



Alabama

Kiwanis Kourier

Winter 2012

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13 pages



Head to Prattville Feb. 24-25

By Patrice Stewart

Kiwanis Kourier editor

Set aside Feb. 24-25 to celebrate 25 years of women's involvement in Kiwanis and learn how to "Unmask the Potential" of this service organization.

During the annual Mid-winter Conference in Prattville, the theme of "Unmask the Potential" will be carried out with a Mardi Gras flair.

All meetings will be held at the Legends Marriott Hotel and Conference Center at 2500 Legends Circle, next to the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail course.

A form with convention and hotel registration information is on Page 5. Feb. 3 is the deadline for the lowest convention and hotel fees.

"This year, you can register online and pay with a credit card," said District Secretary Pat Manasco.

On Friday evening, the 25th anniversary of women in Kiwanis will be marked during a banquet. On Saturday, the focus will move to the new Kiwanis International worldwide service project of eliminating

(See MID-WINTER, Page 12)

Kiwanis to build playgrounds after devastation of tornadoes

By Othni Lathram

Past Lt. Governor, Division 4, 2010-11

In the hours and days following the tornadoes of April 27, Kiwanians leapt into action. At first the volume of immediate needs in the community was overwhelming, but so too was the outpouring of generosity of people from throughout the country.

Within hours, my cell phone was ringing with calls from Kiwanis folks throughout the country. One group mobilized with thousands of teddy bears, another with a brigade of chain-saw-wielding workers, and others with supplies.

Once the immediate needs were under control, the checks started coming in. The first was from a couple in New York who found our club in Tuscaloosa through the Kiwanis website. The check was dated April 27 and was accompanied by a note to put it to good use. Then a club sent a check

(See PLAYGROUNDS, Page 12)



The devastation left by the April 27 tornadoes will soon be replaced by children swinging and sliding because Tuscaloosa Kiwanians are partnering for the "Playgrounds for T-Town" project.

Sign up soon to attend International Convention in New Orleans June 28-July 1, 2012

Unmask your potential in 2012

The theme for this year's Mid-winter Conference to be held Feb. 24-25, 2012, in Prattville is "Unmask the Potential."

As Kiwanians, we do that every time we read to a child as a part of the



Governor's Greetings

By Tammy Driskill

District Foundation's stellar Reading Is Fundamental program. We do that every time we charter a K Kids, Builders, Key, Circle K or Aktion Club. We do that every time we sponsor a student to attend a Key Leader weekend.

It is who we are and what we are about as Kiwanians.

Our Service Leadership Programs are an integral part of our success as a District. Most of your program

administrators are old hands, having given of their time and talents for many years.

Your administrators will be available at Mid-winter to answer your questions about chartering or strengthening Service Leadership Programs sponsored by your club.

In the meantime, feel free to contact them. They are our experts, and they welcome your interest. Their names and contact information may be found in the Alabama District directory,



Alabama District Governor Tammy Driskill has been making her way around the state to visit divisions and clubs. In this photo, she and her nephew, Eric Jernigan, are shown during her Governor's visit to Division 1, which was hosted by Lt. Gov. Michael Hodge at the Huntsville Botanical Garden on Dec. 1.

which has been published online at alabama.kiwanis.org.

Another important component of unmasking potential was Kiwanis International's decision in 1987 to allow women to become members. We

will celebrate a quarter century of women in Kiwanis with a dinner Friday night at the Marriott in Prattville.

We would like to recognize as many women as possible, but we need your help. Please let District Secretary Pat Manasco know by Jan. 23 of any women your club would like to recognize for their service.

If any of them has recruited five or more new members, she will be presented with a Ruby K award. If any has been a member of Kiwanis for 25 years or is within six months of having been a member for 25 years, she will be presented with a Legion of Honor award.

Of course, this is an opportunity for your club to recognize service by presenting a Hixson or Barnett honor and helping the Kiwanis International and District Foundations at the same time.

Registration for the Mid-winter Conference is now open online. It would be wonderful for each of our 104 clubs to have an interclub!

Come meet members of our newest club, the Birmingham Young Professionals Club, enjoy an evening of fellowship at our recognition dinner, and share with other Kiwanians at our workshops on Saturday.

As the New Year begins, let's take another step towards becoming a Distinguished District with a fun, meaningful Mid-winter Conference.

You are the key to our success as a District; unmask your potential in 2012.

