

Chipley Kiwanis Visited by Seasoned Veteran and Inducts New Members

By Joe Johnson, Publicity Chair, Kiwanis Club of Chipley

Mr. Paul Gordy was the guest speaker at Tuesday's Kiwanis weekly meeting and celebrated the 4th of July holiday. Paul gave a heartfelt speech entitled "Freedom", which he said is "neither free nor cheap". "There's no glory in war...", Paul said, and "...war is hell". Those in attendance listened intently to every word spoken and knew they were in the presence of a true patriot. Many looked with much interest at Paul's pictures, maps and memorabilia on display from his World War II experience.

Mr. Gordy, 86, lives in Chipley with his wife Ann and is a WWII veteran pilot of the U.S. 8th Air Force stationed in England. After his plane was shot down during a mission on July 29th, 1943, Paul

was captured and spent the next 22 months in a POW camp in Germany. The POW camp where Paul was imprisoned was the same camp the movie "The Great Escape" was based on.

Mr. Gordy told about an unlikely meeting of a fellow prisoner from his home area, Mr. Harry Williams of Bonifay, FL, who now lives in Chipley. Paul also told the audience that his brother Leonard Gordy's plane was shot down on 04/29/44 and was sent to the same POW camp as Paul. What a reunion that must have been! They were prisoners together for 12 months at the same camp until rescued by Allied forces in 1945.

Time did not permit Paul to tell many WWII stories that he could have told. He said several times "That's another story". He might tell you one if you ask him sometime.

Standing applause by an appreciative audience meant "Thank You, Paul, for your service and sacrifice".



Kathy Rudd, sponsor LaMerle Feitsma, Jonathan Prescott and Kiwanis president Darrin Wall.

Before Mr. Gordy spoke, special music to celebrate the 4th was provided by Cynthia and Marice Wynn of Chipley's Grant Tabernacle AME. Mrs. Wynn sang several verses of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and was accompanied on the piano by her husband Marice.

Four new members were presented by their club sponsors Tuesday and inducted by Kiwanis president Darrin Wall. New members were, Sandra Cook, David Earl Corbin, Kathy Rudd & Jonathan Prescott.

Four \$250 checks were presented to representatives of local youth baseball teams to help with travel expenses to State tournaments. The traveling teams are: the Chipley Allstar Boys, the Chipley Angels Allstars, the Chipley Belles Allstars and the Chipley Ponytails Allstars.



Kiwanis president Darrin Wall, Rey Gustason, Vickie Williams and Youth Services committee chair Dell Corbin.



Sponsor, LaMerle Feitsma, Sandra Cook, co-sponsor Farrell Nelson, David Earl Corbin and sponsor Andy Andreassen

Kiwanis Leadership Training Prepares New Class of Officers

By Rachel Smiley, Public Relations Chair, Division 19

Fort Myers, Fla. (Jun. 17, 2008) – Over 28 leaders from the 17 Kiwanis clubs from Lee County and Labelle joined together recently for a day of training at the Boy Scouts of America office in Fort Myers. These leaders will help guide over 600 Kiwanis members in the area in service to the community.

"Though these individuals won't officially take office until Oct.1, the training educated attendees on the numerous tasks to do in the upcoming months," said Kiwanis Division 19 Lt. Governor Terry Luster.

To find a Kiwanis club in Lee County or Labelle, visit www.kiwanis19.com or contact Terry Luster, Division 19 Kiwanis Lt. Governor, at (239) 415-3100 or terry.luster@nvtlsi.com.



Kiwanis Elementary School Principal, Roy Moral, Takes Chess Team to Tournament in Orlando, Florida

By Carolyn "Seel" Lundy, Past President, Sun City Kiwanis

Roy Moral, a new Kiwanian from the Sun City Center Club and principal of Wimauma Elementary School, is proud to announce that his school's chess team won "First Place" at the Superstate Scholastic Chess Championship in Orlando, Florida.

