilgrims, English settlers who arrived at Plymouth Rock in 1620. Facing a harsh winter and unfamiliar terrain, the Pilgrims formed alliances with Native American Wampanoag Tribe. The first Thanksgiving, taking place in 1621, was a communal feast shared by the Pilgrims and Wampanoag, celebrating their successful harvest and cooperation. While their menu vastly differs from today's extravagance, the essence of coming together in gratitude remains a central theme. Through the years Thanksgiving has evolved, but it wasn't until 1863 that President Abraham Lincoln officially declared it a National Holiday, setting its date as the fourth Thursday of November. Thanksgiving continued to evolve in the 20th century, gaining recognition for its association with family, food, and football. The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, a beloved tradition began in the 1920s and has become a staple of the holiday for many Americans. In essence, Thanksgiving's roots lie in its tale of survival, cooperation, and gratitude. Understanding the historical context of this Holiday enriches our appreciation for the traditions we celebrate today, reminding us that the spirit of Thanksgiving goes beyond the table and extends to the shared history that unites us.





Schoolhouse

Written by: Keya Chanda-Rastogi, Secretary-Treasurer

Schoolhouse, a partner of Key Club International, was created by Sal Khan, the founder of Khan Academy, as a virtual tutoring platform. Schoolhouse offers homework help and longer, reoccurring study sessions for tests such as the SAT and ACT. Schoolhouse is worldwide with students from over 100 countries with over 1000 volunteers. To become a tutor, first simply visit the website and create an account. You will have to certify mastery of the past math classes you have taken and then you will receive help from someone else for your first session! Tutoring hours are decided entirely by you and your schedule, but Schoolhouse is always looking for students to do live tutoring from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM (PDT). The Club and District with the most tutors will be recognized at ICON, so make sure to do LaMissTenn proud and sign up! Even if you are uncomfortable tutoring, you can always take lessons!



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Global Leadership Certificate

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

The Global Leadership Certificate is a Key Club Leadership Program that helps give Key Club Members leadership skills and training. This program is a 39-course program based on Key Club's core values of fellowship, leadership, and service. This program serves as a way to become a leader. Through videos, assessments, resources, and activities, you'll learn how to get your voice heard and your community's concerns met. In this program, you learn new skills that you may or may not have learned before. This program is completely voluntary but I highly encourage you to take the course. Thirty-nine courses may seem

excessive but in the end, it will benefit you. It is open to everyone and can be accessed easily through: <https://www.keyclub.org/global-leadership-certificate-program/>



Aktion Club

Written by: Maggie Mercke, Division 13A Lt. Governor

Aktion Club is a part of the K-Family. It is the only service club for adults with disabilities. There are more than 12,000 members worldwide. Aktion Club draws members from different organizations that support people with disabilities, along with community programs. But Aktion Clubs can be established almost anywhere. Some examples would be: churches, libraries, gyms, lodges or any similar facilities. A local Kiwanis Club full of service oriented people services as the club's sponsor. Aktion Club is supported at the District Level and by the Kiwanis International Office in Indianapolis, Indiana. A good way to bring the K-Family together could be to involve an Aktion Club in your next service project. For example if you're doing a park clean up contact a local Aktion Club if you have one in your area and see if they are interested in joining the project. If you're not sure if you have a club in your area or not contact your Kiwanis Club and ask them. They would be happy to help out.



LaMissTenn Kiwanis District Foundation Scholarship

Written by: Sameen Enam, Bulletin Editor

Hey Key Club Seniors! It's college application season and the LaMissTenn Kiwanis District Foundation is offering a scholarship for all eligible Senior Key Club members! Scholarship Applications will be available November 1st, 2023 and will close at 11:59 PM CST on January 31st, 2024. Scholarship recipients will be announced at the LaMissTenn Key Club District Convention in April 2024!

The LaMissTenn Kiwanis District Foundation will award the following scholarships:

- (1) \$3,500 Charles & Sharon Ford Scholarship
- (1) \$2,000 Jerry Hafter Scholarship
- (1) \$2,000 Jean Benoit Scholarship
- (1) \$2,000 Anthony Simmons Scholarship
- (6) \$1,000 District Foundation Scholarship

The following attachments are required for the Key Club Scholarship Application:

- Headshot (personal snapshots will not be accepted)
- Current official transcript
- 500-750 word essay on personal involvement and leadership experience in Key Club
- THREE Letters of Recommendation (signed and dated):
 - A letter of recommendation from a member of that Kiwanis Club if your Key Club has a Kiwanis Club sponsor. If your Key Club does not have a Kiwanis Club sponsor, recommendation letters should be from an adult mentor
 - A letter of recommendation from your high school school principal or guidance counselor on school letterhead
 - A letter of recommendation from an individual you find inspiring

Use the following link to find the page for the Scholarship Application and for more information:

<https://k11.site.kiwanis.org/key-club-circle-k-scholarship-programs/>. I encourage all eligible Seniors to apply for the Scholarship. Good luck to all Seniors during the application process!



Planning a Productive Club Meeting

Written by: Kaitlyn Huff, Division 11 Lt. Governor

One of the most important things for your Home Club to do is to host Club meetings often. How your Officers plan the meeting will help to determine how productive the meeting will be for the members. In order to help you out, I will be sharing my best tips for planning good meetings.