Tammy Driskill

Alabama Kiwanis Kourier

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Address news, photos and other correspondence to:

Patrice W. Stewart, Editor

4519 Arrowhead Drive S.E., Decatur, AL 35603

256-303-1668 ■ kiwaniskourier@gmail.com

Tammy Driskill of Gadsden (tsdriskill@aol.com) Governor
Wayne Sisk of Alexandria (wayne.sisk@energen.com) Governor-elect
Bill Phillips of Pell City (phillipsjr@centurytel.net) Vice Governor
Colean Black of Leeds (colean.bailey@energen.com) Past Governor
Pat Manasco (patriciamanasco@bellsouth.net) District Secretary

DISTRICT OFFICE: 85 Bagby Drive, Suite 206, Birmingham, AL 35209

Phone (205) 945-1334 or (800) 745-1334, Fax (205) 942-5348; alabama.kiwanis.org

Pitch in! Bring supplies to Mid-winter Conference

When you come to the Alabama District's Mid-winter Conference in Prattville on Feb. 24-25, bring school supplies and pillow cases for the District project, plus supplies for the RIF warehouse.



Daphne-Spanish Fort Kiwanians Julie Mitchell, left, and Marcia Gifford, right, finalize plans for a Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) Book Drive and Book Fair with Pat Mackey, community relations manager with Barnes and Noble at Eastern Shore Centre.

Daphne-Spanish Fort club earns nearly \$2,000 for RIF

Daphne-Spanish Fort Kiwanians recently raised nearly \$2,000 for Reading Is Fundamental.

Marcia Gifford, a club member and RIF team captain, explained how the project worked.

Partnering with Barnes and Noble at Eastern Shore Centre, the Kiwanis Club members advertised and distributed store printed vouchers with a specialty code designed to credit 20 percent of every purchase at any Barnes and Noble store or online to RIF during the Book Fair Dec. 2-4.

On Dec. 2, Barnes and Noble provided an in-store buffet breakfast for a club meeting at which Fairhope author Sheila Booth-Alberstadt was the program speaker.

The author of "Maggy McNair Has Spiders in Her Hair" and "An Angel in the Sky" described

her publication process to Kiwanians.

Those attending received a gift RIF bookmark and the opportunity to shop early.

"They did a wonderful job," said Cathy Gafford, director of the Jean Dean Reading Is Fundamental program. "Wow ... \$1,688 plus 25 books, 25 games, 40 Little Golden Books, and gift cards for the teachers ... I'd say that was a pretty successful fundraiser!"

Gafford also noted that this type project "would be an easy thing for other clubs to do."

Because of national RIF budget cuts, it will be more important than ever for clubs to hold fundraisers at the local and state level to be sure all children continue to receive RIF books to take home after Kiwanians and helpers read to them in Head Starts and elsewhere.

Help RIF on 'Alabama Gives Day' Feb. 2

By Cathy Gafford

Director, Jean Dean Reading Is Fundamental

National RIF, the oldest and largest children's literacy organization in the United States, is alive and well but a whole lot poorer now in terms of grant availability to programs around the country, thanks to being dropped from the federal budget in 2011.

Jean Dean RIF/Kiwanis is alive and well — but definitely in a fundraising mode so we won't have to drop children in need in 2012 and beyond due to the loss of our ability to request 30 percent of the funds we've used to cover some of the poorest children.

Many thanks to all of you who made your Jean Dean RIF annual club donations before Nov. 15, 2011. Those fundraisers and other donations made it possible for us to "make our match" and receive the last RIF grant funds we'd been approved for in 2011. More than 8,000 at-risk young children are benefiting from your help.

You can help raise badly needed additional funds for Jean Dean RIF by giving yourself and passing the word to your friends verbally or through social media about the benefits of this program and the ease in giving online on Feb. 2, "Alabama Gives Day."

On Feb. 2, 2012, the Alabama Association of Nonprofits,

in partnership with the Alabama Broadcasters Association and the Razoo Foundation, is doing something that's never before been done in our state.

One day of online giving is being facilitated to help harness the power of individual contributions statewide, connecting new and existing donors with thousands of Alabama nonprofits. This is a chance for anyone — at whatever level is comfortable for them — to step up and assist nonprofits helping fellow Alabamians.

"Alabama Gives Day" will occur during a 24-hour period starting at 12:01 a.m. on Feb. 2. Donations will be accepted online via a centralized and secure site at <http://algive.razoo.com>. All gifts made during the event are donor-determined, meaning the donor selects who they are giving to from a list of participating organizations.

We want to encourage donors to give to Jean Dean RIF. Jean Dean RIF, the signature service project of the Alabama Kiwanis Foundation, needs your help to put info out through Facebook, Twitter, club newsletters, friend to friend, etc. about this unique opportunity.

The Alabama Kiwanis Foundation is a 501(c)(3) foundation, so all donations to Jean Dean RIF, online or any other way, are tax-deductible. Please help if you can!

Check www.jeandeanrif.org for more details soon!

Inform your friends about the opportunity to give to nonprofits at <http://algive.razoo.com>.