A chess player himself, Roy knows that good memory, logic, and concentration are skills developed while playing chess and make a difference when helping the boys and girls achieve academically.

The Wimauma Elementary School students on the chess team meet every Friday, with strategy coaching from Dave and Liz Denny and other members of the staff everyday. Roy and his staff are proud to say some students have ranked higher than some of the adult competitors.

The student chess team has been invited to the Florida State Championship in August at the Radisson Hotel, St. Petersburg, Florida. What a sterling achievement! The Sun City Center Kiwanis wishes Roy and his Wimauma student chess players much success!

For more information, Lundy may be contacted at (813) 645-2313 or clundy@tampabay.rr.com.



Kiwanis Club of Lake Worth Breaks Ground on Sports Field Florida Foundation Grant Awarded

By Chester "Chet" Taras, President, Kiwanis Club of Lake Worth

The Kiwanis Club of Lake Worth has been assisting the area's youth for 60 years. As a leader in local service projects, they have given dictionaries to schools, grants to ensure that "every child is a swimmer", apples for teachers, scholarships through Dollars for Scholars and a fabulous Holiday Season festival which is totally free to the area's children.

Their biggest project, renovating a park into a much needed sports field, was just a dream. Chester Taras, President, said the Club had talked about how to accomplish this massive feat for a few years but needed more money and "partners" to make this vision a reality.

Last month it was a very sad plot of land in north Lake Worth. Patches of weeds poked up through the sandy lot which was surrounded by a neighborhood of neatly kept houses that many children called home. Fast forward 3 weeks – on June 23, 2008 the Kiwanis Club of Lake Worth held a ground breaking ceremony to celebrate the beginning of the transformation of Sunset Ridge Park to a new Sports Field.

When Taras received a letter telling him that the Florida Kiwanis Foundation had awarded a matching grant to the Club, he knew the vision would be achieved. The Club held several meetings with the City of Lake Worth's Mayor; Jeff Clemens (Kiwanis Lt. Governor for District 21) and the Parks Recreation Department to plan out their next step. Florida Kiwanis Trustee for District 21, Tom Thayer, was fantastic in his enthusiasm and assistance to jump-start the process.

Herman Robinson, a long time Lake Worth Kiwanis member, has used his contractor background to ensure the process goes smoothly. The bulldozers started clearing and leveling the area within a few days. The renovations will include new sod and an irrigation system and well. The City of Lake Worth will also be refurbishing the tennis court & basketball area with all work completed by September 2008. Without the grant from Florida Kiwanis Foundation this wonderful area for children could have not been started!

We will update you in the fall with the Grand Opening Ceremony & pictures! For more information, Chester may be contacted at 561-635-3417 or Ta4945@aol.com.



Estero-Gulf Coast Kiwanis First Annual Taste of Estero

By Joanne Carr, Secretary, Estero Gulf Coast Kiwanis Club

The Estero-Gulf Coast Kiwanis held the first annual Taste of Estero on May 4, 2008 – more than 20 restaurants participated which included a variety of foods from Greek, Italian, Ribs, subs, pizza, ice cream, yummy desserts, etc. The kids area was very popular with bounce houses, face painting, and rock climbing. Several local bands entertained the more than 8,000 participants throughout the day.

Organizers of the Taste were quite pleased, not only with the number of restaurants and people that participated but that enough was made to be able to give each of the charities a nice donation. This was very good for a first year event.

“Proceeds from the Taste were split 50-50 between the vendors and the Kiwanis Club,” Mike Wobrock, Club President said. The charities that benefited from the Taste went to Pennies 4 Playgrounds at Pinewoods Elementary School in Estero, Interfaith Caregivers of Southwest Florida and the Joseph Coller Endowment Fund set up at Florida Gulf Coast University. Joe was a founding/charter member of our club who lost his life in an accident several years ago. Check out our web site for more information on the Taste of Estero – www.tasteofestero.com.

Joanne may be contacted at 239-390-9878 or nosnebrac@msn.com.



