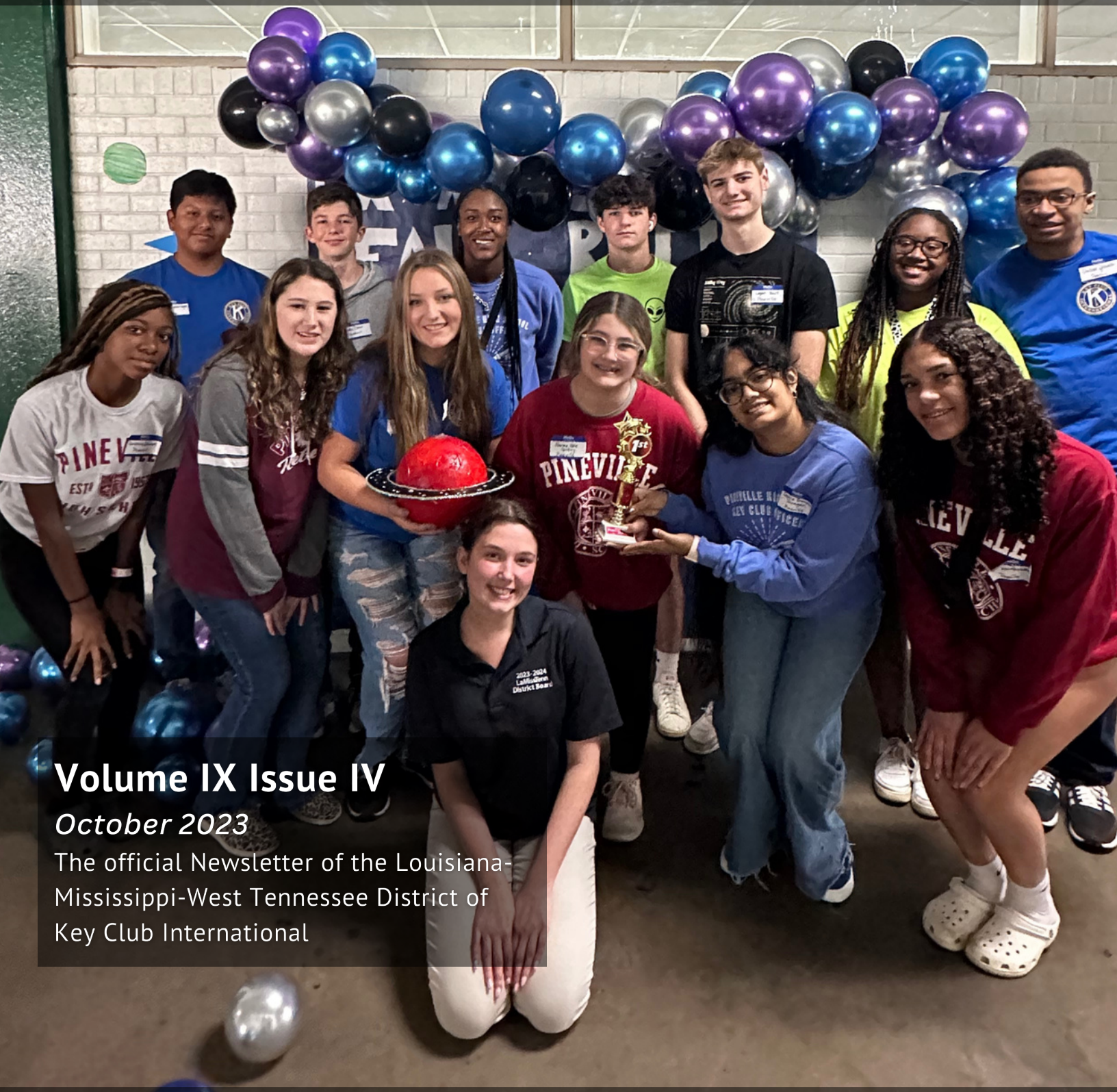


# CRAWFISH TALES

LOUISIANA-MISSISSIPPI-WEST TENNESSEE DISTRICT



## Volume IX Issue IV

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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

# Applying for College Soon?

Written by: **Ben Hader, Governor**

I know this season can be stress-filled and overwhelming; trust me, I feel the same way. But, it's important to remember some crucial tips before submitting your application! Here are some of my own guidelines that I follow when filling out my applications, and I hope they can benefit you as well.

