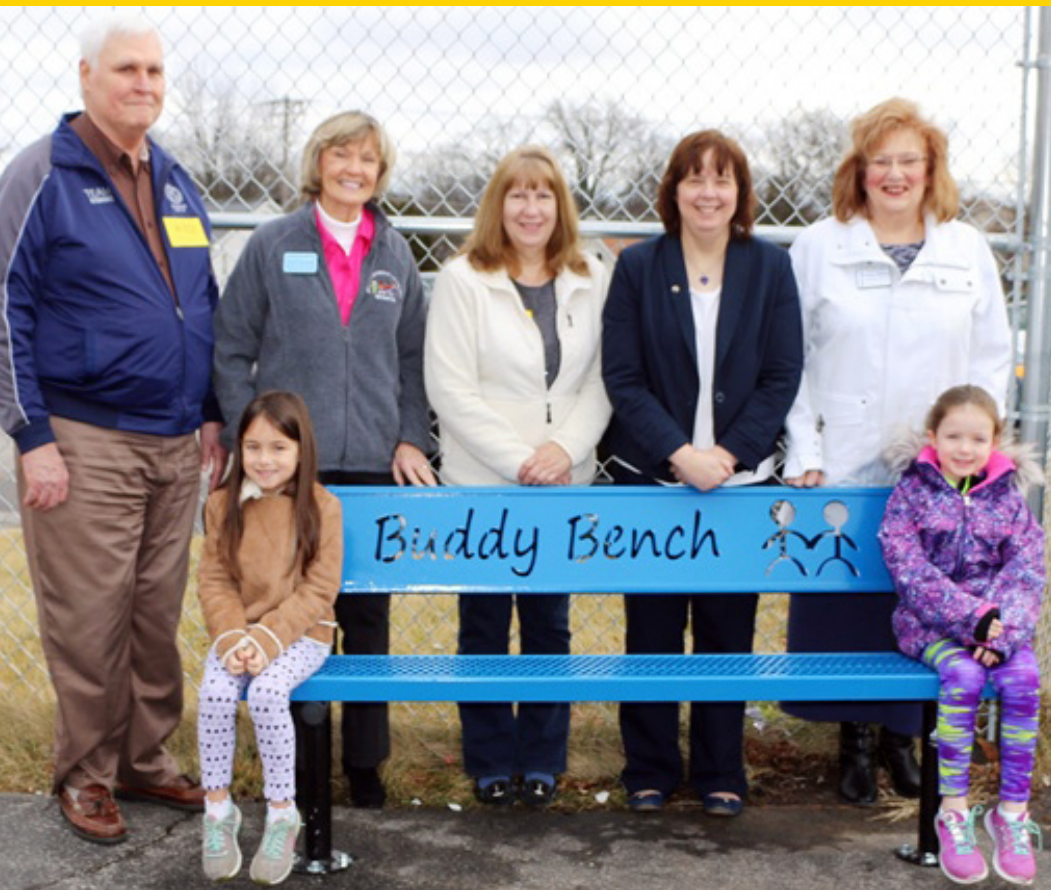


Kiwanigram

Missouri-Arkansas District

Issue No. 9

March, 2017



Gravois Kiwanis Club Donates Buddy Bench

The Kiwanigram is published bimonthly in November, January, March, May, July, and September.

Send club articles and photos to the editorial office of the Kiwanigram at 1022 E. Greenwood St., Springfield, MO 65807 or e-mail to Kiwanigram@gmail.com.



Roger Jespersen
Governor

Cheryl Anderson
Governor Elect

Don Leupold
Immediate Past Governor

Jeff Hartman
Secretary-Treasurer

Doc Kassner
Key Club Governor

Autumn Guill
Circle K Governor

David Bohnenkamper
Kiwanigram Editor

MO-ARK District Kiwanis Chooses Signature Project

The Signature Project of the Downtown Little Rock Kiwanis Club, the Joseph Pfiefer Kiwanis Camp, has been chosen by a committee of the District Board of Directors to represent the Missouri-Arkansas Kiwanis District in the Kiwanis International Signature Project competition. Here is the [Club Project Summary](#) submitted to Kiwanis International.

Distinguished Clubs & Divisions

Congratulations to the following clubs and divisions which were honored with distinguished status at the 2017 Midwinter Conference in Columbia, Mo.

Distinguished Divisions 2015-16

Division 9 - Lt. Governor Carla O'Brien

Division 24 - Lt. Governor Jeanne Harp

Distinguished Clubs 2015-16

Division 1 - Kiwanis Club of Kirksville

Division 3 - Kiwanis Club of Carrollton

Division 7 - Kiwanis Club of Creve Coeur

Division 9 - Kiwanis Club of Crestwood-Sunset Hills

Division 9 - Kiwanis Club of Hampton Midtown

Division 9 - Kiwanis Club of Meramec Valley

Division 9 - Kiwanis Club of South County St. Louis

Division 10 - Kiwanis Club of Union

Division 13 - Kiwanis Club of Downtown Springfield

Division 14 - Kiwanis Club of Jackson

Division 17 - Kiwanis Club of Batesville

Division 18 - Kiwanis Club of O'Fallon

Division 24 - Kiwanis Club of Huntsville

Division 24 - Kiwanis Club of Springdale

Division 25 - Kiwanis Club of Pulaski Heights

Governor's Message

Have you had enough winter yet? If you want more this year you will probably have to move north.

