

## Education Opportunities

By Richard Wongsam, District Chair, Kiwanis Education

The Club Leadership Education (CLE) programs have been completed and all of the Presidents and Secretaries have had the opportunity to be trained in their responsibilities for the upcoming Kiwanis year beginning on October 1, 2008. Those Officers who could not attend the scheduled CLE training will be able to do a "make up" session at the District Convention beginning at 9:00 AM on Friday, August 22, 2008. This is a requirement for Clubs to achieve the "Distinguished Club" award for 2008-2009 Kiwanis year.

The Educational Programs that will be offered at the Florida District Convention have been established and promise to be a fabulous collection of material presented by the best trainers in the District. Beginning on Friday at 9:00 AM, there will be forty (40) workshops scheduled for that day and an additional eighteen (18) on Saturday afternoon. These workshops are grouped by areas of interest such as: Service Leadership Programs (SLP); Kiwanis Growth; Kiwanis and Club Officers; New Kiwanians; and, much, much more.

In addition, there will be numerous table top displays where you will be able to secure immeasurable Kiwanis information to take back to your Club or to keep for future reference. A CD will be produced containing all the workshop presentations and will be sold at the

Convention at a very reasonable price. We look forward to seeing all of you at our District Convention in Jacksonville!

For more information, please contact Richard at (954) 389-0063 or Richard@wongsamgroup.com.



# 2007 FLORIDA DISTRICT CHAIRS 2008

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# It's a "Storey," a "Storey" About You and Stan!

By Bill Rushing, Chair, Florida District Steering Committee



The 2008 International Convention is history and now we are about to attend our Florida District Convention in Jacksonville, August 21st thru August 24th.

You will see me and other Past Governors there manning a Campaign Table for Stan Storey. Remember? All during the 05-06 year, I asked you to help elect Stan Storey, one of Florida's Past Governors, to the position of International Trustee. You did and it happened, Stan was elected in Montreal at the 2006 International Convention.

The 2008-2009 year will be Stan's third and final year as International Trustee and it is time to GET STAN ELECTED AS VICE PRESIDENT OF KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL!



It will ONLY happen if you, the Florida Kiwanians, make it happen! You can make it happen with your time and money! Once again, we need \$ 1.00 from every Kiwanian in Florida; yes, O...N...E...DOLLAR – that's right ...only one dollar from every Kiwanian in the Florida District. Be sure your Club collects from all it's members and send it to the District Office in Sanford, made payable to the Florida District of Kiwanis and marked for Stan's Campaign Fund.

We also need you to campaign in Nashville, Tennessee next June (June 2009) at the International Convention. Plan now – Nashville is fun, fun, fun! We need hundreds of Florida Kiwanians in Nashville next June to help Stan get elected!

Stan Storey was Governor of the Florida District in 1990-1991. Since then, he has served on many International committees; has been Trustee of the Kiwanis International Foundation; and, was President of the Kiwanis International Foundation in 2005-2006. Stan is in the Arlington Kiwanis Club in Jacksonville and is married to Elizabeth. Stan is an outstanding person! He is dedicated to this organization and I can assure you that he will serve Kiwanis with distinction.

Please, get ready folks, we have a campaign ahead of us and lots of work. Thanks!

# "The Values of Being a Super Model"

By Garth Jenkins, District Chair, Human & Spiritual Values

This year, Florida Kiwanians have been challenged by Governor Mark Taylor to be Super Models. There are values which under gird being a Super Model. What might some of those values be?

A model is an example to be followed. Governor Mark has asked us to set an example for others as we daily go about being a Kiwanian. What kind of an example? Doing with our lives what we say Kiwanis stands for and that we would want others to be like us.

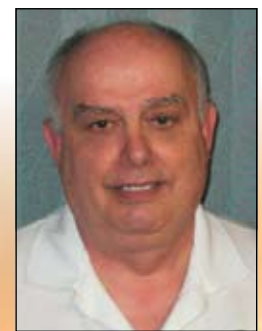
"Doing Kiwanis" centers on helping kids – kids from their pre-natal stage through their teen years. Focus on caring and doing something about their quality of life and that of their family. Wanting the best possible for them as we would want for ourselves.

When Kiwanians reach out to help others and offer helping hands, we send the clear message that such an attitude is the desired way of living. When we care about kids and demonstrate

this caring by our actions – mentoring, reading, assisting with immunizations, building playgrounds, befriending – we say by these actions that this is the way all people should live.

"Being Kiwanis" – a way of life – says that people should be connected to each other. Many years ago the question was asked, "Am I my brother's keeper?" The answer then was an unqualified "YES," and Kiwanians believe today that it remains "YES!" Florida Kiwanians continue to model behaviors that care deeply about kids.

G. Jenkins may be contacted at flakwfdn@cfl.rr.com or (386) 738-1993.



## Club Newsletters

By Maggie Gunther, District Chair, Club Newsletters

The Kiwanis year is in full swing. When others slow down and relax in the summer this year, the Florida District is picking up the pace to host the Kiwanis International Convention here in sunny, family-friendly Orlando.

Thanks very much to all of the Club Newsletter Editors who have been sending me your newsletters throughout the year, both online and through the mail. It has been fun seeing what you are up to. (Yes, I really do read them!) Keep up the good work.

Does your Club have a newsletter? Is it being sent to me? If not, your Club won't be eligible for the banner patch award for Outstanding Club Newsletters. Don't let this tragedy occur! For each Division

(Clubs are grouped by size) there are several opportunities to win an award and help fill up some empty space on your Honors Banner. You can still send me your back issues via e-mail or snail-mail at [maggiemunther@hotmail.com](mailto:maggiemunther@hotmail.com) or 905 NE 29 Dr., Wilton Manors, FL 33334.