Photos provided by David Michael Photographer.

Presentation of Presidential Citation Award to the Florida District at the International Convention in Orlando

Pictured are Phil Yorston, '06-'07 Florida District Governor, George Langguth, Executive Director of the Florida District of Kiwanis & Nelson Tucker, Immediate Past International President.



Let's Go to the Zoo

By Ginger Searle, Kiwanis Club of Titusville

This year, the Kiwanis Club of Titusville has adopted the foster children residing at Country Acres Children's Home in their city. Their goal is to participate monthly in an interaction with these children as surrogate Aunts, Uncles, Grandmothers and Grandfathers. The object is to spend time with the children and make a difference in their lives.

Some of the projects we have enjoyed are: Christmas shopping with the children, who had drawn names with each other, enjoying a bowling afternoon, attending a Marlins Baseball game and in June, a trip to the Brevard Zoo.

On June 14th, ten children from Country Acres joined Kiwanians from the Titusville club and spent a very eventful outing for children and adults. They oohed at snakes, laughed at monkeys, saw the new baby giraffe and fed adult giraffes, held birds, rode the train and enjoyed all the other animals.

When a thirteen year old girl says, "I didn't want to come, but I am so glad I did. Thank you for so much"...that is a "Kiwanis Moment".

Our members are looking forward to the next event.



The Annual July 4th Kiwanis Midnight Run

By Tom Dulaney, Countryside Kiwanis

In 1980, the inaugural July 4th Kiwanis Midnight Run took place to raise funds for the Dunedin Kiwanis Club's charities. Henry Hardin, with the Dunedin Kiwanis Club, was the race director. The co-race director was Joe Garrison and to this day, Joe is still performing admirably at that same position. The race drew 542 runners that first year. It rapidly grew to the point where Henry had to ask his brother, George Hardin with the Countryside Kiwanis Club, to become another co-director and help with the race. Thus sprang a cooperative effort between the two clubs to produce the run each year for their respective charities. The races were a 3K and a 10K in distance, out and back to Honeymoon Island State Park along the Dunedin Causeway.

Fast forward to the year 2008. This year, being the 29th annual run, the race is now called the July 4th Kiwanis Morton Plant Mease Midnight Run. The distances are now a 5K, a 10K and a 1 mile run/walk with the 10K being the premier race starting at 12:15AM the morning of July 4th. The volunteers helping with the myriad of duties at the race come from members of both clubs, spouses of the members, friends of the clubs, Key Club members and members of a local radio club. And, of course, the many sponsors that help make this race possible.

Among the record turnout of 1825 registered participants this year, there were a lot more races than for first place. One example occurred in the 10K race between two top high school runners in the area battling for third place. Another when two senior runners were battling for fourth place in the 5K race. The races are all very competitive.

All ages participate.

Including this race, the 29 Midnight Runs have raised over half a million dollars for the Kiwanis Clubs of Dunedin and Countryside to continue their work with the youth, handicapped, elderly and needy in their respective communities. They are indeed serving the children of the world and making a difference in their communities.

For further information on the Kiwanis Midnight Run, go to www.kiwanismidnightrun.com. Information on the Dunedin Kiwanis Club is available at 727-535-2257. Information on Countryside Kiwanis Club is available at www.kiwanis.org/club/countryside or by calling 727-365-0200.



Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon Donates Needed Funds to Escambia County Immunization Coalition

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

Big Lagoon Kiwanian, and Chairman, Immunization Coalition of Escambia County, Curtis Brotherton, was the bearer of good news as called the Coalition meeting to order recently. Chairman Brotherton asked Debbie Price, Chairwoman, School Age Committee to step forward; he then presented her with a much needed donation of \$250.00 which will be used to motivate students and their parents in obtaining required immunization shots prior to school attendance. Chairman Brotherton was given a standing ovation by the members of the Coalition for this donation and for his services as Chairman for the past two years.

For more information, Eileen may be contacted at curteileenb@cox.net.