March will end the first half of this Kiwanis year. Have you inducted two new members? Remember that to be up by two or more at the end of the year (that is the goal for every club), you will need to recruit four (4) members by September 15. So ask family members, friends and neighbors who have a heart for children to join you in serving the children of your community and the world.

A second task for the year is planning for your impact in your community and the world. More members means the possibility of serving more children. Planning helps select the projects which will have the most impact. The I-Plan can be used as a tool to energize your planning and set its direction.

Will you be a distinguished Kiwanian this year? Will you help your club be a distinguished club? Will your club help your division be distinguished division? I invite you to do your best!

If you haven't given monetary gifts to the MO-Ark District Earl Collins Foundation, the District Outreach Fund, Kiwanis Children's Fund, Eliminate, and the Beatrice Johnson Kiwanis Youth Camp, now is the time to be generous.

It is also time to begin electing your officers for next year. Get it done by the end of May and have your secretary enter them in the Kiwanis International data base.

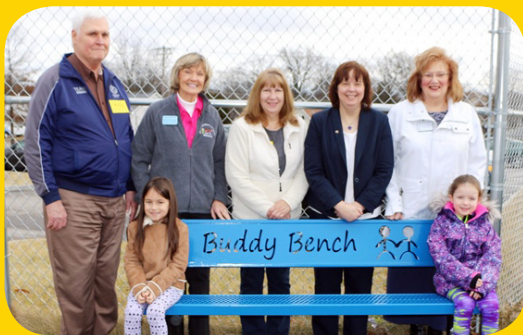
There is a lot to do. Do it with passion and generosity. Serve the children of the world. Love your Kiwanis Club, Share it with your friends and neighbors and live it out day by day. Thanks for "energizing the dream that every child be happy, healthy, safe and loved.

Have a great month!!!



"Energize The Dream...
that every child is happy, healthy, safe and loved."

Roger Jespersen
MoArk Kiwanis Governor



The Gravois Kiwanis Club presented Mesnier Primary School in the Affton School District with a "Buddy Bench" for their playground. The purpose of a Buddy Bench is to help eliminate loneliness and foster friendships on the playground. If a child is sitting on the Buddy Bench alone, it is a signal to other kids to ask him or her to play.

Seated on bench two first grade students at Mesnier School, Back row members of Gravois Kiwanis Club, Carla O'Brien, Marilyn Allen President, Ann Fritch, Lori Leupold, Don Leupold.

Kiwanis in Action

News from the Clubs

In February, Valley Park High School Senior Evan Williams, 18, received the Kiwanis Club of Meramec Valley Community Student of the Month award. The club recognizes one outstanding senior from four local high schools two times each school year.

Pictured from left are Dr. Matt Bailey, principal, Valley Park High School; Kathy Josephson, club treasurer; Williams and Judy Gustafson, club president.



At their February 15 meeting the Boonslick Kiwanis Club honored graduating students from the Licensed Practical Nursing Program at Columbia Area Career Center with the Boonslick Kiwanis Wayne Behymer Scholarship. The scholarship is for single parent students and, to date, the club has presented \$9,550 in awards to nursing students in the program.

Kiwanis in Action

News from the Clubs



The Kiwanis clubs of Division 13 in southwest Missouri came together to help Harmony House, a shelter for abused women and their children, move into a new and upgraded facility. Members of the Kiwanis clubs of Bolivar, Ozark, Ozark Empire, Republic, Springfield-Downtown, and Springfield-South installed shelves and window blinds in the residential rooms and then received a guided tour of the facility. Now that's Kiwanis cooperation.



In February the Kiwanis club of Gravois (MO) recognized Terrific Kids at Mesnier Elementary School. Every month one student from each first grade class is recognized by their teacher as a "Terrific Kid" of the month. The students receive a personalized certificate and other gifts to celebrate their accomplishments.

Service Leadership Leaders of Tomorrow



The Bridgeway K-Kids, at Bridgeway Elementary School in Bridgeton, MO., conducted a fundraising project to raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. They set their goals for 600 to 1000 dollars and when the final count was in they collected \$2409.53. Way to go, K-Kids! They are sponsored by the Kiwanis club of Bridgeton.