Mid-winter conference agenda

Theme: 'Unmask the Potential'

Alabama District Kiwanis International
Feb. 24-25, 2012 — Marriott Legends Hotel, Prattville

Friday, Feb. 24, 2012*

- 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.** RIF Advisory Board meeting
- 2:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.** District Foundation meeting
- 3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.** District Board of Trustees meeting
- 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.** Social hour
- 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.** Dinner celebrating 25 years of women in Kiwanis
- 9 p.m. – 11 p.m.** Hospitality room open

Saturday, Feb. 25, 2012*

- 7:30 a.m. – 8:10 a.m.** Coffee available before general business session
- 8:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.** General business session to include buffet breakfast; featured speaker: Dr. Wil Blechman, The Eliminate Project
- 9:40 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.** Training for club presidents and secretaries
- 9:40 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.** "Unmask the Potential" workshops:
 - (1) Key Leader, Jamie Brabston
 - (2) Past Lt. Governors meeting/New Club Building team, Doug Driskill
 - (3) So you want to be a club president or lieutenant governor, Bill Phillips
 - (4) Service through the District Foundation/Reading is Fundamental, Mike Winstead/Cathy Gafford

10:40 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. "Unmask the Potential" workshops:

- (1) Kiwanis International Foundation/The Eliminate Project, Olivia Humphries/Dr. Wil Blechman/David Beasley
- (2) Building a Young Professionals Kiwanis club, Colean Black
- (3) Increase club membership through service, John Burroughs
- (4) Submitting articles and photos for publication in the Kiwanis Kourier and local media, Patrice Stewart

11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. "Unmask the Potential" Interclub luncheon

1:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Training for club presidents and secretaries

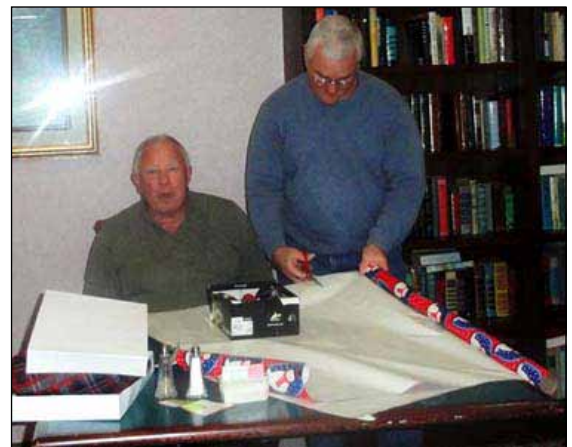
1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. "Unmask the Potential" workshops:

- (1) Key Leader, Jamie Brabston
- (2) Key Club, District Governor Jeremiah Stone
- (3) Use of Social Media, Brian Rodgers
- (4) Building a Club Satellite, Colean Black

2:40 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Division council meetings

* Meeting/workshop locations will be available when you pick up your registration packet

Holiday service project



The Kiwanis Club of Sheffield carried out a service project and a meeting Dec. 21. Members shopped for three families with a total of 11 children. Then they wrapped gifts during their club lunch meeting and club members delivered them that afternoon. "It was such a blessing to be a part of that," said Alabama District Governor Tammy Driskill, who visited with the Sheffield club that day.



Mail-in Registration Form

2012 Mid-winter Conference for Alabama District Kiwanis

Feb. 24-25 at Legends Marriott Hotel, Prattville

Please use one registration form per Kiwanian, or you may register online at alabama.kiwanis.org.

Please PRINT!!

Last Name _____ First Name _____

First Time Attendee: Yes ___ No ___ Are you staying at the Marriott? Circle Friday Y N Saturday Y N

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Home Phone _____ Bus. Phone _____

e-mail: _____

Kiwanis Club _____ Division _____

Partner/Guest Name _____ Name for Badge _____

Names and ages of Youth Attending _____

EVENT

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>FEE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>MEMBER REGISTRATION FEE</u> Includes Opening Session Breakfast and Inter-club Luncheon	#	@ \$ 65.00	\$
<u>GUEST TICKET – INTERCLUB LUNCHEON (not a Kiwanis member)</u>	#	@ \$ 30.00	\$
Join Fellow Kiwanians for a Fun filled night to celebrate the 25 th year of <u>WOMEN joining KIWANIS</u> <u>Friday Night Celebration Banquet</u>	#	@ \$ 45.00	\$
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED_ _____			\$

Late registration fee of additional 15.00 per person after February 3, 2012
Persons attending the Interclub luncheon must check in at desk at least 30 minutes
prior to the start of the luncheon or lose their reservations.

MAKE REGISTRATION CHECK PAYABLE TO: ALABAMA DISTRICT KIWANIS
MAIL REGISTRATION TO: Alabama District Kiwanis, 85 Bagby Drive, Suite 206, Birmingham AL 35209.
Reservations made will be paid since we are charged based on reservation numbers.