1. Keep your voice central to your narrative. Remember that colleges don't just want to see your accolades, but they want to know who you are as a student and as a person. They want to see how you have grown and how you can continue growing. Yes, showing off your achievements can do so, but it's important to write using a tone and structure that best represents you, not who you think an admissions counselor is looking for.
2. When talking about activities, use numbers! If you are talking about your status as a Key Club member, maybe include how many service hours you've earned or the amount of money you've raised.
3. Use the mundane to separate yourself from others. Sometimes, when it comes to writing an essay, you have no major watershed moment in your life to talk about; no big issues, no big progress. At least, that's what you think. Instead of writing generally about one large event, pinpoint on a very specific circumstance and its impact on you.

I hope my tips can provide you with some help, and I wish all seniors the best of luck on the application process!



# Early Bird Dues

**Written by: Keya Chanda-Rastogi, Secretary-Treasurer**

Happy October, Key Clubbers! October is an exciting month for Key Club, between Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF, Fall Rallies, the Global Engagement Rally, and more! However, with all of these fun activities, your Club must keep an important deadline in mind: the Early Bird Dues deadline. Although Clubs must pay their dues by December 1st to retain their active status, if you pay by November 1st, your Club will receive an Early Bird Patch! To pay dues, you must first update your club's membership information. When you're ready to pay dues, you can do so online through the Membership Update Center or print an invoice and mail a check to Kiwanis Youth Programs, P.O. Box 6069, Dept. 123, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46206. Remember, the Dues for Louisiana-Mississippi-W. Tennessee are \$13.50: \$7.00 for Key Club International and \$6.50 for the District itself. All dues are sent to Kiwanis Youth Programs or Key Club International and they will reimburse the District their portion of the dues. You do not have to send two checks. Thank you all so much for your dedication, responsibility, and **timeliness!**





# Global Engagement Rally

Written by: Sameen Enam, Bulletin Editor

Hey Key Clubbers! Join Key Club International and Key Club Districts around the world on Saturday, November 18th at 6:00 PM CST/7:00 PM EST for the Fourth Annual Global Engagement Rally!

The Global Engagement Rally is a great way to learn more about the International Board and about Key Club International. All Key Club members are highly encouraged to attend! There's something for everyone at the rally from attending workshops hosted by International Trustees and District Governors and listening to various inspiring Keynote Speakers. Key Club International will also reveal the theme for the 2024 Key Club International Convention that will be held in Atlanta, Georgia!

Be on the lookout for more information that will be provided soon regarding registration and additional details! All up-to-date information will be posted on the LaMissTenn District Instagram page (@lamisstennkeyclub).

Register for the Global Engagement Rally by 7:00 AM CST/8:00 AM EST on Monday, November 13th. Use this link to register:

[https://kiwanis.formstack.com/forms/kci\\_rally\\_reg\\_23](https://kiwanis.formstack.com/forms/kci_rally_reg_23)



# Membership Experience Taskforce

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

LaMissTenn Key Club is launching its first-ever Taskforce, the Membership Experience Taskforce. This Taskforce will give members from across the District a chance to contribute on a larger scale and make sure that all of your voices are heard. Our goal for this Taskforce is to utilize members' feedback when planning District events to improve the mighty LaMissTenn District. If you are a member in good standing who wants to play a role in inclusiveness and maintaining and enhancing your membership experience within the LaMissTenn District, then you can apply to be on the Taskforce. The deadline to submit an application is November 1st and you will be notified of your application status by November 15th. Members of the Membership Experience Taskforce will also be recognized at District Convention for their great work and leadership. This is a great opportunity for all leaders as it will give you a chance to work with District and International Officers and help you to further your leadership skills while having a positive influence throughout the District. Use this link to apply: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1n3r3ozdHcf27qgmPb0PlicU\\_CDSubXV5gy5MU25jP3w/edit?usp=drive\\_web](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1n3r3ozdHcf27qgmPb0PlicU_CDSubXV5gy5MU25jP3w/edit?usp=drive_web). The link to apply can also be found in the bio of the District Instagram Page (@lamisstennkeyclub).



# Trick-or-Treat to Help Others

Written by: Kaitlyn Huff, Division 11 Lt. Governor

Every year, UNICEF hosts their biggest promotional period in October: Trick-Or-Treat for UNICEF. Key Clubs are able to put on events like parties, trunk-or-treats, and more to raise money for UNICEF’s projects. All of the money that is raised will go to Start Strong: Zambia, which is our Governor’s Project this year. With your support during this campaign, we can get exceedingly closer to our \$10,000 goal.

