



Meet in Prattville Feb. 27-28

The Alabama District of Kiwanis will continue to focus on membership with a Growth Summit for the Mid-winter Conference, scheduled Feb. 27-28 at The Marriott Legends Hotel in Prattville.

While district, foundation and Reading Is Fundamental boards will meet on Friday afternoon, some changes have been made for the rest of the agenda.

“We’ve attempted to keep the overall

cost down and make better use of attendees’ time,” said Alabama Kiwanis Governor Ernest Hulsey.

“Unlike previous years, there will be no formal mid-winter dinner or activities conducted on Friday,” he said. After the 3 p.m. foundation and RIF board meetings and the 4 p.m. district board meeting, those attending will be on their own for dinner and fellowship.

On Saturday morning, three breakfasts will be held from 7 to 8 a.m. for

the Governors Association, present and past lieutenant governors, and Reading Is Fundamental.

The general session will be held from 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. These workshops will follow from 9:15 to 12:15:

- Growth Summit presented by Rhonda Vrell of the Kiwanis International staff
- Club Leadership Education (CLE) for 2009-10 presidents and secretaries

(See SUMMIT, Page 7)

Winter is flippin’ time

Club pancake days are popular fundraisers

By Patrice Stewart
Kiwanis Kourier editor

Kiwanians have flipped over pancakes. The flipping techniques, locations and hours vary from city to city, but many Kiwanis clubs around Alabama hold



The Kiwanis Club of Dothan served 1,840 and raised more than \$14,000 for service projects during its pancake event Nov. 7-8.

pancake days in the winter as major fundraisers.

This event is popular all over the country, but customs vary from place to place. One club in New York state held its pancake supper on the night of the presidential election in November, while another city serves up pancakes on the Fourth of July.

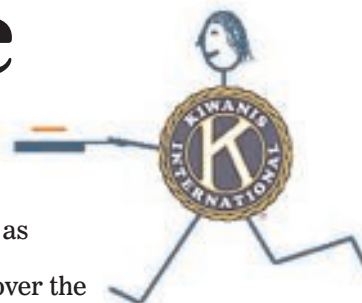
In North Dakota, there’s a Pancake Carnival. The folks in Fargo claim that in 2008, they set the new world’s record for number of pancakes made in eight hours: 34,818. Alabama clubs should try to beat that.

The Kiwanis Club of Dothan raised more than \$14,000 for its service fund by flipping pancakes Nov. 7-8.

The club served 1,840, according to Robert Helms, past president and chairman of the Pancake Committee. It will use the money to help groups such as the Boys & Girls Club, Girls Inc., Wiregrass Children’s Home, Scouts, Child Advocacy Center, scholarships, K-family youth groups and the Kiwanis Park and Trail at Westgate Park.

Helms said the pancake fundraiser “is a great time for all and has become a community event, with many families and friends attending year after year.

(See PANCAKES, Page 10)



New clubs, members: We can grow!

I am optimistic about the growth potential in the Alabama District this year.

In addition to the new Kiwanis club being chartered in Riverton, we seem to have several very good opportunities for new clubs under way, and we are seeing signs of membership growth across the district in clubs of all sizes.

The total district membership numbers at this point are encouraging, relative to where we've been.

I can just sense that we are on the verge of good things happening as we build upon last year's efforts to put us in the right position to improve the Kiwanis experience and do those things which support growth.

I am not totally naïve; I understand that excellence isn't easy to come by. I know it takes leadership, commitment, hard work and a willingness to sacrifice.

I know that much remains to be done and there are pockets around the district which need attention, but if achieving excellence were easy, everyone would be doing it. I think we can; let's do.

I noticed a recent article by Gentry Estes in the Huntsville Times newspaper about Nick Saban that illustrates the point I'm trying to make.

While discussing a certain football coach's drive for excellence, Estes said, "At his core, he believes that success not only is never final, it can in

From the Governor

By Ernest Hulsey



fact be potentially destructive. It's human nature to get satisfied."

Estes went on to describe the coach's mentality: "Never sit still. Never ease up. Never grow complacent."

I believe these are traits and beliefs shared by many great leaders.

In Kiwanis, when we stop striving to improve and we grow complacent with past successes, we then begin to lose the excitement and vibrancy which comes with excellence.

I am also seeing some renewed interest in Club Leadership Education (CLE) in areas where attendance has been low in previous years.

While attendance at CLE and other division and district events is not required to be successful, it certainly increases the opportunity to be successful, as well as the level of success achieved.

