

## K-Kids in the State of Florida

By Dave Schmitt, K-Kids District Administrator

K-Kids is booming in Florida. At the end of 2007-2008 we ended up with 172 K-Kids Clubs; number one in Kiwanis International by far. It is that time of year though for all Kiwanis Clubs who sponsor K-Kids send in your renewals. We are also trying to reach all faculty and Kiwanis advisors of these 172 clubs. Unfortunately, the emails from Kiwanis International were somewhat outdated in many cases and we do not have correct contact information. Therefore, I am asking if you're K-Kids Kiwanis or Faculty advisor and not receiving regular emails from me, please email me so I can correct or add you to the list. There are many exciting contests as mentioned below for the kids to participate in and much to report on throughout the year.

We also have some upcoming contests for your Kids and we did have several District Winners last year and a few International Winners. The following are those clubs and individual students who entered and won some of the K-Kids contests:

### Essay

1st Place	Caleb Oschner	Starke Elementary
2nd Place	Shelby Fallin	Griffin Elementary

### Speech

1st Place	Lainie Rodgers	Starke Elementary
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### Leadership Awards

1st Place	Shelby Fallin	Griffin Elem. <i>Won International Awards and \$200 Savings Bond</i>
2nd Place	Megan Simrell	Ridgecrest Elem.
3rd Place	Alex Wagner	Ridgecrest Elem.

### Art

1st Place	Lindsey Meyer	Cape Elem. <i>Won 2nd Place International</i>
2nd Place	Jesse Welch	Ridgecrest Elem.
3rd Place	Talia Perez	Ridgecrest Elem.
HM	Elizabeth Perry	Starke Elem.
HM	Brea Dixon	Ridgecrest Elem.

### Scrapbook

1st Place	Beach Elem.
2nd Place	Starke Elem.
3rd Place	Cape Elem.

*Congratulations to all!*

### 2008-2009 Contest Themes

**Essay** - How can my club make a difference in the lives of others?

**Speech** - What should people know about K-Kids?

**Art** - Prepare a drawing that demonstrates how one K-Kids member can make a difference.

Deadline: April 1st, 2009

I would love every K-Kids in the state enter into at least one of the categories. Last, I would ask you please send me updates at least every quarter so I can include in my reports and in our District newsletter.

These deadlines would be the following:

October 1st • December 1st • March 1st • May 15th

Thank you to all who sponsor K-Kids and hope you have a great year! Please keep me posted on your successes.



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# Aktion Club of Alliance for Independence Helps Guardian ad Litem Program

Submitted by Ashley Hall, Communications Coordinator, Alliance for Independence

The Aktion Club of Alliance for Independence and the North Lakeland Kiwanis Club recently participated in a huge Florida Kiwanis service project and they have the pictures to prove it! This project was in support of a project initiated by Immediate Past First Lady of Florida Kiwanis, Mrs. Sharon Taylor. The Florida Guardian ad Litem Program is a partnership of community advocates and professional staff providing a powerful voice on behalf of Florida's abused and neglected children.

Aktion Club members and Kiwanians collected personal care items to stuff 60 tote bags that will be given to children that are being served by Guardian ad Litem. These bags were provided by the North Lakeland Kiwanis Club.

Alliance for Independence is a private non-profit 501(c) (3) organization that provides adult day training and residential services to over 120 adults with developmental disabilities daily and is under the direction of a volunteer Board of Directors. Alliance for Independence is a community partner of the United Way of Central Florida.

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time. There are more than 9,000 Kiwanis clubs in more than 80 nations, with nearly one third of a million Kiwanians of different cultures helping to improve people's lives. The North Lakeland Kiwanis Club is the sponsor of the Aktion Club of Alliance for Independence.

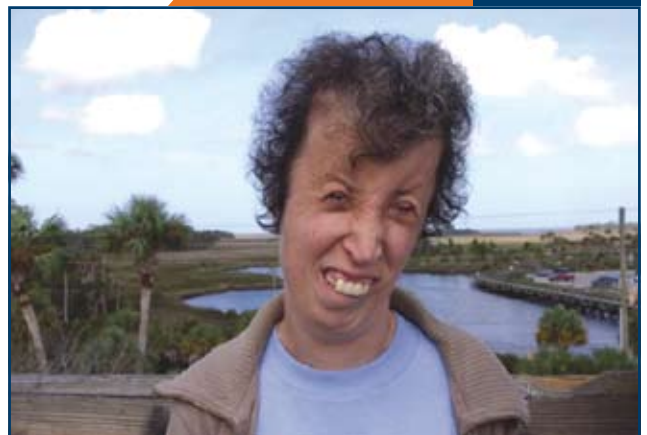
For more information, Ashley may be contacted at 863-665-3846 ext. 241 or [ahall@afi-fl.org](mailto:ahall@afi-fl.org). Or visit their website at [www.afi-fl.org](http://www.afi-fl.org).



## What Aktion Club Means to Me

By Debbie O'Donnell, Treasurer, Brooksville Aktion Club

It means helping others to do a good project and it helps the Aktion Club to do a good job. I like to collect the dues for treasury. I enjoy meeting other people as a member of the Aktion Club and having a good time. We try to keep the community in good shape and help out the community to keep it clean. I like meeting other Aktion Club members and going out for lunch with other members. Our members keep busy each week by volunteering at SPCA animal shelter, Goodwill thrift store, and Meals on Wheels. I enjoy making art projects for different occasions and delivering them to different assisted living facilities. I enjoy talking to different people at the assisted living facilities and how they like our art projects we make. The Aktion Club members make me happy and I look forward to meeting other people and getting to know them. I enjoy being with them and having meetings to see what other Aktion Club members do. Getting our pictures taken for the newspaper makes us feel wonderful. I think the Brooksville Aktion Club is the best in Florida. It keeps us working hard to help others. This what it means to me to be an Aktion Club member.



*Debbie O'Donnell Treasurer*  
Debbie O'Donnell, Treasurer  
Brooksville Aktion Club