

K-T Notes

Kentucky-Tennessee Kiwanis District

April 2011



Pictures by Glen Kleine

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Notes from the Editor

Spring is here. We have lots of opportunities to do service with children at this time. The weather is usually good to be doing outside stuff. While you are planting flowers and prettying up your home, consider what you are planting to improve the appearance of your club and community and the world.

My picture has been different each time. This time is me blacksmithing with the brother of a K-T Kiwanian. I had blacksmithed with the late Madison Dixon in south Georgia and his sister saw picture of me with equipment on my webpage from K-T Notes email and wrote me. She is a member in Nashville.

I look forward to your future contributions and suggestions

More next time. The next issue will be in late June. Please have submissions to me by June 10. dwight@dwightwatt.com I want info from clubs and from district officers and chairs.

Dwight Watt
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KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL & DISTRICT OFFICES 2010-2011

Office - Name

International President Sylvester Neal

KY-TN District Governor James Mann

KY-TN District Governor-Elect Don Ritter

KY-TN District Immediate Past Governor Glen Kleine

KY-TN District Secretary Fran Marion

KIWANIS DEFINING STATEMENT

"Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time."

**Check the K-T Kiwanis blog at
http://www.ktkiwanian.org/public_district/index.aspx**

Jackson Club bought Christmas presents for under privileged children

The Jackson Club bought Christmas presents for under privileged children. Kiwanians in the background are Jack Niece, Jim McDuffee, and Dennis Carpenter



The Pikeville Club took a load of food to the orphanage at Duffield, Virginia

The Jackson Club bought Christmas presents for under privileged children. Kiwanians in the background are Jack Niece, Jim McDuffee, and Dennis Carpenter



Nashville Kiwanis Members fix bikes

Nashville Kiwanians Harvey White and A. J. Levy working on bikes for Christmas



'Military Service in Iraq and Kuwait' program at March 22 Oak Ridge Kiwanis

On Tuesday March 22 the Kiwanis Club of Oak Ridge had a luncheon program featuring Bobby Sass, US Navy Reserve Officer, Edward Jones Financial Advisor, and Kiwanis Member talk about his 2010 'Military Service in Iraq and Kuwait'. Bobby Sass described his military deployment, where he was stationed and travelled, and his roles and responsibilities. He reviewed the logistics of moving troops, the role and purpose of US Customs, and the military appearance from the ground. The types of military deployments will be reviewed as well as their effects and challenges for reservists such as leaving families.



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Oak Ridge Club reads to students

Mark Hembree and Felicia Langley, members of the Oak Ridge Kiwanis Club and from the Enrichment Federal Credit Union, read to students at the Oak Ridge Schools Preschool on April 12, 2011 as part of the school's Reading is Fundamental project. Each student in 13 classes selected a book to take home from a table on which books were placed by Kiwanis club member Harold Hartman.



Founder of The Center for Courageous Kids, passed away

Elizabeth Turner Campbell, Founder of The Center for Courageous Kids, passed away on Friday February 25, 2011 in her beloved hometown of Scottsville, Kentucky. The entire Center for Courageous Kids community was deeply saddened by this monumental loss. We are immensely proud, as was Ms. Betty, that she lived to see her dream of a world class medical camp fulfilled. As we take a moment to reflect on her impact on her community and beyond, we take comfort in knowing she leaves a heart-warming legacy that will continue to inspire new friends for years to come.

As a bit of history, Betty Campbell, daughter of Dollar General Founder Cal Turner, Sr., first conceived of a medical camp to serve the children of Kentucky and Tennessee during the late summer of 2004. Ms. Betty made a visit to Camp Boggy Creek in Florida founded by General H. Norman Schwarzkopf and actor Paul Newman. That year-round medical camp touched Ms. Betty deeply and she knew she wanted to join them in their mission to uplift seriously ill children. But, while joining the Founders of Camp Boggy Creek, she also knew there was no similar facility for the children of KY and TN. Following a few months of prayer and reflection, she set out to indeed build a world class, year-round camp for medically fragile children on her father's farmland in Scottsville, KY.

Under the leadership of retired US Army Colonel Roger Murtie, and his wife Stormi, construction began on The Center for Courageous Kids in late 2005 and continued for two years. Ms. Betty, wearing a bright white hard hat, was a frequent visitor to the campsite. The Center for Courageous Kids (CCK) opened for the bravest children we know on Friday February 29, 2008. Many KY-TN Kiwanians who had supported the idea of this fabulous facility were in the audience at our Grand Opening Celebration and continue to be an integral part of the CCK family.

This mission of "CCK" is "to uplift children who have life-threatening illnesses by creating experiences year-round that are memorable, exciting, fun, build self-esteem, are physically safe and medically sound." And, we do that pretty well. To date, over 7,500 children and family members living with chronic or life threatening illnesses from 29 states and Canada have attend CCK – free of charge. That's right. No child or family pays to attend this world class facility. Because of the generosity of Mrs. Campbell, and donors across the country, no child or family pays to attend. A 501 (c)(3) not for profit organization, The Center for Courageous Kids relies solely on donations from individuals, foundations, businesses and civic clubs like our faithful Kiwanis friends.