It is extremely difficult to assume a leadership role and be very successful without some prior preparation and planning. A few may be able to do it, but most have to work harder. With that in mind, I encourage current and future leaders to attend division and district events as often as they can.

We are striving to make district events a more efficient use of our members' time and as economical as we can.

The Mid-winter Conference will focus on training and recognition and will include a three-hour growth summit for club leaders and membership chairs, a CLE session for incoming club presidents and secretaries, and a training session for the 2009-2010 class of lieutenant governors.

Individual and club awards will be announced at the luncheon on Saturday, thereby eliminating the costly dinner usually held on Friday night.

Don't forget to sign up for the District Convention Cruise. I am expecting it to be a great time. Registration is easy and can be accomplished on the District Web site. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

I want to thank each of you for your commitment to the children of your community, to your club, and to your fellow Kiwanians. Each of you are leaders in our efforts to change the world, one child and one community at a time.

ALABAMA KIWANIS KOURIER

Published by **ALABAMA DISTRICT KIWANIS FOUNDATION**

Address news, photos and other correspondence to:

Patrice W. Stewart, Editor

4519 Arrowhead Drive S.E., Decatur, AL 35603

(256) 584-7078 kkourier@charter.net

Ernest Hulsey of Huntsville (ehulsey@yahoo.com) Governor

George Aiken of Pell City (aikenassoc@coosahs.net) Governor-elect

Pam Fleming of Sheffield (pfleming@helenkeller.com) Immediate Past Governor

David Allison (alkiwdistsec85@yahoo.com) District Executive Director

DISTRICT OFFICE: 85 Bagby Drive, Suite 206, Birmingham, AL 35209

Phone (205) 945-1334 or (800) 745-1334, Fax (205) 942-5348

www.alabama.kiwanis.org

Key Club convention in March to have workshops, contests

By **Bob Bottsford**

Alabama District Key Club Administrator

The Alabama District of Key Club International will hold its 57th annual District Convention at The Marriott Legends at Capitol Hill in Prattville on March 27-29.

This convention will celebrate the true legends in the world ... Key Clubbers! Future Key Clubbers will look back on the legacies we are all making now.

Along with meeting people and make friends, the convention will offer contests, workshops and dances. Workshops topics will include UNICEF, March of Dimes, Children's Miracle Network, Project Swap, public speaking and college success.

Registration is \$160 a person, and a room will cost about \$125. Join us. You will discover that you are a legend! See more at www.alabamakeyclub.org.

Essentials: growth, education, service

By Callie Waldrop

District Administration Committee Chairwoman
Hello, local Kiwanis officers.

You have just completed your first quarter of the 2008-09 Kiwanis year! How does it feel? More importantly, do you know where you are?

If your board set goals for the year, how are you progressing toward those goals? If a goal is to win a Distinguished Club Award, is everyone in your club aware of what is necessary to achieve that goal?

1. Without **growth in membership**, it is difficult to reach "distinguished" level. A net gain in membership of at least one provides 20 points of the 80 minimum required. Is your membership growth plan in place and working? Good. And with a net of at least five new members, the club receives 10 bonus points.

A word about membership reporting...

There was confusion for some clubs about membership numbers at the end of last year. Membership for the year will be reported as what Kiwanis International has at the end of the day on Sept. 30. That is the number you go forward with to build on from Oct. 1.

Some did not get membership enrollment completed with KI by Sept. 30 even though they had the application and fees prior to that date. Just because you have enrolled the member



Callie Waldrop

often overlook. Do officers get instruction about their jobs? Do you have orientation for the board of directors' as to their responsibilities? Do all new members receive orientation? Is money budgeted to have attendees at Mid-winter and District Convention? You don't receive points for all of these, but each is important. You can amass 30 points in the education area.

About those conventions ...

Don't forget Mid-winter is coming up very soon. Be sure your club is fully represented in Prattville the last weekend in February. And no one will want to miss the District Convention: a cruise to Cozumel July 23-27, leaving from Mobile. Now that's some way to get Kiwanis education!

3. **Service** is what Kiwanis is all about. You do service — are you sure to report it? Fulfilling your obligation to sponsored service leadership pro-

grams will garner 10 points, as does participating in at least one Young Child Priority One project and contributing at least \$5 per member to the Kiwanis International Foundation. If you do these, be sure they are reported in a timely fashion.

Earning more points...

Your club will receive 5 bonus points for chartering a new service leadership program. However, I understand that these bonus points may be claimed only once a year. That is, if you charter either one or two new Key Clubs, you will receive only five points. Ten bonus points are awarded if your club purchases a Hixson (\$1,000) or Tablet of Honor (\$2,000) for a member.

