

CKI – “Key for a Kure”

By Krystal Weaver, Governor, Florida District of Circle K International

On the weekend of Feb. 19th-22nd, members of the Florida District of CKI put on a fabulous 50th Annual District Convention in Orlando where 190 K-Family members from all over participated in extravagant events throughout the weekend. CKI Alumni and past Governors were recognized and participated in events such as Mini Golf, a decade themed party, workshops, sessions, and dances! The new officers were also elected including District Editor- Maggie Gilson, Treasurer- Tim Wolfinger, Secretary- Beth Paris, and Governor- Krystal Weaver as well as LTG's: Gerard Sukhram, Joey Russo, and Gina Sanon. It was a great success for the Florida District of CKI and the Conventions Committee headed up by Chris Robert, Convention Chair, and Maggie Gunther, Assistant Administrator of Conventions. These two and their committee did an amazing job making the medieval themed convention one to remember. If you have never experienced a CKI convention, please feel free to join us any time!

For those of you that do not already know me, I am the newly elected Governor of the Florida District of Circle K and this is the first article that I have had the honor to write as Governor. I started my K-Family experience in my freshman year in high school where I was recognized as a Distinguished Member for all four years. I also founded a Projects Committee for Manatee High and served as Social Chairman. Before I graduated High School, I was told (not asked) that I would be a perfect candidate for President at Manatee Community College (MCC) where I served as Club Secretary, then Club President while leading on the District Board as Key Club to CKI Committee Chairman. I was then elected Suncoast Lieutenant Governor and after an amazing year, was elected Governor!

I love the K-Family in every way and I hope that I get to know all of you that are reading this. I would also like to say that the projects that the K-Family Governors are passionate about are amazing. Environmental clean-ups, and Hats and Hugs both mean a lot to me. My focus this year however is “Key for a Kure” and it focuses on the American Cancer Society and how we can help. Everyone has some connection with cancer, and together we can make a huge difference in the world and help those with cancer survive as well as teach others about how critical it is. I encourage all of you to find a way to help the American Cancer Society. There are many walks including Relay for Life (they are in EVERY area) that help, or even as simple as donating your time to volunteer or donating your hair to Locks for Love. Please find a way to contribute to each Governor's project, because they are all great causes that deserve attention.

On that note, I would like to thank you all for being amazing members of this great K-Family and remember not only that one can make a difference, but if you live to serve and love to serve... You will go far. Believe in yourself and others, that's what makes us strong. And you, the Kiwanians, are the backbone of us all. Thank you.

What Is Happening In Aktion Club Did You Know?

By Barbara Pyle , District Chair, Aktion Club

Did you know that Florida has 41 Aktion Clubs? Did you know that 9 of our clubs have been suspended? Did you know that dues were due in International no later than January 31st? Did you know that it will cost your club \$50 to become active again? Did you know that when your club is suspended you do not have insurance coverage? That you should not be meeting until your dues are paid. Did you know that Kiwanis Clubs get credit for Aktion clubs? Did you know the best and quickest way to get new Aktion Clubs is to seek out your school districts and nursing homes (they are self contained)?

Aktion clubs grew very fast two years ago, now it is up to all of us to have them maintained into active clubs and to start building new ones. I will be very happy to help each and every one who needs help in starting a new club or to reinstate a club that has been suspended. Contact me at mooselady33@bellsouth.net.

Convention this year will be in Orlando, August 27th-30th at the Rosen Center, cost \$99 plus tax. Aktion club will be held the same time and place, unless you all rather go elsewhere, please contact me. We will have a Registration Fee of \$10 for each member and chaperone who attends. More later.

Hope to hear from you all.

For more information, Barbara may be contacted at 321-452-8891 or mooselady33@bellsouth.net.