The campaign started October 1st and it will end October 31st. Even though the campaign ends at the end of the month, there is no official deadline for when you have to turn the money in. The only important date to remember is if your club wants to be rewarded with a patch for your banner, you must turn in \$250 by December 31st.

When Trick-Or-Treat for UNICEF first started, clubs would collect money in small orange boxes, but currently, clubs are able to send the money online. In order to turn in the money your club raises, you can visit the UNICEF website to fill out a form before sending the money. Besides that, the UNICEF and Key Club websites contain promotional materials, information, and project ideas for your club to use. We want this year to be the most productive year for the LaMissTenn District. If you have any questions about the Governor’s Project or Trick-Or-Treat for UNICEF, please email me at [division11lmtkckaitlyn@gmail.com](mailto:division11lmtkckaitlyn@gmail.com). I will be able to help answer any of your questions or concerns. Let’s make this the best Trick-Or-Treat for UNICEF yet!

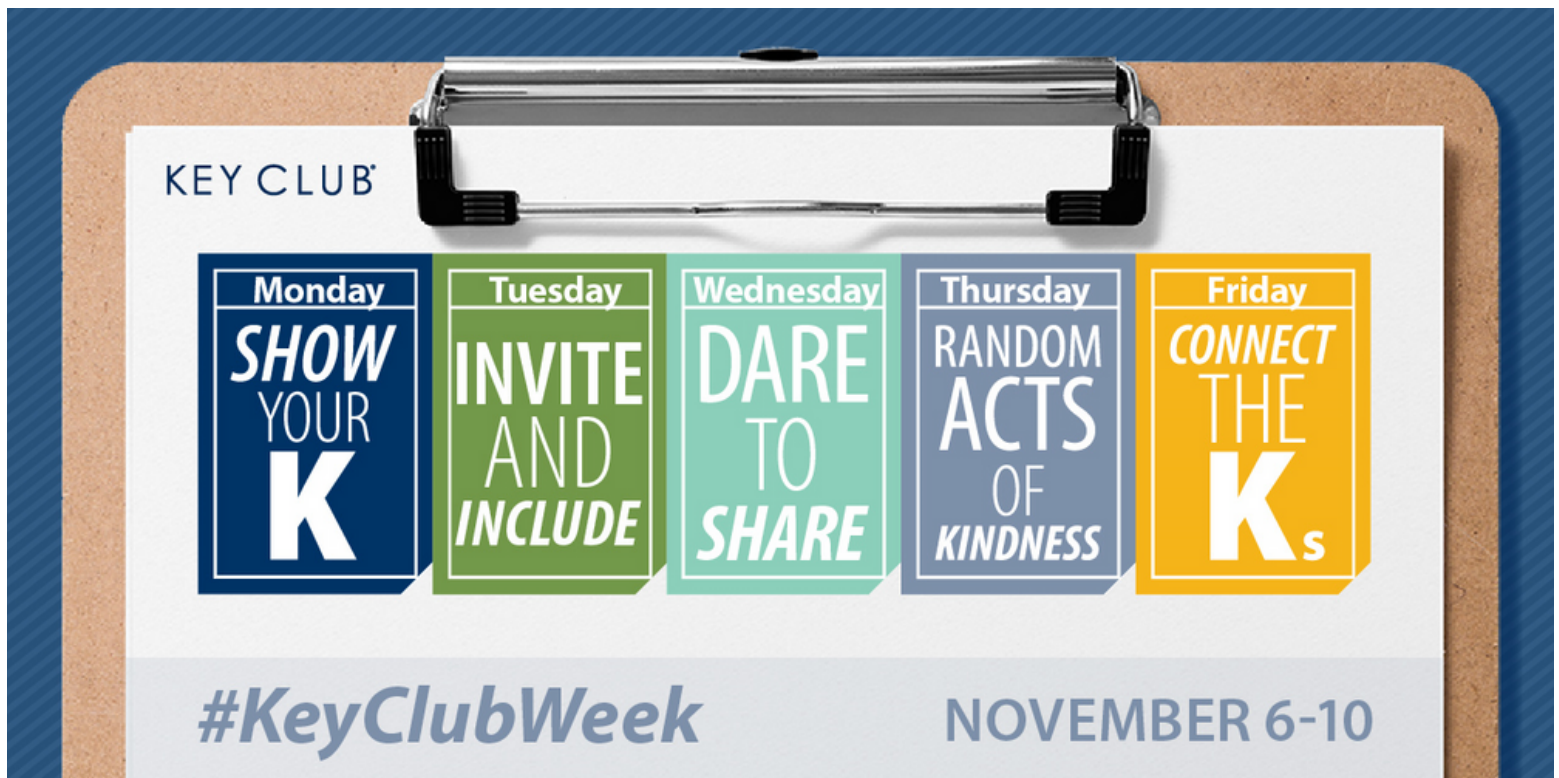




# Key Club Week

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

Key Club Week is November 6th-10th and gives Key Club members an opportunity to show their community what Key Club is all about. On Monday, the theme is "Show your K". This day is meant to advertise your club and spread awareness about your club. The theme for Tuesday will be "Invite and Include". The purpose of this day is to show off one of the core values of Key Club: inclusiveness! Wednesday's theme is "Dare to Share", which encourages students to share their club on social media! This is a great way to advertise your club and show people what your club is all about! The theme for Thursday will be "Random Acts of Kindness". On this day, Key Club members are encouraged to do random acts of kindness in their communities. Some random acts of kindness could include leaving nice notes for people, giving someone a compliment, or even holding the door for the person behind you. On the last day of Key Club Week, the theme is "Connect the K's". On Friday, Key Club members are encouraged to celebrate and connect with the entire Kiwanis family. Connecting with the Kiwanis family could be doing a service project together or even hosting a virtual event!





# The Importance of Building a Relationship with Kiwanis

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

Building a relationship with your sponsoring Kiwanis Club can be very beneficial to your home Key Club and to your Division. Your sponsoring Kiwanis Clubs are usually very willing to help you if you ever need anything. For example, if you need a place to host meetings, ask to use their facility. You can also ask them to work on one of your service projects and collaborate on different things. Some ways you can build relationships with your sponsoring Kiwanis Club is by going to their meetings. Be present in their meetings and pay attention to what people are saying. Talk to some of the Kiwanians there and start to build relationships with them. Another way to build relationships is by attending their projects and events that they have going on or offer to help one of their service projects. I personally have enjoyed building relationships with multiple Kiwanians and going to the meetings. I always learn something from the meeting while also getting to know the people. These are just some of the reasons you should be prioritizing relationships with your Kiwanis Club.