All requirements for Distinguished Club Award, as well as Distinguished Member Award, may be found on the Kiwanis International web site or in the leadership manuals provided officers.

So, how is your club doing as you face the remaining three quarters of the year? One way to be sure you are on track is completing your Monthly Club Report online — and it is much easier! Plus, at the end of the year, it will be compiled automatically into the annual report for your club. You will know then that you have achieved the prestigious Distinguished Club status.

My best wishes in the New Year to each of you.

Time's running out to sign up for July cruise

Don't miss the boat!

Now is the time to reserve your spot for the cruise convention July 23-27.

Kendall Clarke of Mobile, convention chairman, said 100 rooms now being held for Kiwanians will be released early in March for general public booking.

"Springdale Travel tells us that the slow economy is not affecting the number of cruises they are booking," said Clarke. You can sign up online, and a Springdale Travel representative will be at the Mid-winter Conference on Feb. 28 to answer questions and accept bookings.

The Holiday, a Carnival ship, will set sail from Mobile on the afternoon of Thursday, July 23, with Kiwanians aboard for some fun, as well as the summer District Convention. After Thursday night and Friday at sea, the ship will dock in



Alabama Kiwanis' summer convention will be on the Holiday.

Cozumel, Mexico, on Saturday for outings (see www.carnival.com/ShoreExcursions). It will arrive back in Mobile on Monday morning.

Inside cabins are \$581 per person, and outside cabins are \$631 per person, double occupancy, including meals and convention fees. Alcohol, bottled water, soft

drinks and shore excursions are not included, but a \$100 on-board credit will help. You will need a passport.

"Since our price for the cruise includes cancellation insurance, a booking at this time does not mean that you cannot get a refund if something happens to cause a change in your plans," said Clarke.

See www.springdaletravel.com/Kiwanis or call Leah Balczon, 251-476-5095 or 1-800-874-0550.

April event for student leaders

By **Tammy Driskill**

District Key Leader Chairwoman

The Alabama District's third Key Leader event is scheduled April 24-26 at the 4-H Conference Center in Columbiana.

Key Leader is Kiwanis International's leadership education program for students, primarily those in high school. The event is open to all students — those currently in a Kiwanis student group, as well as those not in a group, with no limit on the number of participants from a single school or group.

The students will have large and small group activities, with discussion, interactive events and audiovisual presentations and fun.

The all-inclusive cost is \$175 for each student. Through a generous grant from the KI Foundation, Key Club members will receive a \$25 discount.

A professional facilitator will lead the weekend. Alabama District adult volunteers will coordinate logistics and supervise the young people. Kiwanis International will have completed a limited criminal background check on all adults.

The Key Leader mission is to provide a "life-changing experience that inspires young people to achieve their personal best through service leadership."

Service leadership answers the questions: "Is what I'm doing helping others to become better? Do others or does the organization become stronger and more independent



Tammy Driskill

because of what I'm doing?"

The program is founded on five principles:

- Personal integrity: doing the right thing
- Personal growth: developing in mind, body and spirit
- Respect: showing consideration for self, others and property
- Building community: developing relationships to achieve positive goals
- Pursuit of excellence: expecting and achieving the best

To register, go to www.key-leader.org and click on the participant tab. The student will need to list the

nominator (the adult who recommends him or her) and the sponsor (the adult or organization paying the registration).

After completing this form, the registration fee can be paid by credit card, or an invoice can be sent to the student, the nominator and the sponsor. The invoice needs to be completed with payment either by check or credit card before the student is accepted.

To find out more information about Key Leader, go to www.key-leader.org. There you will find a listing of all 2009 events, as well as an e-mail connection for direct questions to the Key Leader staff at Kiwanis International.

For more information about the Alabama Key Leader weekend, contact me at 256-546-5591 or tsdriskill@aol.com.

'Just ask' is key to getting members

This item was sent to Alabama District Governor Ernest Hulsey by Nebraska-Iowa 2008-09 Kiwanis District Governor Don Glenn, who published them in his district newsletter.

Just ask

We get new members into our Kiwanis clubs by asking. It is a rare exception when someone asks to join a Kiwanis club. Perhaps they feel like it is a social club and they have to be invited, or they simply don't think of it at the time.