SERVICE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS

Aktion Club Administrator

Barbara E. Pyle 321-690-3464
mooselady33@bellsouth.net

Builders Club Administrator

David M. Schmitt 407-273-1126
dave.schmitt@dseorl.com

CKI Administrator

Wade Shrack 954-561-8313
wadeskiw@aol.com

Key Club Administrator

Bob Parton 954-232-4323
raparton@cs.com

Key Leader Chair

Ronald F. Grisso 850-864-5025
rfgrisso@southernco.com

K-Kids Administrator

David M. Schmitt 407-273-1126
dave.schmitt@dseorl.com

Builders Give Valentines to Elderly

By Dan Petty, Secretary, Kiwanis Club of Temple Terrace

February 14 provided a great opportunity for students from the Builders Club of Terrace Community Middle School to do something special for others in the community.

The students went to the Assisted Living Center at Lakeshore Villa in Tampa for their root beer float social. The students handed out Valentine cards they had made by hand, and assisted in passing out the floats to the 25 residents who attended the function. For those residents who were unable to attend, the kids delivered cards to their apartments. Many of the elderly residents expressed to the young people how much they appreciated them coming to visit and bring them cards.

This was the club's second visit to an area nursing home. And they have been busy with other projects—collecting used uniforms and books for Witter Elementary, sending homemade Christmas cards to veterans at Walter Reed Hospital, and assisting with projects at their school.

The Builders Club of Terrace Community Middle School is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Temple Terrace. Kiwanis meets every Thursday at noon at Perkins Family Restaurant, 5002 E. Fowler Ave. Guests are welcome. For more information visit www.ttkiwanis.org.



Bears and Peanut Butter

By Bob Horowitz, Immediate Past President, Kiwanis Club of Jupiter-Tequesta, FL

On Wednesday afternoon, November 19th, approximately 100 Jupiter High School Key Club members assembled in the school's cafeteria and performed two service projects in the same day. Operating as a highly efficient army of motivated youngsters that they are, the group made 150 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches in about 30 minutes. The sandwiches were taken to St. George's Mission in Riviera Beach, and were given out to the many hungry and homeless people they feed. The mission feeds the homeless dinner each night and the sandwiches help hold them over until the following day.

While one group of Key Club members was busy with the sandwiches, another was labeling and packaging stuffed animals. These bears and other animals, which were made by the Girl Scouts, will go into each Jupiter Police Department cruiser. The police officers will distribute the stuffed animals to children who are exposed to traumatic situations.

All of this the Key Club accomplished in about a half hour, in addition to conducting their meeting and planning for future projects to benefit the community.





A Message from Your District Builders Club Chair

By Dave Schmidt, District Chair, Builder's Club

Builders Clubs in Florida is well and strong as many clubs are doing great service in their schools and communities. The students involved benefit from this service by gaining the opportunities for personal growth, teamwork, and leadership skills. Florida leads the way with Kiwanis International with its involvement with Builders clubs and the promoting of service and leadership. We greatly appreciate the efforts, not only of these kids, but of the outstanding school advisors for their efforts in supporting the Kiwanis cause and their time and dedication working with these great kids. We look forward to getting updates on these service leadership clubs accomplishments of great things.

Builders Clubs Around the District

Andrew Jackson - (Kiwanis of Titusville Sponsoring Club) Our club made Veterans Day cards for the Veterans Hospital, had a UNICEF collections, held souper bowl collecting cans of soup, had a fun day at a bowling alley, made smartiegrams and provided them to students for FCAT testing, and participated in Relay for Life.

Avalon - (Kiwanis Club of East Orange County Sponsoring Club) - Our club helped Ice, our schools mascot collect items for two local pet, participated in the K-Family meeting, Education Day at Waterford Lakes Town Center, the Orange County Kick Off for Relay for Life at the ELC, Walk for Autism at Disney's Wide World of Sports, and selling bracelets for Breast Cancer awareness month and our ongoing "Avalon's Big Give", this is an ongoing collection of new hats and scarves for people fighting cancer that we donate to the Florida Hospital Cancer Institute.

Arbor Ridge - (Kiwanis of East Orange County Sponsoring Club) - We are just getting started and reactivating after a few years without a club.

