

Kiwanis Club Of South Orlando Provides Bike Build Site

By Sid Tally, President, Kiwanis Club of South Orlando

If you were in the vicinity of 1940 Conway Gardens Road around noon on Sunday, December 2, you saw a yard full of assembled bicycles—500 to be exact. The Kiwanis Club of South Orlando provided the site of what became the first annual “Bikes for Tikes” Bike Build.

Country Music Star Arron Tippin Provided The Inspiration

Tommy and Denise Johnson had been trying to think of some way they could make a positive impact on their community. While attending an Arron Tippin Concert, the country music star assembled a bicycle while singing one of his songs. Tippin then donated that bicycle to the local Toys for Tots, a charity he supports. After that concert, the Johnsons began thinking that perhaps this was a way to fulfill their dream. They passed the word to family, friends, and neighbors and the first year they purchased and assembled 22 bicycles that were donated to Toys for Tots.

Local Kiwanian Helps To Expand The Johnson’s Dream

Each year the number of bicycles has increased. Last year their neighbor and Kiwanian, Thomas Kirk, thought this would be a good project for the Kiwanis Club of South Orlando. So he brought it before the Board of Directors and finally to the Club. The Club en-



thusiastically added it as one of their projects for the 2007–2008 year. Club members began soliciting funds to purchase bicycles and before it was over, Club members along with members of The Variety Club, had enough money to purchase 500 bicycles. For more information, go to the Kiwanis Club of South Orlando’s website at www.southorlandokiwanis.com and click on “Bikes for Tikes” Bike Build to see the Johnson’s story.

Johnsons Go Directly To Huffy Bicycles For A Price Break

In the past the Johnsons had gone to Wal Mart on “Black Friday” to purchase the bikes. This year, with the quantities so large, they went directly to Huffy Corporation and received a quantity discount. The goal for next year is to build 1,000 bikes!

Sid Talley may be contacted at (407) 273-9282 or rtally1@cfl.rr.com

Westside West Palm Beach Donates Motorized Wheelchair to Needy Senior Citizen

By Bob Boxold, Westside, West Palm Beach Kiwanis

Westside, West Palm Beach Kiwanis was asked to consider providing a grant to purchase a new electric power mechanical wheelchair for Stanley Pattengale, a sixty year old male, with a diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis. Pattengale resides in Royal Manor Nursing Home, 600 Business Parkway, Royal Palm Beach, FL, 33414, and has been living there since Dec. 11, 1998. Peter Spahl, who presented the request, knew of Stanley’s situation, as he visits a relative who is also a patient at Royal Manor Nursing Home.

The Board of Directors of Westside Kiwanis voted to approve this expenditure. The wheelchair was previously used as a demonstration model by The Medical Store and Westside was able to purchase the motorized chair for \$1600.00, rather than the full price of \$5400.00

Mr. Bill McGuinnis, ATS, CRTS, RESNA Certified, a representative from The Medical Store, assisted Bob Boxold, Past President of Westside Kiwanis, along with Mr. Spahl, who had made the initial request, in presenting the wheel chair to Stanley on Friday, December 28, 2007, at the nursing home. Mr. McGuinnis is continuing to service the electric wheelchair with personalized custom corrections in order to make this chair both functional and comfortable for Stanley,



From top left - Pete Spahl, Bob Boxold, Mr. Pattengale and Bill McGuinnis from The Medical Store.

while also providing mobility to a very happy recipient.

Stanley’s story: He has partial paralysis with no functional use of lower extremities and limited functional use of bilateral upper extremities. Because of his limitations, he is unable to propel a standard wheelchair. Stanley also requires extensive assistance from caregivers for all major tasks, with a mechanical lift needed for transfers. His mobility and current level of independence is very important, not only to himself, but also for his ability to maneuver throughout the nursing home as he performs his duties as President of the Resident Counsel. The wheelchair Stanley used at the time of the request to Westside Kiwanis is fifteen years old and constantly malfunctions and is inoperable.

(Boxold may be contacted at rtboxold@bellsouth.net for more information)

Kudos To The Kiwanis Clubs Of Division 9! They have truly made children their Priority One!