Sylvester Neal, Kiwanis International's vice president, visited with Kiwanians and guests during a "Tailgate Party" at Kinnick Stadium during the Nebraska-Iowa District Convention in August. After asking one Kiwanian about why he joined, Syl turned to the member's wife and asked if she were a member. "No," was her reply. So Syl followed up with, "Why haven't you joined?" She replied that she had never been asked. So Syl asked her on the spot.

He told her to go to the noon Kiwanis club, tell them she had been invited by the Kiwanis International vice president, and join. He said if she did so, he would fly back to Iowa City from Washington State to induct her himself.

Since then, she has joined the noon Kiwanis club, where I am sure she will become a valuable member. It isn't even her husband's club, but it better suits her work schedule. If Syl had not taken the time to ask her to join Kiwanis, our district would not have that member, but more importantly, had she not been asked, less service would have been done helping the children and the community of Iowa City.

Just ask!

Close the sale

Several years ago, we were having our usual club meeting. We had done the preliminaries of pledge, prayer and song. Various club members had told about the upcoming service projects, the latest fundraiser and a recent social event the club had had.

Then one member talked briefly about recruiting new members. He stated that we needed to recruit some new members and suggested that the members think about their neighbors, acquaintances, etc., to bring to a meeting. Then the speaker was introduced to talk about hearing aids. But what he said was much more profound.

He said, "What you need to do is to close the sale. I have been sitting here for half an hour, listening to all you do for your community and how you need new members to help, but in the whole time I have been here, no one has asked me to join. You need to close the sale." Then he proceeded to tell us about hearing aids.

Needless to say, as soon as he finished, he was asked and given an application. He became an excellent member of our club until work took him to another city several years later.

Remember to close the sale.

When people ask you about Kiwanis, invite them to a meeting or a service project.

Key Club can help Children's Hospital

By Bob Bottsford

Alabama District Key Club Administrator

How would you like to grab hold of a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity?

How would you like to make a mark and change the world by making a promise to the children of Alabama? You can do it!

In November 2008, the Alabama District of Key Club International was presented with the opportunity to make a difference for children. As you may know, Children's Hospital, the only exclusive pediatric care hospital in Alabama, is currently in a massive fundraising campaign and will ultimately construct a new hospital.

The current hospital was built in 1912, and it will be well over 100 years old when the new facility is completed.

The new facility will be unlike almost anything else in America: a state-of-the-art facility for children from all over Alabama and the nation to receive treatments for all conditions affecting children. They will have the opportunity to be

treated in a child-friendly environment with everything from playrooms to school rooms.

The Alabama District of Key Club International has the opportunity to have one or more areas in this facility to be forever named in our honor. For years to come, we would be able to take satisfaction in knowing that children are being treated and healed every day in a room bearing the Key Club name and made possible by Key Clubbers.

This massive project will require a promise from each and every Key Clubber ... a promise to go beyond and a promise to reach further ... a promise to no longer to just sit by and do just enough.

For this to become a reality, we must make a promise to raise \$100,000 dollars by 2012. This is not a commitment we can take lightly, because we're not making a promise to ourselves or some organization. We're making it to every child in Alabama now and every child for the next 100 years.

Will you make that promise? Will you be a "promise keeper" for the children of Alabama?

When nobody asks, clubs miss prospective members

This article by a past distinguished governor from the Rocky Mountain District has been reprinted in several district newsletters.

By Mary Villalba

Nobody asked, but I thought that I would share a piece of my mind ... not that there is all that much left to share.

Nobody asked the speaker at our club to join us the following week and to become a member, so that speaker never came back.

Nobody asked the shy man who stumbled upon the lunch meeting if he would like to join us in the reading we do for Head Start each week, so he didn't.

Nobody asked the wife of the long-time member who died recently if

she would like to be a part of the organization her husband valued so highly, so she sat home alone.

Nobody asked what the new member did for a living, or how many kids she had or what she liked to do when she wasn't volunteering or working, so she stopped coming.

Nobody asked the man who was so busy with kids, church, work and life if he wanted to put an umbrella over all of that and join with others who could give him some help, so he kept on doing what he was doing, and it never occurred to him that a Kiwanian might help him.

Nobody asked me, but I think we all need to remember ... JUST ASK ... That's what it's all about!

Bailey says she'll run for office

Colean Bailey of the Homewood-Mountain Brook Kiwanis Club has announced she will run for governor-elect of the Alabama District for 2009-10.

If elected this summer, she would follow George Aiken of Pell City, who is 2008-09 governor-elect.

She has held the post of lieutenant governor, among other Kiwanis roles.