ROOM RESERVATIONS:

Reserve directly with hotel: The Legends-Montgomery Marriott Prattville 2500 Legends Circle Prattville Alabama 36066

1-(800) 468-3571

Reservations must be made no later than February 03, 2012 to receive conference rate.

MENTION KIWANIS CONFERENCE TO RECEIVE CONFERENCE RATE. Rate Code: Kiwanis

All single or double occupancy rate - \$119.00; Triple rate - \$119.00; Quad rate - \$119.00, plus tax.

Reservations made after February 03, 2012 will be on space available basis at full rate.

Speakers available to help raise funds for project to fight tetanus, save lives

By David Beasley

Alabama District Eliminate Project Coordinator

The Alabama Eliminate project has gained over \$5,000 in pledges and gifts since the last update.

As of Dec. 19, Alabama had \$205,049 in pledges and gifts ... and about \$1.8 million to go! Internationally, Eliminate stands at \$7.8 million in pledges and gifts. Worldwide, this will save 4.3 million lives!

In Alabama, one new Zeller honor has been pledged. The top five clubs in pledges and gifts per member are:

Florence, \$98.15; Daphne-Spanish Fort, \$67.33; Chickasaw, \$67.33; Troy, \$65.79; and Tri-Cities Floral, \$61.91.

Thank you all for your work for Eliminate. For every \$1.80 given to Eliminate, one life is saved.



David Beasley

Our Circle K Clubs, Key Clubs and Builders Clubs are playing an important role in eliminating maternal/neonatal tetanus.

Seventeen schools have pledged and gifts of more than \$5,836. Congratulations to Fairhope High School for raising \$1,330; Spanish Fort High School, \$681; Lifegate Academy, \$611; Prattville High School, \$607; and Huntsville High School, \$481.

New opportunities are always developing to aid this new KI worldwide service project.

Cristina Gomez with the Eliminate office will be in Alabama Jan. 15, 16 and 17 to speak to clubs. Let me know if your club wishes her to visit.

Dr. Wil Blechman, a past president of Kiwanis International and Region 2 Eliminate coordinator, will speak at the Alabama Mid-winter Conference in Prattville Feb. 25. Dr. Blechman was instrumental in motivating the RIF program for Alabama and is a strong supporter of "Young Children: Priority One."

Also during the conference, a workshop on the Eliminate Project will start at 10:40 a.m. Saturday morning and you are invited to attend. Please bring ideas for Eliminate fundraisers to share with the group.

Past Governor Ernest Hulsey of Huntsville and Lt.

ELIMINATE

Kiwanis eliminating maternal/neonatal tetanus



Governor Ervin Dailey of Chickasaw are Alabama's multi-divisional coordinators and are currently recruiting divisional coordinators. If you are interested in resolving the worldwide problem of maternal/neonatal tetanus, contact Ernest, Ervin or me.

We will need a divisional coordinator for each of 14 divisions and committee chairpersons for each club, as well as the two multi-divisional coordinators and one district coordinator, to total 120 volunteer leaders in Alabama for the Eliminate Project.

To reach our goal and prevent the death of one baby every nine minutes, large contributions and small contributions will be needed. All Kiwanians must contribute! Please commit and pledge. We need Model Club pledges and Zeller pledges, too. For more information, refer to The EliminateProject.org website.

To support the Eliminate project, send checks made to Kiwanis International Foundation, Eliminate. Include your Kiwanis club number on the check and mail it to The Eliminate Project Campaign Office, 3636 Woodview Trace, Indianapolis, IN 46268.

Our Kiwanis International Foundation chief operating officer, Ann Updegraff Spleth, wrote a beautiful blog about her experience. Read it here: http://sites.kiwanis.org/kiwanis/en/theeliminateproject/blogs/11-11-27/Sierra_Leone_Updates_from_the_field_Post_5.aspx

"The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we hit it." -- Michelangelo



Departing lt. governor gets thank-you plaque

Division 2 Lt. Governor Monica Grubbs, who is moving to the Memphis area in January, was thanked for her service Dec. 21, when Governor Tammy Driskill and District Secretary Pat Manasco presented her a plaque while visiting the Kiwanis Club of Sheffield. Shown are, from left, Sheffield member and Kiwanis International Trustee Pam Fleming, Grubbs and Driskill. "Monica has done a wonderful job and is a joy to be around; I will miss her," said Driskill.



Harry Hinson chuckles when talking about having the Kiwanis building renamed as the Harry R. Hinson Kiwanis Community Center in his honor.

Building named for staunch backer

Harry R. Hinson Kiwanis Community Center in Andalusia

Note: This article by Stephanie Nelson about a past governor was published Oct. 15, 2011, in the Andalusia Star-News.

For 49 years, Harry Hinson has been the man behind the Covington County Kiwanis Fair.