By Dot Vetter

If you can envision over 1,000 four-year-olds at one outdoor site for a full day of activity, you know that a lot of work is necessary to make such a program meaningful and safe. Division 9 Club members came out strong to assure a successful event for the tiny tots.

Last October 26th, "A Day in the Park to Celebrate the Arts in Learning," was sponsored by a collaborative group of supporters as part of a huge program that promotes quality education and implements a special curriculum called Start with the Arts.

Over 150 adult volunteers came out to help, and more than one third of those willing hands were those of Division 9 Kiwanians. They worked many hours prior to the event to prepare some of the projects that the children would be making, participated in training, set up the twenty tents needed to accommodate the activities, and on the BIG DAY, they manned the make-and-take projects that focused on visual arts, music, dance, and language skills that are all part of the curriculum for Pre-Kindergarten.

The main purpose is to introduce these beginning learners to new activities and discover that learning is fun, to develop self-esteem as they accomplish tasks successfully, and to enhance their social skills as they interact with the Kiwanian "moms" and "pops" who work with them in this huge event.



Now this Division has vowed to make the Pre-Kindergarten program one of their main projects as they proclaim their efforts for Young Children: Priority One, and they are undergoing plans to find new ways to partner with the Early Learning Coalition of Lake County as a way to strengthen the curriculum. In fact, they are already gearing up for the next Pre-K Festival scheduled for October 31, 2008.

Submitted by Bud Brown, Lt. Governor, Division 9,
Brown8605@yahoo.com or (352) 324-2185

New Starke Elementary K-Kids Club Full Of Enthusiasm

Submitted by Cliff Smelley, Kiwanis Club of Starke, gator726@yahoo.com

A first-ever club is already making its mark in Bradford County, thanks to the excitement of approximately 20 fourth- and fifth-grade students. The Kiwanis Club of Starke has chartered its inaugural K-Kids Club at Starke Elementary School. So far this year, the K-Kids have pulled two shifts ringing the bell for the Salvation Army in front of Winn-Dixie and Wal-Mart, organized a canned food drive to benefit the food pantry in Bradford County, and participated in the city of Starke's Christmas parade. "The kids have been really enthusiastic about this club," Kiwanis advisor Cliff Smelley said. "They seem to have a genuine desire to help people in this community and be involved in community service."

Cheryl Canova, who served as Starke Kiwanis President in 2006-07, also serves as a K-Kids Advisor. Canova said the Kiwanis Club had a banner year last year and that the addition of a K-Kids Club is the "icing on the cake."

It is the eventual goal of the Kiwanis Club of Starke to have a K-Kids Club at every elementary school in Bradford County. Starke Elementary was chosen as the site for the inaugural Club because of its proximity to Bradford Middle School and Bradford High School, Canova said. She felt that would allow the Club to partner with the middle school's Builders Club and high school's Key Club.

K-Kids Club members and Advisors are still discussing what kinds of projects they want to be involved in throughout the remaining

year. The Club does plan to make slipper socks and Valentine's Day cards for residents of one of the area's nursing homes in February as well as present an "Are You Smarter than a K-Kid?" fundraiser. There has been no shortage of ideas presented by Club members, which not only has Smelley excited about for the rest of this year, but looking forward to the 2008-09 school year as well.



K-Kids Autumn Rodgers, Karen Clark and Krista Scott, along with Kiwanis adviser Cliff Smelley, help raise money for the Salvation Army during the holiday season.



Brandon Rhue decorates a box for the club's canned food drive. Approximately 400 pounds of food was collected to help feed needy families in Bradford County.

A First - Kiwanis Club Of Titusville Wins “Rotary” Chili Cook-off!

By Carole Rushing, Kiwanis Club of Titusville

Wonders never cease! On Friday evening, February 1, Anthony Gayle, President-Elect of the Kiwanis Club of Titusville, and Ginger Searle, his worthy Kiwanis Assistant, won “First Place” in the Titusville Rotary Club’s Annual Chili Cook-Off! Every year, the Rotary Club hosts this event during one of the Chamber’s “Friday Nite Street Parties” and needless to say, when the winner was announced, the crowd went “wild!” No one could imagine that a Kiwanis Club would be a first place winner in a Rotary fundraiser, especially when going up against some of the best chefs in the area. A hearty round of applause was received when Anthony was presented with a plaque and a check for \$100 for our Club. Wonders never do cease - Congratulations, Kiwanians! Contact Carole Rushing for more information at (321) 268-3866 or williamr76@aol.com.