Colean Bailey

Bailey, 45, is manager of gas control for Alabama Gas Corp. in Birmingham.

A graduate of Webster University in St. Louis, Mo., she said her interests, along with Kiwanis, are running and coaching beginner runners for marathons with Team in Training, hiking, camping, baking and "hanging out with my son Charles."

Columbiana sponsors year's first new Key Club

Congratulations to the Shelby County School of Technology on being the first new Key Club to be chartered for the 2008-2009 Kiwanis/Key Club year.

Shelby County is sponsored by the Columbiana Kiwanis Club and was chartered Nov. 10, 2008, with 18 mem-

bers. The faculty adviser is Stacey Fuller, and the Kiwanis adviser is Connie Wheeler.

Welcome to the Alabama District Kiwanis Family.

—Bob Bottsford,
Key Club Administrator

RIF has given 350,000 at-risk children a million-plus books

By Cathy Gafford

Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) Coordinator

Thank you, Kiwanians, for sharing your time, talents and money to give at-risk young children hope of doing well in school and life.

You provided 350,000 at-risk young children in Head Starts, Even Starts, state-sponsored day cares, day care homes, housing projects and other low-income facilities with more than a million age-appropriate books by the end of May 2008.

You also helped make in-kind donations valued at more than \$9 million to the sites we serve, which could allow them to justify grants of over \$36 million since 1991.

Thank you for making the needs of at-risk young children a high priority in your local areas ... for realizing the years between 0 and 5 are the most important time in a human being's life ... the time when a person gains and retains the most healthwise and mentally.

Clubs' contributions

Because you realize the importance of early literacy assistance and having books in the home during this critical time, you have allocated funds to Jean Dean RIF every year in your budgets.

Thanks also to Circle K and Key Clubs for helping at the RIF building, reading to children in your areas and raising funds for Jean Dean RIF efforts.

The Alabama Kiwanis Foundation and board embraced the Jean Dean RIF/Kiwanis project as the signature service project and encouraged its continued existence and service growth by allowing the purchase of permanent housing for the program.

Thank you also for endorsing the first-ever Jean Dean RIF capital campaign to fund that purchase and for contributing to the building capital campaign, initiating the yearly auction and promoting RIF Barnett Awards.

A special thank-you goes to Past Governor Pam Fleming for starting and continuing the auction, and to many of you for donating auction items, shopping the auction and supporting the capital campaign in other ways.

Also, I appreciate the help of board member Adrian Watson and past board member Ray Tomlinson for encouraging the purchase of RIF Barnetts, making certificates, ordering and delivering plaques and making many of the presentations.

Honor a Kiwanian, and help RIF

The RIF Barnetts (\$500) and Diamond Barnetts (\$1,000) have proven to be a huge help in making our Capital Campaign goals and a good way to honor club officers and other faithful Kiwanians for their service. Because the donation is tax deductible, it also helps individuals who donate.

The Alabama Kiwanis Foundation Board established a



This RIF reading at Darden Head Start Center is typical of those around the state, where Kiwanians and others provide the financial support and volunteer hours to buy books and read to children.

five-year, \$190,000 capital campaign in 2004-05 to help pay off the mortgage on the RIF building, pay the interest in the interim, pay insurance, handle repairs and use adaptations and maintenance, and pay operating expenses for the first five years.

The 7,500-square-foot warehouse/office in Opelika is essential to handling and shipping 80,000 books a year to the over 25,000 at-risk young children Jean Dean RIF serves around the state each year. About \$80,000 is left to raise for this campaign, and your help is needed to tie up this campaign by Sept. 30, 2009. Donations to the RIF capital campaign are tax deductible and much appreciated.

Largest contributor

More thanks:

■ To Huntsville West Kiwanis Club for being our largest capital campaign contributor so far with \$15,000 from the proceeds of the Rocket City Golf Classic in September 2008. Thanks to chairman Ray Tomlinson, president Richard Hartz and all 18 members for this donation. Also, thanks for challenging all other Alabama Kiwanis and Golden K Clubs

(See RIF, Page 7)

RIF: 350,000 books

(From Page 6)

to vie for making the largest donation. The winning club will receive two \$500 RIF Barnetts to be presented when the one-year contest is concluded.

■ To Foundation Board member Steve Cragon for pledging a \$5,000 donation in 2009 to help complete the campaign and challenging other Alabama Kiwanians and clubs to do the same.

■ To Millbrook-Coosada Kiwanian Sylvia Watts for continuing to help support the Truel Watts Memorial Ride to Read Motorcycle Poker Run each year. It was started by Past Governor Truel Watts and "First spouse" Larry Moons to help support the RIF capital campaign. Plan to participate in the next Ride to Read on March 28, 2009.