If you have a newsletter, take the opportunity to recognize your members for their work as Kiwanians. Everyone loves to read about a familiar face- especially if it is their own. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (954) 224-2825.



## Awards and Club Grading

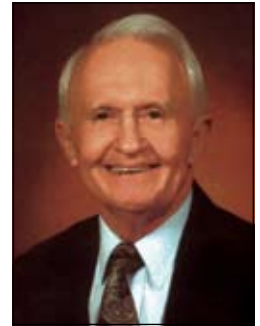
By Ray M. Watson, District Chair, Awards & Club Grading

In reading and reviewing the Club Monthly Report Card published in the April/May 2008 issue of the Florida Kiwanian, one cannot help but be impressed by the number of projects and the many hours the Kiwanis Clubs of the Florida District have given to the children not only in Florida, but in the world.

Although Kiwanians do not volunteer their time and efforts to achieve personal recognition or awards, these numbers do count. Awards serve many purposes: Club recognition, individual recognition, recognition on both the local community level and on the state and international levels. The awards help people to understand the many and varied projects in which Kiwanians are involved.

Soon decisions will be made about the Clubs and individuals who will receive special recognition at the District Convention in Jacksonville. Hopefully all Club Secretaries have submitted the necessary data to make sure that their Club receives their deserved recognition.

I would like to take this opportunity to express a personal note. As many of you know my wife, Lois, was diagnosed with cancer shortly after returning from the International Convention in San Antonio last July. The support that we have received from Governor Mark and First Lady Sharon; George Langguth and his family and staff at District Headquarters; my home Club, Sunshine City; and, the entire Kiwanis family, has been truly remarkable. Lois is now in remission and continues to improve daily. Your many prayers and your support contributed greatly to her recovery and speaks to the true spirit of Kiwanis. Thank you one and all! Ray Watson may be contacted on his cell at (727) 430-1301 or by email at [RWatso5@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:RWatso5@tampabay.rr.com).



## Public Relations

By Steve Cummings, District Chair, Public Relations

I recently heard Kiwanis CEO Rob Parker speak and he shared a very insightful observation about the importance of clear communication. While communication is important in sharing your ideas, conversation is more personal and effective.

I am the first person to encourage our membership to leverage their time promoting this great organization utilizing the local newspaper, billboards, television, radio, and posters placed around your town. However, as Kiwanis members, we should be the leading source for gaining membership by sharing our story with as many people as possible.

While an advertisement can reach many people, it can't relate the special bond that we share with the children in our community. Ask your fellow workers to join you at your next meeting or ask to speak

at your place of worship or local Chamber meeting encouraging people to not just join Kiwanis, but become active participants.

Bring photographs or news clippings on projects that Kiwanis supports. Do not merely submit news releases to the newspaper, but invite a reporter to your meeting and discuss the impact that Kiwanis has made with the children in your schools. If a story is published about your Club, make sure that reporter receives a plaque or certificate of appreciation. If you want to communicate more effectively, you must add the personal touch.

Steve Cummings may be contacted on his cell at 954-907-2392 or by email at [mumbles109@bellsouth.net](mailto:mumbles109@bellsouth.net).



## Kids Are Priority One

By Tim Hart, District Chair, Young Children: Priority One



Today's young children are tomorrow's voters, workers, taxpayers, and parents. Science tells us that early experiences establish the architecture of a child's developing brain. Nurturing and individualized interactions with adults — at home and in the community — build a strong foundation for future growth and development. To ensure that all children grow into solid community members and active participants in our economy, we must work together to meet their needs.

Although we know that supporting healthy child development is better than trying to make up later for stressful or damaging early experiences, we are not investing adequately in quality services to assure this healthy development. While 85% of a child's core brain structure is formed by age four, less than 9% of public investments in education and development are made by that time.

Child development services can include services provided in a child's home, child care and preschool in family and center based programs, as well as physical and mental health services. A growing body of research is showing that the benefits of providing high-quality child development services far outweigh the costs. Conversely, we know that strong and prolonged stress (which can ensue from poverty, neglect, physical or emotional abuse, maternal depression, or family substance abuse or violence) disrupts brain architecture and leads to substantial cost to both the individual and society in the future.

The effects of building strong brain architecture during a child's early years continue throughout a person's life— through employment, and all life experiences. Investment in early childhood development services provides far greater quality of life and economic gain than the cost of the initial investment, both for individual children and for society.

In addition, our economy depends heavily on the availability, accessibility, and affordability of child development programs. Parents who can find, afford, and rely on such services are more likely to enter the workforce, be productive at work, and remain employed. Low-wage families are more likely to remain in the workforce — instead of on welfare rolls — if they have access to child care assistance. Four areas should be targeted to achieve better results in the support of Young Children: Priority One:

- A) Make Child Development Services More Affordable
- B) Improve the Quality of Child Development Services
- C) Improve Access to Child Development Services
- D) Help Create a Coordinated Early Childhood System

Kiwanis International has been a leader in programs that serve Young Children: Priority One (YC:PO). Refer to the Kiwanis International Web Site ([www.kiwanis.org](http://www.kiwanis.org) , click on Service Project, then click on Young Children's Priority 1) for some of the programs that Clubs can participate in to target these areas. Tim Hart may be contacted at (863) 647-3837 or by email [thart@platinumbank.com](mailto:thart@platinumbank.com).

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