In 1995, he stood behind members as they decided to undertake their biggest service project ever – the Kiwanis Community Center.

Now, the club has honored Hinson for every one of those 49 years and for being one of the club's staunchest supporters by renaming the building in his honor.

From now on, it will be known as the Harry R. Hinson Kiwanis Community Center.

Kiwanis Club of Andalusia president Gwen Kelley said the club's fair foundation board has tried to make the name change happen for years, but Hinson refused.

"He said he didn't want a part of it," Kelley said. "He said he was happy to be behind the scenes. From what I heard, it was his wife, Helen, who changed his mind."

Hinson said, indeed, that was true – it was at his wife's insistence that he allowed the name change.

The building is home to a host of annual events, community activities and, of course, the county fair.

When interviewed, Hinson was busy inside the building, working steadily to help ready the facility and exhibits for the Monday start of the fair.

"There's so much to do, and time is kind of slipping by, but we'll get there," Hinson said.

"First off, I'm humbled by this honor. To say that I'm appreciative is an understatement. They tried to do it a few years ago, but I didn't want it because it was a Kiwanis project, and it needed to be a Kiwanis building."

He said throughout the years since, someone would toss the idea out there, but he'd push it back with a quiet "thanks, but no thanks." That was until Mrs. Hinson got word of the latest request.

"I went home and told her, and she said I should do it," he said. "I told her my feelings were the same as they'd always been, but she wouldn't listen. She said I should think about our children and what a legacy that would be for them. Well, that got me right there. Start talking about my children, and you got me."

At the next Kiwanis meeting, the board made it official. Kelley said the club has already ordered a new sign.

Hinson said he's anxious to see what it will look like.

"I do what I do, not for the recognition, but it's because I love it," he said. "And that goes from everything from church to being a Kiwanian."

"But I have to tell you, every time I think of my name being on the side of that building, it's a great honor, but I just have to chuckle."

Kiwanis trivia puzzle

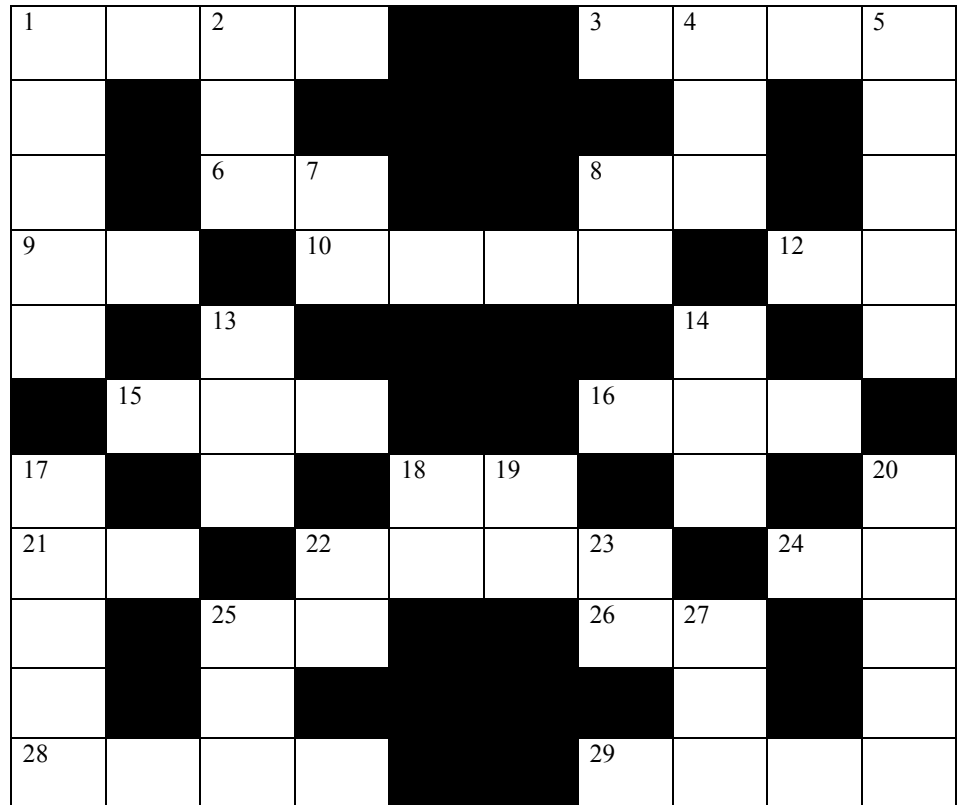
By Luther Jarmon Jr.
Vulcan Kiwanis Club