One cannot talk about the tremendous achievements of this world class facility dedicated to uplifting our region's most medically fragile children without recognizing the tremendous partnerships developed throughout our journey. Among those, the support from the KY/TN Kiwanis Clubs has been amazing, faithful and consistent. Whether inviting a representative from CCK as a club speaker, naming a bed for \$1,000.00, supporting a partial camper sponsorship for \$1,000.00, providing monthly support, or volunteering in our kitchen, Kiwanians heard our plea, and answered in inspirational ways. To date, 33 of our KY and TN Kiwanis Clubs have supported The Center for Courageous Kids with over \$44,000.00.

Ms. Betty so enjoyed coming to the camp. She could frequently be spotted in her vehicle in a quiet location just taking in the camp and reflecting on the loss of Warren, her son, to cancer. The memories of Warren's struggle with life threatening pediatric illness was the inspiration and motivation for The Center for Courageous Kids. Her commitment to the camp and the children it serves remained with her until the end.

Continued next page

Founder of The Center for Courageous Kids, passed away—continued

Ms. Betty lived to see, and marveled at, the fact that over 7,500 children and family members came to her camp from across America and Canada as well. She loved to play with the children, visit with their moms and dads, joke with the college students on the summer staff and thank the volunteers for their service. She was proud of the support we have received from across the country and deeply honored that organizations like Kiwanis continue to embrace the notion that one person CAN indeed make a difference. We have often quoted “when you make a difference in a child’s life, you make a difference in your own.” She has surely made a profound and inspirational difference.

We miss our Founder more than words can express. Elizabeth Turner Campbell was a woman of elegant grace, incredible generosity, and an unequalled commitment to children and families dealing with serious pediatric illness and life altering conditions and disabilities. While the “footprint” of CCK is much larger than we could have possibly imagined, the impact is as well. Children battling life threatening conditions are having the time of their lives as they sit atop a horse, swim in our indoor pool, ascend to the top of our climbing wall, or make new friends. Whether it’s the first time for a swim or game of wheelchair basketball, or just the first time they’ve been able to play and make friends with other children who are battling the same things they are – one not need look very far to find inspiration. CCK is not a sad place. It is, for one brief moment in a child’s life – the happiest place on earth. Here, you can roll in spaghetti, paint your counselors with pudding, or catch fireflies in the moonlight – all under the watchful eye of our onsite medical team and trained program professionals. At the Center for Courageous Kids, we mean it when we say “We Prescribe Fun.” That’s one prescription these kids LOVE to take.

In honor and memory of our Founder, mentor and friend, The Center for Courageous Kids is committed to continuing the amazing work Ms. Betty’s began here. Your contributions to fund this magnificent campus and the programs it conducts are still very much needed and appreciated. We encourage our Kiwanis friends to invite us back to give your membership an update on our progress. We extend an invitation to come back and visit us. Volunteer in the horse barn, in the kitchen, in the pool, or in the lodge with the campers. Re-commit your support for 2011 and help us reach more children, more often. Thank you for believing in Ms. Betty’s dream – and for helping us make a difference in the lives of the bravest kids we know.

While we are not a sad place, we must admit, for this brief moment – saying goodbye to Ms. Betty was the hardest thing we have had to do. We see her at every turn, we hear her laughter, remember her sense of humor, marvel at how she inspired us. She made us better. So we hope she would have allowed us to have our brief moment of sadness, when the tears flow, and we miss her. We do know however, she would not allow too much of THAT – and she’d tell us to shake it off, and focus on the children. It was their laughter that warmed her heart – and therefore, it is their laughter we will encourage. Once again, CCK will return to the happiest place on earth.

Here’s to you Elizabeth Turner Campbell. “When you make a difference in a child’s life, you make a difference in your own.” Indeed.

By Stormi Murtie



Russellville Kiwanis Club

One of the many ways that the Russellville Kiwanis Club has served children has been to establish a Kiwanis Club-sponsored K-Kids Club at Stevenson Elementary School. K-Kids clubs are student-led community service organizations which are usually established in school settings. The clubs are typically designed for six through twelve year-olds and focus on leadership and service. The K-Kids pledge, which every child makes if they join the club, is to "show respect toward my environment and to make the world a better place in which to live".

At Stevenson Elementary School, students in grades four, five, and six participate. There are usually two meetings a month, one of which is spent in completing a service project. The K-Kids experience provides students with opportunities to develop self-esteem, leadership skills, high morals and respect for others. K-Kids learn to work cooperatively as a group and they also learn to make positive differences in the world around them.