Ginger Searle and Anthony Gayle - Kiwanis Club of Titusville

The Iona-McGregor Kiwanis Club Of Fort Myers Is Involved In A number Of Community Activities

The club sponsored two Christmas parties that we would like to share with our Florida Kiwanis membership.

The first program involved the children at the Fort Myers Soup Kitchen. These children, infant through five years of age, are from needy families in the area, some are abandoned children of migrant farm workers. The Iona-McGregor club members arranged a Christmas lunch for the children (Picture at right) helped feed them, then gave each a Christmas gift. A total of thirty children were present, the infants were napping at this time. The Soup Kitchen personnel and teachers were most appreciative of the Kiwanis effort on behalf of the children. During our visit the children sang songs and recited the Pledge of Allegiance for us.



The other sponsored Christmas program was for a local Multiple Sclerosis group and their families. These folks are suffering from different stages of this disease. Our club Past President, Bill Grant, coordinated this festive evening and is shown with the MS co-facilitator, Dave Lane. Our current President, Kathy Willson received the following letter from the MS group. “The entire MS group is appreciative of everything your club has done for us. It was so helpful, that your Kiwanis members took over the entire set up; food, kitchen work, serving and cleaning the facility afterwards. It was very special to all of us to enjoy the party with our friends and family. Wishing your Kiwanis Club a Wonder-filled Christmas and all that you dream and desire in 2008.” signed National MS Society of Fort Myers.

The Iona-McGregor Club continues to seek out needy families in our area with the most recent effort to assist in the supplying of food to local families. Food comes from the Harry Chapin Food Bank and the U S Department of Agriculture, two club member donations fed 25 families for one week. These were mainly families of unemployed construction workers with no current income.

Helping Others, A Family Affair

By Rob Crowder, Lt. Governor Division 15

Rob Crowder Lt. Governor of Division 15 and his wife Mary President of the North Lakeland Kiwanis Club with their granddaughter Noelle ringing bells for Salvation Army.

Mary Crowder says, “You’re never too young or old to help others and give back to your community.” Robert and I are strong believers in getting your children or grandchildren involved in doing for others at an early age. It seems as though children are being raised today with an all about me attitude.

Rob sums it up with a quote, “What do we live for; if it is not you, make life less difficult for those less fortunate.”



Punta Gorda Kiwanians Do Double Duty In “Santa Goodwill Tour” To Quito, Ecuador

By Bob Carpenter, Secretary, Kiwanis Club of Punta Gorda

Bob and Kaye Carpenter of Port Charlotte and Joan Greene of Punta Gorda, representing the Kiwanis Club of Punta Gorda, attended the annual “Santa Goodwill Tour” Dec. 1-5 in Quito, Ecuador. This is the Carpenter’s fifth year and Greene’s fourth spreading goodwill overseas to underprivileged children, children in hospitals, disabled and challenged children, and visiting senior citizen facilities. InConTra, a New York City travel agency, started the project 25 years ago with the Telephone Pioneers of America, and were joined by Kiwanis International several years ago.

This year we saw double duty playing Santa and Mrs. Claus. Last June at the Kiwanis International convention in San Antonio we met Kiwanis Governor of Ecuador, Leonardo Berrezueta, and Division-16 Lt. Gov. Elect Jesus Ochoa of the Kiwanis Club of San Fernando, California. While in the Navy, Ochoa’s Club collected school supplies and he delivered them to the Kiwanis Club of Manta, Ecuador, while deployed to Manta. That Club built two schools and sponsors them. Numerous e-mails for the next few months led to us preparing for two Santa events coming together in Quito.