ACROSS

1. Key ____ International is Kiwanis' oldest and largest youth-service program.
3. The first Kiwanis headquarters was opened in the "Windy _____" in 1918.
6. Dorothy followed the yellow brick road to ____.
8. Club ____ laws provide that the club's board of directors approve the budget.
9. Alien (init.)
10. K-Kids is for elementary students, _____ 6 - 12.
12. The Kiwanis International headquarters is located in what state (abv)?
15. In addition to being informative, club meetings should be _____.
16. The goal of the Eliminate Project is to eliminate _____.
18. Founded in 1881 by Booker T. Washington (init.).
21. Public relations (abv).
22. To qualify for an interclub credit, the meeting must be an official meeting of the _____ club.
24. The International Convention of 2012 will be held in what state (abv)?
25. ____ Shafer was the Kiwanis International president from 2000-2001.
26. The creation of districts is authorized by Article ____.
28. Grease.
29. The Kiwanis International president from 1992-1993 was William L. "_____" Lieber.

DOWN

1. Districts are organized into divisions, and the _____ executive of each division is



- the lieutenant governor.
2. Flying saucer
4. Climbing vine
5. One of Kiwanis International's branded service programs is _____ Children Priority One.
7. Short for pizza
8. College degree
13. The _____ program recognizes students who raise their grades into an acceptable range.
14. The Kiwanis International Board of Trustees officers serves _____-year terms.
17. The third Saturday in _____ is designated as Kiwanis One Day.
18. ____ and fro
19. Island (abv.)
20. Kiwanians achieving distinguished member status will receive a _____ pin.
23. Do Re Me Fa So La __ Do.
25. Attorney's exam
27. XI, _____, XIII, XIV

This Kiwanis puzzle was created by Luther Jarmon of Fulda. He has been a member of the Vulcan Kiwanis Club in Birmingham for three years and currently serves as club president. Try your hand at it, and if you need to, check the answers on Page 13.

Helena club loses charter member Harold C. Deason, 66

Helena Kiwanians are mourning the death of charter member Harold C. Deason, 66, who died unexpectedly Dec. 8, 2011, following a massive stroke.

He was the owner of Incahoots, where the Kiwanis Club of Helena celebrated its charter exactly 10 years earlier. Deason faithfully prepared breakfast for the club each Tuesday until the restaurant closed.

He attended Samford University on a football scholarship, and after graduation he taught and coached at Jess

Lanier High School. He also coached youth football and baseball in Vestavia Hills. Deason was a member of the Holy Trinity Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Cathedral and a volunteer with VISTA through Positive Maturity.

The funeral for the Helena resident was held Dec. 10 at Holy Trinity Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church. Burial followed in Elmwood Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife, Claudia, two sons, four grandchildren, three brothers and two sisters.



K-Family Day

Working together for children

The Kiwanis family could be found in Opelika on Sept. 17, hard at work on behalf of the Alabama Kiwanis Foundation's signature project, Jean Dean Reading Is Fundamental.

For this K-Family Service Day, club members came to the RIF warehouse from around the state and many college campuses to help label, count, package and get RIF books ready for shipping. They helped raise funds and supplies with a silent auction and warehouse shower.

Through RIF, Kiwanians will read to children during three sessions this school year. Each child will be given three books.

Jean Dean RIF director Cathy Dean Gafford arranged for her warehouse volunteers to be fed home cooking prepared by women of Pepperell Methodist Church. The Kiwanis board also met in Opelika that day and joined the group afterward.



Photos
by
Patrice
Stewart

(See more
photos on
next page.)

Send your annual gift of \$5 per club member to the Kiwanis International Foundation



K-Family Day



Photos by
Patrice Stewart



Send in your registration for the Mid-winter Conference in Prattville Feb. 24-25, 2012



Lee High School Key Club members in Huntsville were thinking of others during December, when they held two "Stuff the Bus" events to collect toys, non-perishable food, clothes, coats and blankets for Manna House, which provides groceries and other assistance to area families. Spirit Coach of Madison donated the use

of the bus and a driver, which enabled the volunteers to stay warm in between greeting contributors and stowing their donations. "I'm just so proud of the kids," said Jamie Brabston of the Metro-Huntsville Kiwanis Club, who is their Key Club adviser and Alabama District Key Leader coordinator.

Key Clubs to mark 60th anniversary

By Jeremiah Stone

Alabama District Key Club Governor

Greetings, Alabama District of Kiwanis International,

I would like to update you on happenings in the Great Alabama Key Club District. The board has been very busy working with the more than 160 active clubs throughout the district.

One of the major goals this year was to grow. We have been able to do this both in clubs and in numbers. Since the current board took office, we have seen five clubs chartered, and I know that there are a few more that wish to be chartered before the year is up. If you have a school nearby that is interested in chartering a Key Club, please let me know.

Clubs paying dues

Currently we have 80 clubs that have paid dues. While this is good, we would like to see a lot more clubs pay before DCON (District Convention) rolls around.

