

Meet the Florida District of Key Club's Governor

By Travis Benaiges, Governor, Florida District of Key Club



For quite some time now, the Florida District of Key Club has been prospering and growing. This success is in a large part indebted to all that the Florida District of Kiwanis has done for Key Club. I would like to take this opportunity to thank every Kiwanian for their continued efforts and support. I would also like to thank the Florida Kiwanis Foundation for all that it has provided for Key Club.

I speak with confidence when I say that this 2008-2009 Key Club year is going to be one of even furthered improvement and success, mostly because of the great working relationship that Florida has had and that I continue to build between Key Club and Kiwanis along with the rest of the K-Family. With collaborative efforts, our intended impacts are always stronger. I have even made it one of my yearly initiatives to insure that Florida Key Clubbers work in cooperation with their local Kiwanis and other K-Family members to accomplish their goals and service projects. I've done this not only to improve on work product, but more so (beyond the rudimentary principle) to better serve

the purpose that Key Club was created for, in which Kiwanis Educates Youth on leadership.

I have planned to see this furthered relationship fostered through the implementation of my Governor's Project which promotes conserving the environment in partnership with other K-Family members. I believe that one of the factors that makes this organization so strong is the cultivated web of support that the K-Family has. Each generation has something different and valuable to contribute and, by working together, each generation will prosper and grow to its full potential.

As a Kiwanian, I encourage YOU to become involved in our youth's activities. Find your local Circle K, Key Club, Builder's Club, or K-Kids, and get involved in what they are doing. Don't have any of these close to you? Then create one because the future generations around your area will look to your leadership to help them become better leaders and better citizens. Be a part of the change that you would like to see in this world.

I have gotten to know many of our Key Club members in my position as Key Club

Governor of the Florida District. I assure you that we are the future leaders of this country. As I have encouraged my Key Club members to step up to my challenge to get more involved in their community, in their environment, and in service in general, I now implore you, our leaders, to get more involved in the K-Family. YOU are our role models. Show us the way to service and we will follow and learn! I look forward to our District Convention where your efforts will shine like never before through the service of our Key Clubs. Thank you for all you have done in the past and all you will do this year to help Key Club make a difference in this world.

Big Lagoon Kiwanis Club Hosts Patriotic Aktion Club Bagpiper Program

By Eileen Brotherton, Public Relations Chairwoman, Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon

The Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon hosted the July AKtion Club meeting at the Piccadilly Cafeteria, Town and Country Plaza in Pensacola. The Program began with Sam Varney, Master Bag Pipe Player, showing the mechanics of the Bag Pipe and demonstrating how the different sounds are created. Sam then gave a concert of Patriotic music and selections requested by the AKtion Club members.



Joe Wildes leads AKtion Club as they sing the AKtion Club Song and clap in appreciation for Bagpiper Sam Varney's program

The Patriotic July songfest was led by Joe Wildes, former Big Lagoon President and AKtion Club Advisory Board President as the enthusiastic AKtion Club group closed the meeting with the AKtion Club Song, that was written by Joe Wildes.

For more information, Eileen may be contacted at curteileenb@cox.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
rfgrippo@southernco.com

K-Kids Administrator

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

CKI Embraces their Kiwanis Family

By Kadie Hayward, Governor, Florida District of Circle K International

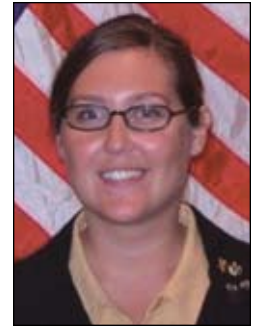
As Circle K-ers all over the district are gearing up to attend the 2008 International Convention, we are reminded about the very important part Kiwanians play in our amazing organization. For many of us, it was Kiwanis financial support that has allowed us to experience such opportunities. For others, it was a deeper kind of support; encouragement to get involved, a bit of advice when dealing with a tough situation, a role model who has set an example through SUPER MODEL leadership. While in Denver at ICON, we will be electing our International Board of Representatives. In them, we will be looking for the kind of leadership we are so often inspired by which our Kiwanis leaders exemplify and which we have and will continue to learn from. We will be making important decisions about the future of our organization, and as we vote on and discuss amendments, we will do so with great integrity and pride, representing the Kiwanis Family of the Florida District with our heads held high.

It is easy to get so caught up in what we are accomplishing within our own organization, and forget about those who helped us get there. In the four months since our new year began in April, our district has logged just under 2,000 service hours, numerous Interclub points, and countless social hours. Many of the service projects that clubs so proudly boast about are hosted or attended by local Kiwanis clubs. Sometimes, they are funded by the generous budgets provided by our sponsoring clubs.

In addition to numerous service projects, socials, and fundraisers clubs are doing, clubs are also preparing for the return to school at the start of the fall semester. Many clubs are launching recruiting programs throughout their campuses and are gearing up for the semester ahead! Club officers and members will have an chance to pick up a few more public relations tips while at the Leadership Training Conference where they will also complete Club Leadership Education training and numerous other fun and insightful workshops! On October 10 and 11, you can find us in Orlando for the IDEAS Conference boning up on our service and leadership skills while celebrating like the Greeks! This Olympic themed weekend, like the Leadership Training Conference, will be refocused and will feature a new format and some wonderful new ideas!

This year, we would really like to spend more time branching out into the K-Family, specifically working more with Key Club and Kiwanis. We would like to honor the hard work, time, and dedication you all put into your sponsored youth by forging stronger relationships, and representing the District in the best possible way. We look forward working with you this year, and in the many years to come! Thank you for everything you do!

For more information about CKI or how your Kiwanis club can be involved with this group of students, Kadie may be contacted at 386-566-8364 or kadiehaywardcki@aol.com.



Builders Club

By Dave Schmitt, P.E., Administrator, Builder's Club

Builders Clubs are part of Kiwanis' future. Kids in Builders Clubs currently are in middle school and are making a significant impact in their school and community. Many of the kids in Builders Clubs are actually former K-Kids members which is a really nice trend to see, they are also future Key Clubbers. Builders Club gives kids an opportunity not only to serve their campuses and communities, but allows for developing leadership skills that will not only influence their middle school years, but future high school and college years. They will hopefully continue giving back to others when they become adults and hopefully after having a great middle school experience, consider being fellow Kiwanians.

Builders Club also has many great competitions in which our clubs need to be more involved in, from essay contests, speech contests, club achievement, scrapbook and others. Almost everyone that entered into these contests this year place statewide and many were sent on to International. This year I will be provided a list of all school and Kiwanis advisors and they will receive monthly updates from me.

If you have not contacted your school –please do so. Part of being a sponsoring club is to be involved with your Builders Club and their activities. Most of our clubs are doing a fine job with that and we have

had a great impact on these schools and these student.

Our goal again for this year for the Builders Club Committee is to double the number of schools that have Builders Clubs. Currently only 79 Florida schools have a Builders Club. This means too many schools are not having the opportunity to have one of these great clubs. I had a Kiwanis Club take on their first service leadership program in a club that has a very long history of doing great things. At first they were somewhat reluctant, but after working with these great kids and their advisor for a very short time-thanked me for encouraging them to do so. They also said their club had not had that much enthusiasm or energy in the past twenty years. This was due to their involvement with these kids and seeing what a huge positive impact they had on others. That is exactly what it is about; giving kids an opportunity to learn leadership through service.

For more information on starting a club in your area, please contact me at dave.schmitt@dseorl.com or 407-207-9088.