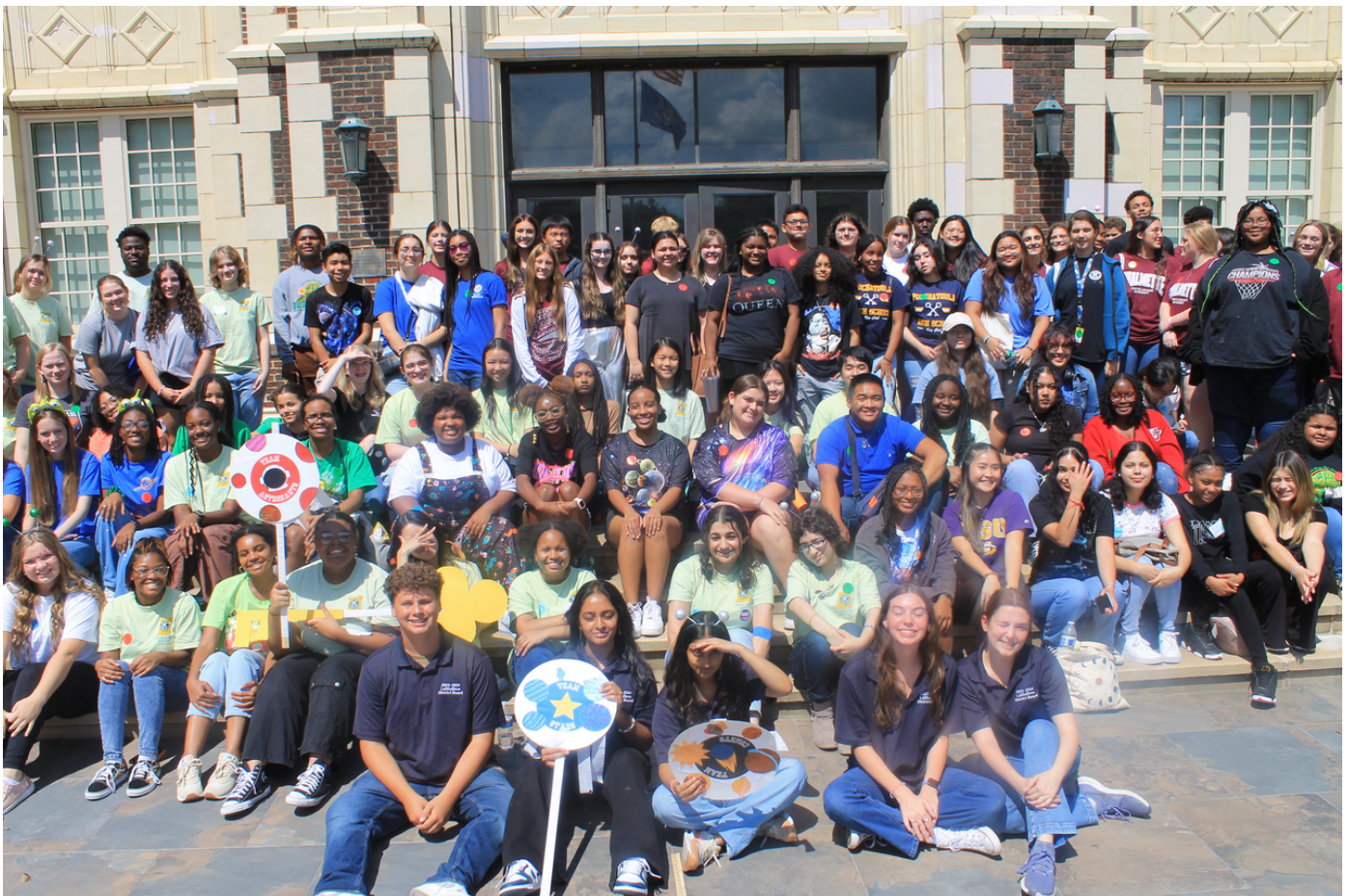


**Division 13A Lt. Governor Maggie Mercke participating in a service project with the Ponchatoula Kiwanis Club**

# Baton Rouge Fall Rally Recap

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

Thank you so much to everyone who showed up to the Fall Rally that was held on September 16th in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. So far the past Fall Rallies were a huge success. It was an amazing event that everyone truly enjoyed. So many smiles were made that day with different activities that occurred such as the famous Thrift Shops at different Rallies, the different service projects that happened, and our superb Keynote Speakers. I would like to personally thank all of the clubs who were able to show up and show out. I would also like to give a huge thanks to Kiwanis Clubs for all that they did to help us out with the Rally, we truly appreciate them and couldn't have done it without them. Lastly, I'd like to thank our host school and their Key Club Sponsors for all of her hard work that they put in to help make this Fall Rally a huge success.



Group photo from the Baton Rouge Fall Rally

# Hattiesburg Fall Rally Recap

**Written by: Jacob Tatum, Division 5 Lt. Governor**

The LaMissTenn District held a Fall Rally in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, on September 30th. It was seriously out of this world! As soon as we arrived at Oak Grove High School, we were greeted by the incredible Oak Grove Key Club. The atmosphere was buzzing with excitement!

Throughout the day, we had a range of workshops that really emphasized the importance of community service and leadership. We had the chance to participate workshops like Key Club 101 and Social Media 101, where we learned valuable skills and strategies to make a positive impact in our community. It was so inspiring to see everyone come together with a shared passion for service and leadership.