The most important thing is to make an agenda for every meeting. Even if it is just an Officer meeting, there should be an agenda made. Agendas help to ensure that everything is discussed before the conclusion of your meeting, and the agenda will help to guide you with what to talk about. It is also great for your Officers to provide members with an agenda so they know what to expect and ask questions about. The agendas can be printed out, sent to your members' emails, or posted in a communication group chat like Google Classroom. When creating your agenda, make sure you design it to where it is simple to read, has legible fonts, and contains colors that are easy to read. The simpler, the better.

My next tip is to make a presentation to project for the Club members to see. If members have something to look at, they often are more likely to pay attention. If you are discussing a service project that your club has done before and will be doing again, display pictures from the previous event. This will allow club members to have an insight as to what they will actually be doing at each event. With the presentations, still make sure they are easy to read and understand.

My next tip is to have an Officer meeting before the actual Club meeting. Officer meetings are a great time to decide who will be speaking about what, what the details are for each service project, and what the officers are expected to do at these service projects. When it comes to Club meetings, it is always great to have more than one Officer leading a meeting. It will allow for the members to hear from more than just one or two people.

My final tip is to include both fun and informational elements to your meetings. Club meetings are a great time to have small service projects, open discussions, and bonding games. More potential Key Clubbers will be interested in joining if they feel that the environment is welcoming. If members have suggestions for the next meeting, they could fill out a form at the end of the meeting for the Officers to take into consideration. By hearing feedback from members, the Officers and Faculty Advisors can make meetings more inclusive. I hope you found all of these tips helpful!

Setting SMART Goals

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

Goals are a very important part of everyday life. No matter what the goal is, any goal you set for yourself is significant. Being a goal oriented person can push you to accomplish things in a timely manner. Whether in Key Club or your everyday life there are several important characteristics to create a SMART goal.

The S stands for Specific. To set a goal you need to firmly establish all the details about your goal making a specific plan to make it more likely for you to accomplish it.

The M stands for Measurable. This means that you need to design your goals so that you can track progress over time to make sure that your goal is getting accomplished.

The A stands for Achievable. One of the most important characteristics of a goal is making sure that it is achievable. All goals should be challenging but being realistic is important.

The R stands for Relevant. Making sure that you are not distracted and that your goal accomplishes what you intended it to accomplish.

Finally, the T stands for Timely. This means setting a specific timeline for the goal. Depending on the goal your time limit will vary, but setting one will help you feel motivated to complete it.

Applying these strategies when you create goals for yourself and Key Club will help you make more effective goals that you can accomplish.

The word "SMART" is written in large, colorful, hand-drawn letters. Each letter is a different color: S (pink), M (yellow), A (red), R (blue), and T (purple).

Alexandria Fall Rally Recap

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

The Alexandria Fall Rally that took place on October 14th at Holy Savior Menard High School was truly astronomical! Thank you to everyone who attended this day packed with fun and information. I would also like to give a huge thanks to everyone who helped set up, including the Kiwanians who contributed and the host school's Key Club Faculty Advisor.

We played games such as Planet Ring Pass and Revolve Wrap during the General Session and received important information concerning the Governor's Project, Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF, Taskforces, etc. There were also many helpful workshops like Key Club 101, Stress Management, Build Membership, ACT Bootcamp, Officer Training, and a service project. Our service project was in support of the Quarterly Service Project to give thanks and appreciation to the hardworking teachers and staff of our schools.

In an effort to raise money for UNICEF Start Strong: Zambia, our Governor's Project, and lower the cost of District Convention dues we had two fundraisers: Pie an LTG (Lieutenant Governor) and a Pop-up-Thrift Shop. I was paid for the second time at a Fall Rally this year and good clothes were sold at the very low price of \$1 per item. All clothes left over from the thrift shop were donated to Salvation Army.

Overall, Alexandria Fall Rally was an out-of-this-world experience and we are grateful for the support of the voyagers who attended and helped make it successful! We hope to see you again and continue this voyage at District Convention!



Group photo from the Alexandria Fall Rally

Union City Fall Rally Recap

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

Thank you to everyone who attended our Tennessee Fall Rally on October 21st at Discovery Park of America! During the Rally, attendees had the opportunity to meet Key Clubbers from all over West Tennessee, attend educational workshops and officer training, participate in fundraisers for our Governor's Project, and make cards for our service project! We even got to hear from the LaMissTenn Kiwanis Governor John Fry as our Keynote Speaker!

The clubs that attended the Rally include Westview High School, South Fulton High School, Obion County Central High School, and Dyersburg High School. There were also Kiwanians from the Union City Kiwanis Club and the Kiwanis Club of the Twin Cities. We had a great turnout for the Rally and I hope the energy from the Rally will help these clubs with motivation throughout the service year. Thank you to everyone who attended!



Group photo from the Union City Fall Rally



Motivation

Written by: Jacob Tatum, Division 5 Lt. Governor

Motivation plays a crucial role in inspiring individuals to give back to their communities. When you're motivated to make a difference, you can create a positive impact on the lives of others. To stay motivated in community service, means to stay connected with the purpose behind your actions. Understand the needs of your community and how your efforts can make a difference. Set specific goals for the change you want to bring, whether it's volunteering a certain number of hours or organizing a fundraising event. Surround yourself with like-minded individuals who share your passion for service. Join community organizations or engage in volunteer programs where you can collaborate and learn from others. Sharing experiences and stories of the impact you've made can further inspire and motivate those around you to get involved. Remember, even small acts of kindness can create ripples of change within a community. Stay motivated by celebrating the successes and the positive outcomes you witness along the way. Your dedication and passion for community service can inspire others to join in, creating a ripple effect of kindness and making the world a better place for everyone.

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>