Please check with the clubs that you sponsor and see if dues have been paid; if they have not, please encourage them to do so. As you know, dues are important for insurance purposes, receiving important information from Key Club International, and the ability to run for District and International

offices. I thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Our Key Club District Project again this year is "Keeping Promises," benefiting Children's Hospital of Alabama. The goal of the board is to "fulfill the promise, with hopes of exceeding."

This means that we would like to raise roughly \$41,000 to complete our goal of \$150,000 over five years. Last year we raised over \$54,000. Clubs are encouraged to raise money throughout the year and bring it with them to DCON. I know that many clubs have been hard at work and have raised a lot of money. I think we may be able to achieve this goal. If you have any questions about our project or would like to help us, please contact me.

Key Club divisions will hold their annual Spring Rallies beginning in January. The lieutenant governors will be contacting all of the clubs and Kiwanis Clubs to inform them of the time and place. Spring Rallies are a great time for Key Clubs and Kiwanis Clubs from all over the division to come together and discuss all of the success in projects. In addition, lieutenant governors for the coming Key Club year will be elected at each



Jeremiah Stone

Spring Rally.

Our board planned to gather Jan. 6-8 in Mobile for its final meeting before DCON. We are very excited about all of the plans that we will be making while at this meeting.

This year's DCON is very special as it is our 60th anniversary, and we hope to see a great crowd. It will be held once again in Mobile at the

Renaissance Riverview Plaza overlooking beautiful Mobile Bay. The dates are March 30-April 1, and packets will be sent to all Key Clubs in the coming weeks. I ask that you please encourage your clubs to attend this year.

Working together

I would like to thank you for all you do for our great organization. With the help of Kiwanis, Key Clubbers are able to help countless people. If Key Club can be of any assistance to Kiwanis, please contact me at jjstone@alabamakeyclub.org or 205-792-2028.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Kiwanis Mid-winter Conference. Until then, may we all continue to "serve our home, schools and communities."

Be there!

June 28-July 1
at the
Ernest Morial
Convention
Center



The Alabama District is assigned to the New Orleans Marriott Convention Center, which is conveniently located across from the meeting halls, with a \$165 nightly rate.

Register early! The fee is \$195 until Feb. 15, then \$250 until May 14, or \$300 at the convention.

Mid-winter (From Page 1)

maternal/neonatal tetanus in 38 countries. Dr. Wil Blechman of Miami, a past KI president, will speak.

See topics and times for "Unmask the Potential" workshops, as well as times for club officer training, board meetings and other events, on Page 4.

District service projects also will get attention. District Governor Tammy Driskill asks that those attending bring pillowcases to be used in her 2011-12 project, turning them into dresses and shorts for children affected by disasters. School supplies also will be collected in an extension of Past Governor Colean Black's project.

Also, bring supplies for the Jean Dean Reading Is Fundamental warehouse, such as paper goods, garbage bags, markers and office supplies.

"On Friday night, we'll have door prizes and do a lot of celebrating of 25 years of women in Kiwanis," Manasco said. "For example, Ann McMillan of the Birmingham club was one of the first female members and a lieutenant governor, and she is planning to come to Prattville and bring a group of women from her club."

Manasco asks that clubs contact her with names and addresses of their first women members and their achievements because the District would like to recognize many who have been active in Kiwanis over these years, served as officers or brought in at least five new members. See Driskill's column on Page 2.

Be sure to register by Feb. 3 (\$65 per Kiwanian, including a breakfast buffet during the first morning session and the Interclub Luncheon, plus \$45 for the Friday night banquet). After Feb. 3, the registration fee goes up by \$15.

More information is at www.alabama.kiwanis.org, whether you register online or mail in a form and a check to the District Office. For information, call Manasco at the District Office, 205-945-1334, or email her at patriciamanasco@bell-south.net.

Feb. 3 also is the last day to reserve a room at the Kiwanis rate (\$119) at the Legends Marriott. Handle that directly with the hotel, 800-468-3571.

The Mid-winter theme was enhanced by a recent trip to New Orleans by Driskill, Manasco and KI Trustee Pam Fleming of Sheffield.

While attending the Kiwanis International Council meeting and training sessions, they visited sites with that "Big Easy" flavor that will attract thousands of Kiwanians from around the world to the KI convention in New Orleans June 28-July 1. Manasco also was in search of a special place to hold a District Dinner in June. She collected some gift certificates from favorite spots, such as Café du Monde and Pat O'Brien's, that will be given out during the Mid-winter Conference.

"The early, least expensive registration deadline for the International Convention is Feb. 15, so everyone who has registered by Mid-winter will have their names put in a pot for these gift certificates," said Manasco.

Playgrounds (From Page 1)

after passing a hat at their club's 90th anniversary celebration. About a dozen clubs sent money, all unsolicited, with the instruction to help rebuild Tuscaloosa.