Big Lagoon Kiwanian, and Chairman, Immunization Coalition of Escambia County, Curtis Brotherton, presents a \$250.00 check from Big Lagoon Kiwanis Foundation to Debbie Price, Chairwoman, School Age Committee, Immunization Coalition of Escambia County. These funds will be used to motivate students and their parents in obtaining required immunization shots prior to school attendance.

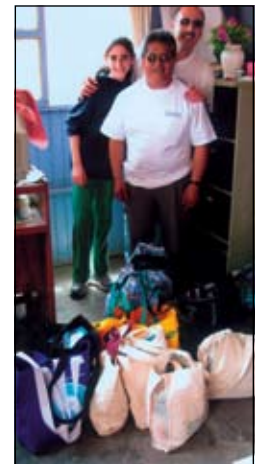
Helping Others Internationally

Dr. Mark Singer, a longtime member of Northside Naples Kiwanis Club, along with one of his nieces, traveled to Lima Peru and incorporated "serving the children of the world" literally! Mark's niece, Libby Gross, age 13, collected many different sorts of school supplies prior to the trip. Libby was able to accumulate over 100 pounds of supplies, including pencils, crayons, rulers, markers, and stickers. With the contact made through our Kiwanis Headquarters



Libby Gross (13 Yrs.), Fernando Ratalade & Dr. Mark Singer.

in Indianapolis, Mark was put in touch with Fernando Ratalade of the Lima Peru Kiwanis Club. This Kiwanis contact allowed Mark and Libby to "hand deliver" the supplies to a school and daycare center called "Los Conejitos". This facility, which is in the Los Olivos District of Lima, serves about 250 young children who reside in an impoverished section of this very large city. It was a heart warming experience on both sides of the project, and Libby has learned first hand what it means to give of yourself to those less fortunate. Through Kiwanis International, two members of two different clubs, in two different countries, have made a difference in the young lives of others!



Dr. Mark Singer, niece Libby Gross & Juan, another member of Lithia Kiwanis Club.

Broward Caribbean Cultural Parade Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Ft. Lauderdale Beach

By Carolyn Ehrhardt, Kiwanis Club of Ft. Lauderdale Beach

The Kiddies/Junior Broward Caribbean Carnival 'A Carnival Parade Down Memory Lane' will be held October 5th, 2008 in Downtown Ft. Lauderdale, FL at the Riverwalk. This is the Kiwanis Club of Ft. Lauderdale Beach's fifth year sponsoring this wonderful event in partnership with the Boys & Girls Club of Broward County. Toddlers to 15 year olds can be a part of this cultural parade.

For information on how to be involved with the event or sponsor a Boys & Girls Club in Broward County, please contact Carolyn Ehrhardt at 954-850-1330 or carolynehrhardt@aol.com.



Kiwanis Club of Bradenton Makes Manatee Better Annual Better Manatee Day Community Clean Up Event A Success!

By Lisa Morrison, Better Manatee Day Chair, Kiwanis Club of Bradenton

On March 8, 2008, the Kiwanis Club of Bradenton took the lead in making their community an even better place to live with their 29th Annual Better Manatee Day! Better Manatee Day, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Bradenton since 1979, is a county-wide beautification effort for Manatee County featuring partnerships with school clubs, church groups and other community organizations.

The Kiwanis Club of Bradenton enlisted the help of nearly 1000 community volunteers and committed more than \$16,000 in financial support to complete 32 projects

throughout Manatee County. This year's signature projects were the rebuilding of the park pavilion and improvements to the outdoor chapel for the Boy Scouts at Camp Flying Eagle and the creation of a shell pathway at the Palma Sola Botanical Park.

With more than 220 members, the Kiwanis Club of Bradenton is committed to service projects that make our community a better place while placing our greatest emphasis on assisting and developing children within our community. For more information about Better Manatee Day or the Kiwanis Club of



Bradenton, visit www.bradentonkiwanis.com or contact Lisa Morrison, Better Manatee Day Chair, at 941-708-5342 or lc.morrison@verizon.net.