■ To Opelika Kiwanian Rich Bailey for starting the Run to Read to benefit the capital campaign ... for caring enough to start an annual, sure-to-grow event like this, and for giving your all to make it work. Be in Opelika in October 2009 for the second annual Run to Read.

■ To Metro Huntsville Kiwanian Russ Grimes for the heat pump and repairs at the RIF building. The replacement of the wall fan motor and the work you had done on the ceiling heaters out in the warehouse have been enjoyed by me and a lot of volunteers.

■ To RIF team captains all over the state for being sure RIF is in your budgets, for communicating with me about dates, times and funding and for getting your folks together and going to read! Thanks to all the volunteers, Kappa Kappa Gammas and other AU organizations, OHS, AHS and Lee-Scott clubs, local churches and other local organizations that provide regular volunteers for RIF.

■ To RIF Advisory Board members for giving your time and talents year after year to help make this a growing, successful project that meets the service goals of Kiwanians and the needs of at-risk young children.

■ To Huntsville Kiwanians, Oxford and Tuscaloosa Golden K members and others who help provide paper products for use in the warehouse.



Children get a story and a book to take home during a Reading Is Fundamental book distribution at Darden Head Start Center in Opelika.

■ To every one of you who helps fund the books and goes to read in your local areas.

And remember, while you are cleaning up after the holidays, that the Jean Dean RIF warehouse can use those hand trucks, shovels, rakes, clippers, fans, TV/VCRs, folding chairs, tables, paper products, large trash cans and garbage bags.

Summit

(From Page 1)

■ Lieutenant governor-elect training

■ Kiwanis International proposed dues and fees changes presented by Kiwanis International trustee Donald Sanker of Penn Hills, Pa.

The Interclub Luncheon from 12:30 to 2 p.m. will be the last event on the agenda, said Hulsey, and individual and club awards will be presented then.

"Governor-elect George Aiken will speak at lunch, and the muzzle will be removed for clubs announcing the number in attendance — more like the old days," Hulsey said.

The registration fee for Kiwanis members is \$45, including the Interclub Luncheon (guests are \$30). Fees for the breakfasts are \$18. Conference fees must be paid when individual registration forms are mailed to the district office in advance of the convention.

A registration form is included in this Kiwanis Kourier and can also be found on the Alabama District Web site, along with the conference agenda. See <http://alabama.kiwanis.org>.

Hotel reservations should be made directly with The Legends at 1-800-468-3571 no later than Feb. 3 to receive the conference rate of \$112 per room (mention the "Kiwanis" rate code).

Honor a Kiwanian in your club ... Give a Barnett Fellow award!

A club, spouse or friend can make a \$500 contribution to the Alabama Kiwanis Foundation, honoring a leader and helping the Foundation pay for service.

The recipient is recognized at a statewide meeting — such as the upcoming Mid-winter Conference in Prattville on Feb. 27-28 — and presented with a patch, a lapel pin and a Barnett Fellow wall plaque.

Contact the Birmingham office, 800-745-1334, or Foundation President Mike Winstead of Montgomery, secretary Gene Maier of Helena or treasurer Lovinia Koch of Mobile.



Charter night for the Aktion Club sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Homewood-Mountain Brook.

Alabama District now has 4 Aktion Clubs

By Brian Rodgers

Alabama District Technology Chairman

One of the greatest joys that we have as Kiwanians is to share what it is to be a Kiwanian with others.

The epitome of this is to sponsor a new club. What an honor it was for me to plan and participate in the recent Charter Night Ceremony for the Aktion Club of Greater Birmingham. More than 65 people attended.

It becomes the fourth Aktion Club in the Alabama District. An Aktion Club is a community-service group composed of adults who live with disabilities but

are able to participate in activities and work with a group. These clubs are part of the K-Family and enjoy the camaraderie of a Kiwanis club.

This Aktion club is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Homewood-Mountain Brook, under the leadership of President Richard Berliner.

Charter officers are Lyle Jackson, president; Aaron Parker, vice president; Melanie Hodge, secretary; Nick Telega, treasurer; and Eugene Rogers, club agency administrator.

The 19 charter members also include

Tamara Aldridge, Reagan Bush, Gregg Higgins, Rebekah Hooper, Delisa Johnson, Doris Johnson, Andy Jordan, Eddie Lewis, Stephanie Mitchell, Trumaine Neal, Stephen Roberts, Stephanie Romeo, Willie Schaefer and Brishette Winbush.