Santas hand out small gifts they have either bought or gotten donations for to take on the trip. Bob “Carp” Carpenter, when not playing Santa, is the Public Information Officer for the Charlotte County Sheriff’s Office. Kaye Carpenter is a retired Meadow Park Elementary school teacher and Joan Greene owns Accurate Accounting in Punta Gorda; Joan is also the Division-18S Lt. Governor for seven Kiwanis Clubs from Venice to Punta Gorda.

At the Quito Airport we were greeted by a delegation of Quito Kiwanians complete with a welcome banner. The 69 of us Santas were then bused to the Swissotel in Quito. The next morning, day two, we met with Kiwanis Governor Elect Marco Benitez and Kiwanis Lt. Gov. Ricardo Moncayo at the hotel and presented them with a large suitcase full of small gifts for Quito children. Also, a check for \$400 from the Punta Gorda Kiwanis Club was presented to them to give to Kiwanis Governor Berrezueta, who was unable to meet us in Quito. The funds were for a Christmas Party for the 120 children at the schools sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Manta.

After the presentation, all the Santas boarded a bus to a mountain-side community center to visit very poor street children and seniors. We had a wonderful reception and a colorful dance by the children. We danced, sang Christmas carols, and presented them with small gifts. After the visit, we were taken on a tour of the Equatorial Monument for an afternoon of education, shopping and Ecuador entertainment.

On day three, back in Santa outfits, we were ready to visit a homeless children’s center with 140 residents. Instead of the usual buses, InConTra surprised us with two Chiba buses, very colorful open air trucks, with a five man band playing on the roof of each bus. Heading to the center, children and adults on the streets were amazed at the bus loads of Santas that brought spontaneous waves, cheers, and smiles. At the center, the children presented us with a Christmas play;

then we sang Christmas carols and presented them with gifts.

Before going back to the hotel, we toured through Colonial Quito visiting historical churches in San Francisco around a huge public plaza. We were then bused to a cable car attraction taking us up thousands of feet more to overlook the city. Since Quito is over 13,000 feet the additional elevation was a bit taxing on many who felt twinges of what is called altitude sickness. The view compensated over the “mountain high.”

Day four was a full day; a three-hour bus excursion north to the city of Otavalo to spend time at Ecuador’s most famous marketplace. Everyone took advantage of many wonderful souvenirs. We were then bused to a 300 year old hacienda and horse farm for an elegant lunch.

The annual Farewell Dinner for all Santas that evening was held at a mountaintop restaurant overlooking Quito at the foot of the enormous Virgin of Quito Statue, where they had giant Christmas decorations which could be seen for dozens of miles in Quito. At the dinner, InConTra officials announced the choices for the 2008 Santa Goodwill Tours. Santas will choose one of eight major cities in China to spread goodwill next year. My wife Kaye, Joan, and I left the dinner early and were taken by Ecuador Kiwanis Governor-Elect Benitez to a Quito Kiwanis Club meeting where we were greeted by many members with great fellowship. We toured their Kiwanis building where their main project is providing dental care facilities to poor children in Quito. They also have a mobile van doing dental care once a month for kids in remote areas.

Kaye and I have participated in the Santa Goodwill Tours for five years going to Beijing, Sao Paulo, Tokyo-Osaka, Glasgow, and Quito and Joan has participated in all but the Glasgow Tour. These Santa Tours are most rewarding to those who participate and a great way to finish the end of each year, touching so many needy children and senior citizens. Their smiles or glimmer in their eyes make this all worthwhile every year playing Santa and spreading American goodwill around the world.

For more information, contact Carpenter at (941) 575-5252 or carp813@comcast.net



Kiwanis Club of Jacksonville Beaches 5th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

By Doris Barnes, Public Relations Chair, Kiwanis Club of Jacksonville Beaches

On December 3, 2007, the Kiwanis Club of Jacksonville Beaches hosted its 5th Annual Charity Golf Tournament to benefit the Jacksonville Beaches Boys & Girls Club, Kiwanis Scholarships, and local charities. The Beaches Boys & Girls Club is a member of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida and provides after-school programs to 150 youth daily at the Beaches.

The golf tournament was held at the prestigious Jacksonville Golf and Country Club located in Jacksonville, Florida. Entree fees covered: electric cart, green fees, range balls, box lunch, gift pack, and prizes for contests and raffle. Hors d'oeuvres and raffle prizes took place after the tournament. We had another great turnout and great weather. The two major sponsors were: Morgan Stanley: The Dixon Powell Group and Oceanside Bank. Hole sponsorships were also available.