Friendship Kiwanis Supports Stuff-the-Bus

By Roger Patterson, Friendship Kiwanis

The Friendship Kiwanis club made its annual Stuff-The-Bus donation to members of the Friendship Volunteer Fire Department. During his presentation of the club's check, president, Bob Keyser, told Lt. James Hensley, "This Stuff-The-Bus program gives our club another opportunity to support Kiwanis International's service focus of "Young Children: Priority One".



Lt. James Hensley, of Marion County Fire Rescue Station 21, receives the Friendship Kiwanis club's Stuff-The-Bus donation from club president, Bob Keyser and project coordinator, Bucky Bishop while Station 21 crew members Teresa Fletcher, Stephen Cabrera, Jeff King, Phillip Applegate, Chief Shari Hall and Capt. Pamela Driggers look on.

Kiwanis Club of Palm Beach Donates Immunization RV

By Larry Ochstein, Editor, Kiwanis Club of Palm Beach

The Kiwanis Club of Palm Beach has purchased and retrofitted a new motor coach to replace the prior 1994 Immunization Van that we secured for the Palm Beach County Childhood Immunization Coalition. This Immunization Van will provide medical outreach booster-shot, vaccination and immunization services for children under the age of two in need of healthcare services. Since the start of this program in 1994, 70,404 children have received these protective immunization services through coalition activities led by the P. B. County Health Department. **Thanks to the efforts of the Kiwanis Club of Palm Beach, the percentage of children under the age of two who today are fully immunized has risen from 50% to 95% in Palm Beach County!** With the total cost of this project reaching nearly \$80,000, we are proud to invest in a healthy tomorrow!



Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon Distributes Terrific Kids Awards

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

Kiwanians from the Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon, under the leadership of Vete Senkus, Terrific Kids Chairman, visited over 2,700 students this May in the "I am a Terrific Kid Program" at Elementary Schools, Pleasant Grove, Hellen Caro, Blue Angels and Hallmark Elementary giving them awards that cost the Club over \$1,200.



Big Lagoon Kiwanian, Chuck Tinker presents Terrific Kids awards to Hallmark Elementary School students

The Kiwanians visited these schools two times this year, presenting them with a "I am a Terrific Kid" button and a "I am a Terrific Kid" magnet. The Terrific Kids Program requires that students set and attain goals that have been approved by their teachers, and once the teachers have certified that these goals have been satisfied, the student is eligible for the "I am a Terrific Kid" Award.

When the Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon members enter the classrooms, it is evident that the children are delighted to greet them. As they hear their name called by their teacher, they give a polite "thank you" and return to their desk.

The children are always delighted to be recognized, and the Kiwanians are cheered by their beautiful smiles and expression of thanks. The smiles displayed by the recipients of the Terrific Kids Program are a testimony that Kiwanis is indeed a verb; that this new generation is alive and well and that they are on their way to being good citizens of the future.



Big Lagoon Kiwanian Curtis Brotherton stands with Blue Angels Elementary students after presenting them with their awards; Rachel Cahn, Alex Griffith, DeShawn Johnson and Caseem Richmond

The Terrific Kids Program is just another example of how the Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon supports the community and children of Northwest Florida as they carry out the Kiwanis Definition that Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time.

Big Lagoon Kiwanis provides members with the opportunity to share their experience, knowledge, time and talents in service to others. We invite you to attend the Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon Breakfast Meeting at Perdido Bay Community Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Road Pensacola, FL 32507, each Tuesday at 7:30 a.m.



Hallmark Elementary School Principal, Sheree Cagle-Mauldin and Chuck Tinker visit after Terrific Kids Awards at Hallmark Elementary School



Big Lagoon Kiwanians Maggie Haygood, Vete Senkus and Pat McCormick pose with Blue Angels Terrific Kids after their award presentation

LEHIGH ACRES

Wednesday July 30, 2008, Lehigh Acres Kiwanis Breakfast Club, installed three new members into the club: Lou Johnson, Julie Zatkovich and Debra Zeglarski.