The Aktion Club will meet at The Exceptional Foundation (see www.exceptionalfoundation.org) on the third Tuesday of each month.

Kiwanis Governor Ernest Hulsey welcomed the new Aktion Club members into the Kiwanis family.

Circle K

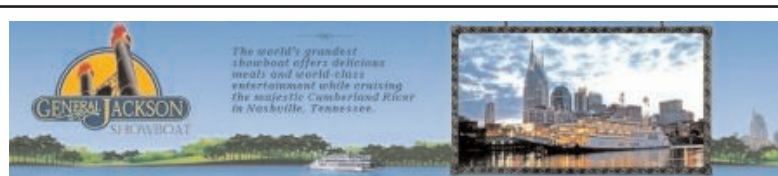
(From Page 10)

at Wings in Tuscaloosa, was followed by the University of Alabama Luminaries annual service project.

Members of not only the UA Circle K Club, but also the Beville and UAB clubs, came out to help with this seasonal service event, which involves the placing and lighting of some 500 bags of sand in a festive display on the UA Quad. The project raises awareness of Partlow Hospital in Tuscaloosa and the UA community. Giving out free hot chocolate helped make the event warm and festive, despite the fact that it was rather cold that night!

Elsewhere in the district, some Capital Division Circle K clubs were encouraged to hold their own Christmas parties.

That's it for this edition of CKI monthly. Look for highlights of the Alabama District Circle K during the first three months of 2009 in the next Kiwanis Kourier.



Alabama District Dinner Cruise

on the

General Jackson Showboat

during the

Kiwanis International Convention

Nashville, June 25-28

Alabama District Hotel:

Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center

\$149 per night until April 25

More information: www.kiwanis.org/convention

ALABAMA DISTRICT KIWANIS

2009 Growth Summit (formerly Mid-Winter Conference)
THE LEGENDS-MONTGOMERY MARRIOTT HOTEL , PRATTVILLE, ALABAMA

February 27 & 28, 2009

Please copy and use one registration per Kiwanian

Please **PRINT!!**

Last Name _____ First Name _____

First Time Attendee: Yes ___ No ___ Are you staying at the **Marriott ? circle** Friday Y N Saturday Y N

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Home Phone _____ Bus. Phone _____

e-mail: _____

Kiwanis Club _____ Division _____

Partner/Guest Name _____ Name for Badge _____

Names and ages of Youth Attending _____

EVENT

	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>FEE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>MEMBER REGISTRATION FEE includes Interclub Luncheon</u>	# _____ @ _____	\$ 45.00	\$ _____
<u>GUEST TICKET - INTERCLUB LUNCHEON (not a Kiwanis member)</u>	# _____ @ _____	\$ 30.00	\$ _____
<u>PAST GOVERNORS BREAKFAST</u>	# _____ @ _____	\$ 18.00	\$ _____
<u>LT. GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION BREAKFAST</u>	# _____ @ _____	\$ 18.00	\$ _____
<u>RIF BREAKFAST</u>	# _____ @ _____	\$ 18.00	\$ _____
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED_ _____			\$ _____

MAKE REGISTRATION CHECK PAYABLE TO: ALABAMA DISTRICT KIWANIS

MAIL REGISTRATION TO: Alabama District Kiwanis, 85 Bagby Drive, Suite 206, Birmingham AL 35209.

Reservations made will be paid since we are charged based on reservation numbers.

ROOM RESERVATIONS

Reserve directly with hotel: The Legends-Montgomery Marriott Prattville 2500 Legends Circle Prattville Alabama 36066

1-(800) 468-3571**Reservations must be made no later than February 03 ,2009 to receive conference rate.**

MENTION KIWANIS MID-WINTER CONFERENCE TO RECEIVE CONFERENCE RATE.

Rate Code = Kiwanis. All single or double occupancy rate — \$112.00; Triple rate — \$112.00; Quad rate — \$112.00, plus tax.

Reservations made after Feb. 03, 2009, will be on space available basis at full rate.

(1) Make copies and fill out the form (print) for each member who will attend, and send to the District Office. (2) Send a check to the District Office for registration and meals requested. No one will be admitted to events who has not prepaid. (3) "Kiwanis" is the reservation code for room rates. Make your room reservations by Feb. 3! (4) The person reserving a room must pay the hotel. (5) Registration fee of \$45 includes Interclub Luncheon. Non-Kiwanian guest's fee is \$30. (6) Reservation form and program also are available on the District Web site, www.alabama.kiwanis.org. For more information, contact David Allison at the District Office, (205) 945-1334.