Very early on, our club decided that our goal would be to build a playground in a part of the community which bore the brunt of the tornado. From that that decision, a partnership was born between the Tuscaloosa County Park and Recreation Authority, the Kiwanis Club of Tuscaloosa and the Kiwanis Club of Greater Tuscaloosa. That partnership resulted in the "Playgrounds for T-Town" project.

Our first effort is to build a playground in the Rosedale community. On April 27, the Rosedale community bore the full force of the tornadoes. Large portions of the community were destroyed, several residents were killed, and children who lived through that day were left with mental images and emotional scarring which may not ever fully heal or be erased.

Even before April 27, the area surrounding Rosedale was one with few opportunities for children to enjoy normal pleasures of childhood. The area was crowded with traffic and had relatively few areas where children could play and enjoy time outdoors. There is no public pool of any kind within walking distance, no playgrounds, and very few recreational opportunities.

The goal is to build a state-of-the-art park including water features, a "no-limits" playground with features accessible to all children, green space and a community gathering point.

This park is located at what will become the gateway to the proposed greenway that will run throughout the path of that tornado. This will not only greatly benefit the residents of that area, but the city as a whole.

In order to fully implement our plans for this park, we will need to raise about \$500,000 and have many a work day. We are off to a good start but still have a ways to go.

We hope that Kiwanis clubs from around Alabama will consider donating time, talents and funds to the extent possible. We also hope that Kiwanians can help us find any sponsors or other sources of funding that might be interested in helping to rebuild Tuscaloosa. For more information, contact John Burroughs (jburroug@fa.ua.edu), lieutenant governor of Division 4, or Othni Lathram (olathram@gmail.com).



K-Family members from around the state listen to Dick Peterson from Kiwanis International talk about Key Leader during a training session Sept. 24, 2011, at the office of the Kiwanis Club of Birmingham. The dozen attending included Alabama District Key Leader coordinator Jamie Brabston, Kiwanis Governor Tammy Driskill, Governor-elect Wayne Sisk, Vice Governor Bill Phillips and Key Club Governor Jeremiah Stone.

Sponsor students for ‘best time ever’

By Jamie Brabston

Alabama District Key Leader Coordinator

It is time to sign up for Key Leader 2012 -- the most exciting Service Leadership opportunity of the year!

Just ask Travion Ragland, who attended the Alabama District’s Key Leader event in 2010, and he will tell you that the Key Leader weekend was “the best time ever!” Ragland also described the weekend as “a life-changing experience” and said that it was a great way to make lifelong friends.

In case you haven’t heard, Key Leader is Kiwanis International’s Service Leadership program for students (8th- to 11th-graders) and is open to all students, not just those who are already serving in Key Club or Builders Club. There is no limit on the number of students who may attend from a single school or group.

Hopefully by now each of your clubs is planning to send at least one, if not two, students to attend this dynamic, educational and fun weekend April 27-29, 2012, at the Alabama 4-H Center in Columbiana.

The weekend event will include small and large group



Jamie Brabston

activities, interactive events and presentations by a professional facilitator, as well as lots of fun, such as a ropes course and bonfire.

Adult volunteers from the Alabama District will coordinate logistics and supervise the students. If you are interested in volunteering as a chaperone, please let us know.

Registration will open in January and should be conducted online at www.key-leader.org. Space is limited to 60-70 participants and must be completed at least two weeks prior to the event, so register early. Each participant must have a nominator (an

adult who recommends him/her) and a sponsor (the organization or adult who helps to pay the fee – this may be a Kiwanis Club, a teacher or a parent).

The total cost of the event is \$200 per student, which is all-inclusive (Key Club and Builders Club members automatically receive a \$25 scholarship to Key Leader).

For more information, visit www.key-leader.org or contact me at Jamie.m.brabston@gmail.com, (256-679-6341), or Michael Hodge, Michael_hodge@bellsouth.net.

Answers to puzzle

(Puzzle is on Page 8)

1	C	L	2	U	B		3	C	4	I	T	5	Y	
	H			F						V			O	
	I		6	O	7	Z		8	B	Y			U	
9	E	T		10	A	G	E	S			12	I	N	
	F		13	B					14	O			G	
		15	F	U	N			16	M	N	T			
17	A		G			18	T	19	I		E		20	L
21	P	R			22	H	O	S	23	T		24	L	A
	R		25	B	O				26	I	X			P
	I		A							I				E
28	L	A	R	D				29	B	I	L	L		



Chelsea officer installation

One of District Governor Tammy Driskill’s first visits of the 2011-12 Kiwanis year was with the Chelsea Kiwanis Club. She was present for the officer installation and banquet Oct. 11. From left are Chelsea president-elect Dale Neuendorf, secretary Diane Thomas, Governor Driskill, president Jaime Echols and treasurer Mike Denton.