Standing left to right are Walt Hank sponsor for Lou Johnson, Lou Johnson retired, Rick Anglickis installing officer and sponsor for Julie Zatkovich School Teacher and Register Nurse, Julie Zatkovich, and Brenda Fallon President Elect sponsor for Debra Zeglarski, AVP relationship Manager Sun Trust Bank, and Debra Zeglarski.

Transferring from another Club to the Lehigh Acres Kiwanis Club is Chris Rakunas Chief Operating Officer at Lehigh Regional Medical Center.



Standing left to right are President Elect Brenda Fallon and Chris Rakunas.

Carwise Middle School Gets New Builders Club

By Tom DuLaney, Kiwanis Club Countryside-Clearwater

Thanks to Stuart Harris, Sponsored Youth Chairman, Countryside-Clearwater Kiwanis Club recently chartered a new Builders Club for seventh and eighth graders at Carwise Middle School in Palm Harbor.

The Faculty Advisors are Marcia Daniels and Sue Terry. Outgoing charter officers were Ayla Sullivan, President; Ben Staab, Vice President; Michael Anderson, Secretary/Editor; Steven Daniel, Treasurer; Amy Field and Sarah Shellabarger, Activities Directors. Incoming officers for 2008/09 are Carley Jensen, President; Katie Matuska, Vice President; Meghan Cord, Secretary/Editor; Megan Feldman, Treasurer; Peter Carey, Historian; Courtney Benter and Mary Eaton, Events Coordinators. Assisting in establishing the club were East Lake High School Key Club officers Jade Futhey; Jaime Gregor, and Roshni Hira. Dave Lindeman will be the Kiwanis Club Advisor for Carwise Builders Club.

For further information, visit www.kiwanis.org/club/countryside.



Kiwanis Club of Bradenton – Women in the Spotlight!

By Bobbi Larson, PR Chair, Kiwanis Club of Bradenton

Following the recent push to recruit 100 new female members to Kiwanis, the Kiwanis Club of Bradenton is pleased to showcase female members, including one of the newest first quarter recruits, who has recently received recognition for her contributions to the Club and community.

Lisa Morrison, Club Secretary, recently received the United Way Women's Leadership Initiative Heart to Heart Talent Award recognizing not only her personal contributions to many organizations in the community such as United Way, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Kiwanis, and more, but also her ability to recruit and inspire others to take part in service. Morrison was also the Chairperson for the Club's annual Better Manatee Day held on March 8. This community clean-up event was the most successful ever engaging more than a thousand individuals from the community who volunteered their time and talent to complete beautification projects at more than 40 non-profit organizations in Manatee County.

Betsy Benac was presented the Leadership Manatee Alumni Kent Schulz Award recognizing her professional accomplishments and

voluntary service to the community. Benac, a land planner with Wilson Miller, Inc., serves on the Manatee Economic Development Council, the Manasota Basin Board, and is an active volunteer with Big Brothers Big Sisters, Girl Scouts of Southwest Florida, and several other organizations in Manatee and Sarasota Counties.

The 2008 United Way Women & Men of Manatee County Calendar showcases five of the area's most dedicated and caring community leaders. Kiwanians Bobbi Larson (March), Chris Whitaker (July), Erin Craig (September), Brenda Rogers (November), and Lisa Morrison (December) appear in the calendar. Erin Craig was also the first new female member recruited to the Club in 2008. Congratulations to these exceptional women of Kiwanis!

With more than 220 members, the Kiwanis Club of Bradenton is committed to service projects that make our community a better place, while placing our greatest emphasis on assisting and developing children within our community. For more information, visit www.clubrunner.ca/bradentonkiwanis or contact Bobbi Larson, PR Chair, Kiwanis Club of Bradenton, (941) 792-8686 or larsonb@manateeredcross.org