Alabama Circle K has busy fall

Events for college students focus on service and leadership

By **Dana A. Lackey**

Alabama District Bulletin Editor, Circle K International

From the Membership Education Rally to holiday luminaries, the Alabama District of Circle K International had a busy fall semester.

October 2008

The defining event for this month was the Membership Education Rally, held Oct. 24-26 at Camp Chula Vista in Pell City. Weekend activities educated members on service projects, leadership development and more.

The weekend had an Olympic theme, so most of the workshops were modi-

fied into physically and mentally competitive games, such as the "Hula Hoop Challenge," "Crazy 6 Cents Relay" and "Leadership Lego Build" led by members of the district board.

Since it was close to Halloween, there were ghost stories, plus a bonfire and games such as Circle K Governor Patrick Yelding's special, the card game Mafia.

November 2008

The main theme for November was club banquets. The University of Alabama led the charge with its Fall Induction Banquet on Nov. 11 at Uni-

versity Church of Christ.

Next was a weekend of Capital Division activities. A Fall Festival was held Nov. 21 at the University of South Alabama in Mobile, followed by a chartering banquet for a brand-new Circle K Club at Troy University Dothan on Nov. 22. The last Capital Division Fall Festival took place at the Jean Dean RIF warehouse in Opelika on Nov. 30.

December 2008

A handful of activities took place, even amid fall finals in December. The Warrior Division Rally, a Sunday lunch

(See **CIRCLE K**, Page 8)

Pancakes

(From Page 1)

"We always have great help from our seven Key Clubs and now our new Circle K, so it is a Kiwanis family event, too."

In Gadsden, the background of Pancake Day is a big part of the club's history.

The idea of serving pancakes first came up at a board meeting in 1957, after a magic show the club sponsored lost money.

The Kiwanis Club of Gadsden decided the way to the pocketbook and service should be through the tummy and held its first Pancake Day Feb. 28, 1958. Tickets were \$1 for adults and 50 cents for children, and they took in \$916.

The project grew through the years, and they moved to various locations to be able to serve more pancake lovers. Gadsden Kiwanians have served as many as 10,000 people in a day.

To ensure a successful fundraiser, Gadsden members sell Pancake Day banners, brochure sponsorships and placemat ads long before they start cooking the pancakes.

This year's Pancake Day will be Feb. 21 in the Gadsden Convention Hall.

Here is a partial list of other events coming up:

The Kiwanis Club of Homewood-Mountain Brook will give everyone a



Dothan's pancake fundraiser has become an event that community residents attend every year.

place to treat their sweetheart on Feb. 14. The club's 25th Pancake Day, plus silent auction, will be held from 7 a.m. to noon in the Homewood High School cafeteria. They invite you to bring an interclub.

On Feb. 21, the Kiwanis Club of Tuscaloosa will host its annual Pancake Day at the Central High School Cafeteria from 6 a.m. until 1 p.m. As in many cities, the Kiwanians will be assisted by Circle K'ers, Key Clubbers and Builders Club members.

The Kiwanis Club of Decatur started its all-day pancake event in 1967. On Feb. 28, you can fill up with endless pancakes and sausage patties for breakfast, brunch, lunch or dinner.

Hours are 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Decatur High School cafeteria.

Typically, three shifts of members and volunteers feed 7,000 to 8,000 people and raise \$60,000 to \$70,000 to help pay for scholarships, Reading Is Fundamental and all kinds of donations to programs for children and youth.

The Kiwanis Club of Huntsville will sponsor its 32nd annual pancake event March 7 from 6 a.m. until noon at the Huntsville High School cafeteria. Members also cooked pancakes at Burritt on the Mountain, a living history museum, for a December pancake breakfast for children that featured Kris Kringle.

In Anniston, the 22nd annual Kiwanis Pancake Day also will be held March 7 from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Anniston City Meeting Center.

If one day of pancakes is good, two days are even better. The Kiwanis Club of Florence plans a two-day event March 6-7, serving up all the pancakes and sausage you can eat at the Florence-Lauderdale Coliseum. This club is in its 58th year of flipping pancakes.

On March 14, the Good Morning Montgomery Kiwanis Club will hold its pancake breakfast from 7 to 10 a.m. at Heritage Baptist Church. And they like flipping pancakes so well they agreed to do it again in April as a service project honoring 450 scholars at Dalraida Elementary School.