The Stevenson Elementary K-Kids Club has enjoyed a busy school year of activities. In September, Mr. Don Firchow, a local Kiwanian who is very active in Russellville schools, visited SES and taught each student how to write their name using calligraphy. The students also wrote and presented Thank-You cards to their teachers. In October, students performed, recorded, and presented a skit promoting the importance of eating breakfast. The recorded skit was presented weekly during the school's "Town Meeting," in conjunction with the month-long "School Breakfast to School Wellness" Campaign. In the months of November and December, the K-Kids promoted a local food drive. The February service project for Stevenson K-Kids was to make Valentine's Day cards for the residents at Creekwood Place Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. The students made 59 cards which were delivered for them on Valentine's Day. In March, the students prepared for April's celebration of "Child Abuse Awareness Month" by making blue ribbons for teachers and staff, and affixing big blue ribbons to the doorway entries of the school. In April, the K-Kids will participate in supporting Child Abuse Awareness Month by participating in an event planned by our local Department of Community Based Services. The purpose of the event is to bring awareness to Logan County concerning the issue of child abuse. Students plan to march around the town square behind the "leaders of the pack", *The Bikers Against Child Abuse*, who will lead the short walk from the square to the local courthouse. County Judge Executive and the City Mayor will read a proclamation on child abuse awareness at the courthouse. The club also planned their May Service Project at the March business meeting. After brainstorming ideas to conclude the year's projects, they finally voted on the idea to help "those little kids to like to read," in their words. They decided that one way they could help was to volunteer to read to the Kindergarten students during their own lunch time. Arrangements have been made, and lunches will not be skipped, but the Kindergarten students will surely be in for a treat as the K-Kids take time out of their days to help out.

K-Kids Club officers for 2010-2011 are President - Tara Gilbert, Vice-President - Caroline Baker, Secretary - Ethan Paul, and Treasurer - Mateah Black.

Pictured:

1. Don Firchow, of the Russellville Logan County Kiwanis Club, ate lunch with the K-Kids and then gave instruction in calligraphy. 2010 09 28 001
2. President Tara Gilbert addressed the club during the January business meeting. 2011 01 011
3. Valentine Cards were made for the residents of our local nursing and rehab center. 2011 02 14 007
4. The 2010-2011 Stevenson Elementary K-Kids Club. 2010 12 127

Kiwanis®

2010-11 Kentucky- Tennessee District Key Club Convention

By Jim Mann

Dottie and I had the opportunity to spend the weekend with over four hundred excited, enthusiastic, energetic, and eager teenagers called Key Clubbers (Have I told you about catching the “e’s” from them?) at their District Convention in Lexington the weekend of March 11-13. Their theme for the Weekend was “Sailing The Seas of Service”. I believe that we heard every “Pirate” joke in existence that weekend. Pirate costumes were in evidence. Eye patches were in abundance. Even Jody the District mascot sported an eye patch.

Each year the Key Club Board identifies a service project for the Key Club Convention. This year their project was to make “Project Linus” blankets for the Shriners’ Children’s Hospital in Lexington. On Saturday morning, following a vigorous “ice breaker” activity, the large group split up into dozens of teams, spread out the fabric, fringed the edges and assembled the blankets.

Later that afternoon the blankets were delivered to the Hospital.

We were given a tour of the facility and saw first hand how the hospital staff has made it a fun and inviting place for the children and families that they serve.

We have visited with this great Key Club Board under the leadership of **Blake Roller**, Key Club Governor, four times this past year.

It amazes me to see the maturity of these young adults develop as they are given opportunities to plan and make decisions on their own under the gentle leadership of our outstanding adult Key Club Leadership Team led by **Steve Phillips** and **Eugene Harrell**. This year our fellow Kiwanian, **Ira Gladson**, Key Club Administrator Emeritus, celebrates **fifty years** working with Key Clubs.

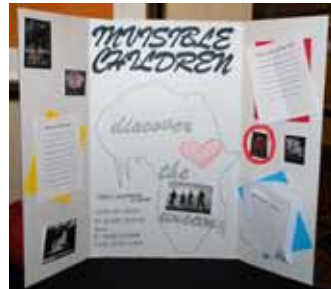
Please join with me in thanking Ira for his fifty years of dedication to the Key Clubs of our District.

A special thank you goes to **Chuck Fletcher**, Lieutenant Governor of Division 10, the Clubs and individual members of that Division for their support given to this year’s Convention. **Edye Bryant** of the Lexington Club served as the Division interface with the Key Clubs.

In addition to contributing funds for the purchase of supplies for the “Project Linus” blankets, the Kiwanians showed up in force on Saturday morning as they volunteered their time to assist in judging the many contests that are part of the Convention. Their support helped make the convention this year a truly great convention.

One final thought: none of this would have been possible without the many Kiwanis Clubs of our District that are “making a difference” by supporting individually the more than 130 active Key Clubs with over 4400 members in our District.

If there is a high school in your community without a Key Club, it is not too late to begin working to charter a Key Club this year. Contact the school, identify a Faculty Sponsor, have a membership drive and charter a new Key Club this spring. Help teenagers in your community experience the joys of Servant Leadership through service with their Key Club.



District Website

<http://www.ktkiwanian.org>