Corner Lake - (Kiwanis of East Orange Sponsoring Club) - Our club collected cans for our food drive, collected items for our Thanksgiving/Christmas box to send to our soldier. We are now making up to 30 baskets with food, turkey pan, and gift cards to Publix. Many of the baskets are finding their way to needy families.

Carver - (Lady Lakes Kiwanis Sponsoring Club) - We worked with and raised money for the Humane Society, held a toy drive, and participated in Relay for Life.

Discovery - (Kiwanis of East Orange County Sponsoring Club) - We sold hotdogs, drinks, and candy to fundraise for the landscaping project. Our club collected items to send to soldiers, collected over three big bags of crushed aluminum cans for Can It for the Planet and helped clean up around our school campus.

Glades - (Kiwanis of LaBelle Sponsoring Club) - The club assist Kiwanis of LaBelle in projects as well as club projects such as Thanksgiving baskets and Valentines at the nursing home. The club has sponsored a food drive and sold Christmas grams.

Holly Hills - We conducted a school wide contest for UNICEF, helped on Kiwanis Safety Day, and handed out candy on Halloween at the annual "Trunk or Treat" put on by the local Holly Hill Chamber.

Keystone Heights - (Lake Region Kiwanis Sponsoring Club) - Our member include a good cross section of the student population with boys and girls, and athletes. Some of the members are graduates of the Lake Region Kiwanis Clubs K-Kids program.

Legacy - (Kiwanis of East Orange County Sponsoring Club) - We participated in K-Family meeting, doing holiday cards for soldiers, food drive and helping with road clean-ups.

Maderia Beach - (Kiwanis of the Gulf Beaches Sponsoring Club) - We held canned food drives, monthly trash clean-ups, campus clean-ups and a

recycling project at school.

Phyls' Academy - (Lauderdale Lakes- West Sunrise Kiwanis Sponsoring Club) We had our elections and held our installation dinner on October 27th. We held a bake sale, book, toy and food drive, had a crazy hat day fundraiser, and sold lolligrams with K-Kids.

Seminole - (Seminole Kiwanis Sponsoring Club) - We held a canned food drive, made Veterans Day cards, holiday cards for the Senior Center, collected for Unicef, read to younger kids regularly, and held a food and animal gift drive for the local SPCA.

St. Mark Catholic - (Boyton Beach Kiwanis Sponsoring Club) - We collected items for Ike victims and packed them in shoe boxes. We are in the process of adopting an orphan from Africa. We have committed to participating in Palm Beach County's "Greening Our School" recognition program.

Stuart - (Stuart Kiwanis Sponsoring Club) - We collected for UNICEF, made Valentines Day cards for the nursing home, had a park clean-up, and a teacher appreciation event.

Starke - (Kiwanis Club of Starke Sponsoring Club) - We participated in SFCC Arts Festival parade, read to younger children at the elementary school, made Christmas float, rang bells for Salvation Army, made holiday cards for the nursing home, raised money for Relay for Life, and assisted our sponsoring Kiwanis with many of their projects.

Terrace Community - (Temple Terrace Kiwanis Sponsoring Club) - We completed a campus clean-up.

Trinity Prep - (Oviedo-Winter Springs Kiwanis Sponsoring Club) - We have begun our weekly Muffin, participated in the Breast Cancer Walk, Purples Strides against Cancer, organized the Adopt a Family.

Union Park - (Kiwanis of East Orange County Sponsoring) We participated in the K-Family meeting, we collected pop tops for the Ronald McDonald House, helped out at Education Day and are hosting a food drive.

Villages Charter - (Lady Lakes Kiwanis Sponsoring Club) - Our club made Ghoul-a-Gram raised money for UNICEF, read to younger kids monthly, sold candy grams to raise money for Relay for Life, and held our annual car wash.

Welcome and Congratulations to all the recently chartered Builders Clubs in the last month:

School Name & Sponsoring Club

H.L. Watkins Middle School - Lake Park

LC Swain Middle School - Greenacres City

St. Ignatius Catholic School - Grand Cayman

Woodland Middle School - North Port