But the highlight of the day was definitely the keynote speaker, Mark Martinez. His powerful message about motivation, inspiration, and focus resonated with all of us. We left the rally feeling energized and ready to take on any challenge that comes our way.

At the Fall Rally in Hattiesburg, we had Divisions 2, 3, 5, 14A, and 14B attend. It was incredible to see members from all these Divisions come together and make the Rally even more special. We all had a blast and it was a fantastic opportunity to connect with Key Clubbers from different areas. Can't wait for more events like this in the future!



Group photo from the Hattiesburg Fall Rally



# Club Membership

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

This year the District Board is hoping to help increase club membership all across the LaMissTenn Key Club District. Our goal is to provide every club with the information and resources they need to accomplish this. We hope that clubs can help us and work towards growing their clubs and presence in the community. Here are some of my suggestions to help clubs increase membership. One way might be having each existing member bring one friend to join Key Club. This could even be made into a fun competition by trying to see who can bring in the most new members and the winner can receive a small prize. Doing fun things such as this is and can have more people take an interest in a club that does fun activities. Highlighting the best part of new and existing service activities is also a way to appeal to people's different interests and shine a spotlight on service activities. Having members share positive experiences firsthand about events will make people more eager to participate. More people participating in service projects will also make Key Club known in the community. Key Club is a wonderful club and an unforgettable experience that should be shared and open to anyone to join. By promoting that, we grow our Key Club community and can make a massive impact on the world.

## 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>