The Kiwanis Club was extremely pleased again to have Calvin Peete, former PGA Tour golfer, at our tournament. Calvin Peete's PGA highlights include:

- 1981-1990: Calvin Peete led the PGA Tour in driving accuracy.
- Winner of 11 PGA Tour Events in five years.
- Member of the U.S. Ryder Cup in 1983 and 1985.
- Winner of the 1985 Tournament Players Championship.

Of course, all of this would not have been possible if not for our Kiwanis members who worked diligently getting major sponsors, hole sponsors, and prizes for our raffle. Many members stepped up to the plate. Our Club President, Neil Powell, and Morgan Stanley: The Dixon Powell Group, became one of our main sponsors.

We appreciate all those members who attended the many golf committee planning and action meetings. Special recognition goes to Dan Kuchta, who developed and put together a first rate flyer and letter, as well as the Golf Program; Jay Ambler, who kept everyone organized and on track; and, John Bates, who made sure that things were getting done. We had many wonderful Kiwanis members who were involved in making sure that the golf tournament was a success. Thank you, volunteers: Max Booke, Corky Borders, Dick Brand, Charlie Bender, Dan Corritore, Erica Godamunne, George Goodloe, Carl Krouch, Jim Lee, Bill Montgomery, Joe Overby, Neil Powell, Lal Ramdeen, Ed Robinson, Al Russ, Burt Van Wagner, Jay Ambler, John Bates, Dan Kuchta, and Doris Barnes.

We are pleased that the proceeds from our Golf Tournament will benefit the Beaches Boys & Girls Club of Jacksonville, enable us to offer Kiwanis scholarships, and help our local charities.

To learn more about the Kiwanis Club of Jacksonville Beaches, please visit www.beachskiwanis.com.

Division 19 News

Submitted by Rachel Smiley, Rachel.Smiley@gmail.com


Fort Myers South Kiwanis

The Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers South donated \$1,000 worth of turkeys to Nation's Association on Nov. 16, 2007. The organization had a very large need for the turkeys this past Thanksgiving as one of their major turkey donors had recently passed away.

Greater Pine Island Kiwanis

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Pine Island held the 25th anniversary of their Greater Pine Island Kiwanis Junior Olympics on Dec. 1, 2007. Over 60 children attended the event and competed in the long jump, 50-yard dash, 1/4 mile run, Frisbee toss, and softball throw. Prizes and trophies were awarded in several categories. Each participant received a t-shirt and a hot dog lunch.

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Make your check payable to the Florida Kiwanian.
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5545 Benchmark Lane, Sanford, Florida 32733-8116.

Names of contributors will begin to appear in the next issue and will be published throughout the Kiwanis year.
Due to space constraints, only the name of the sponsoring individual/couple or club will be published.

THE OBJECTS OF KIWANIS

- To give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life.
- To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.
- To promote the adoption and the application of higher social, business and professional standards.
- To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive and serviceable citizenship.
- ◆ To provide, through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service and to build better communities.
- ◆ To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism and good will.

—Adopted unanimously at the
1924 Kiwanis International Convention
in Denver, Colo.



PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Issue	Cutoff	Prepress to printer	To mail house
Dec.-Jan.	Oct. 1	Nov. 1	Nov. 15
Feb. March	Dec. 1	Jan. 1	Jan. 15
April-May	Feb. 1	March 1	March. 15
June -July	April 1	May 1	May 15
Aug.- Sept.	June 1	July 1	July 15
Oct.- Nov.	Aug. 1	Sept. 1	Sept. 15

Division 19 Lehigh Acres Kiwanis Breakfast Club

On Wednesday, January 30, 2008, the Lehigh Acres Breakfast Club had the honor of installing 5 new members in keeping with Governor Mark Taylor's wish to recruit "100 women in 100 days."



Standing Left to right are Linda Chancello, Kelly Roesch, Caroline Burchet, Sabra Vocaturro and Brian Hazel Bahrs.

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