Midwinter Conference Feb. 23 - 25, 2017

The Missouri-Arkansas District Mid-Winter Conference was held in Columbia, Missouri from February 23-25. After a breakout session on Friday afternoon, the highlight of the day was



the Welcome Dinner that evening. The keynote speaker was Dr. Kristen Bowers, USA Region 3 Formula Chair and our Kiwanis International representative at the conference, who spoke about her "Kiwanis Moment". Her Kiwanis Club of North Central Indianapolis sponsored a family every Christmas including a \$100 shopping spree. One year, when she was club Secretary, she received a note and \$100 check from a mother whose family they had sponsored three years earlier. The woman explained that she was now financially stable and wanted the club to use the money to help another family, like they had helped her. Dr. Bowers said she felt this personified Kiwanis because it was not "flashy" but did the job well, helped kids, and built relationships. She encouraged those present to remember why they are in Kiwanis and share that with potential members.



Midwinter Conference

Feb. 23 - 25, 2017



Left to Right: ArMo Awards hostess Nancy Willimon, her lovely assistant, and Mary Hartman as the band.

The entertainment for the Welcome Dinner was provided by Convention Chair Nancy Willimon, who presented the ArMo Awards (her version of the Academy Awards) to the players from the Campfire Show at last year's District Convention.

Right: District Secretary Jeff Hartman is played off the stage after his ArMo acceptance speech ran a little long.



Saturday saw more Kiwanis education opportunities, with breakout session on such topics as; effective District leadership, service project and fundraising ideas, image and branding, District and International websites, club partnerships, and planning for the future of your club.



Midwinter Conference

Feb. 23 - 25, 2017

The Kiwanis Family Lunch on Saturday featured an update on the Beatrice Johnson Kiwanis Youth Camp. Teresa Frihart reported that partnerships have been formed with the Ozark Offroad Biking Club, who are helping to build and maintain trails at the camp, and the Ozark Disc Golf Club, which is helping to build a 9 hole disc golf course. The camp is also working with landscapers to create a devotional area, which they hope to have complete by this fall, and are accepting bids to install a water line from the road to the existing pavilion.

The highlight of the event, however, was a tribute by Les Mace to Kiwanis International Past President Ray Lansford. Ray is a professor Emeritus of Finance from the College of Business at the University of Missouri - Columbia. He joined the Kiwanis Club of Columbia (MO) in 1959, served as Club President in 1967, Division 4 Lt. Governor from 1969-70, and Missouri Arkansas District Governor in 1974-75. In 1984 Ray was elected Kiwanis International President. During his term he traveled to 62 countries representing Kiwanis. Also during this time, he received the Outstanding Alumni Award from Southwest Missouri State University (now Missouri State University). Other awards he has received include being named a Kiwanis Life Fellow in 1975 and Life Member in 1977, the Tablet of Honor in 1982, named a Kiwanis International Fellow in 1985, received the Kiwanis Human and Spiritual Values Award in 1996, and was named a George F. Hixon Diamond 3 Fellow in 2001. The Kiwanis Club of Columbia, and all of MoArk, is proud of Kiwanis International Past President Ray Lansford.



Above: Les Mace pays tribute to Kiwanis International Past President Ray Lansford at the 2017 Midwinter Conference.



learned that all of them had been members of Key Club in high school. They could have been Kiwanians now, if only someone had asked them.

At the Governor's Banquet that evening MoArk Governor Roger Jespersen congratulated the Distinguished Clubs and Divisions, and expressed his hope that there would be even more next year. He also thanked all the Kiwanians present for their service to children. He congratulated all of the clubs that have grown by 10% or more over the past year, and observed that the number of children a club can serve increases with the number of members in the club. But clubs must plan for growth, he said, noting that "A goal without a plan is just a wish". He encouraged everyone present to ask people to join Kiwanis, including friends, business associates, and former Key Club members. He related the story of Kiwanis International President Jane Erikson who, while in a meeting with the presidents of Rotary International and Lions Clubs International,

Meet the Candidates for Governor Elect

Gary Baker joined the Kiwanis Club of Batesville in November of 1984. He and his wife, Diane, have lived in Batesville since 1974. They were married in 1973 and have two grown children. Matt, who lives in Austin Texas and is a Business Intelligence Software Developer for Apple Computer. And John, who lives in Hendersonville Tennessee and works for ServePro as an Enterprise Mobile Application Architect. Gary works for 1st Choice Healthcare as their CIO. Prior to this employment, Gary worked 25 years as an independent software developer. Diane is a retired teacher, having taught for 35 years and is very involved in their club and the MoArk Key Club district board.



In addition to his Kiwanis service, Gary has served as a board member and finance officer for Family Violence Prevention in Independence County. He has also served as his parish's finance chairman for many years. As an amateur radio operator, Gary has served as both the county and district emergency coordinator, he has acted as liaison to maintain emergency communications between local and state emergency offices. Gary also serves as technical consultant to the Independence County election board.

Gary is a Hixon Fellow and has received a Zeller Fellowship. He has served his club in various capacities. He has served as a board member for several terms and has twice served as club president. During each term as president, his club earned distinguished status. Gary is currently serving his third term as Lieutenant Governor for division 17. Gary also served as Region 8 Trustee for 2012-2015 and is encouraged by the continuity the trustees are bringing to the MoArk District board.

Our SLP programs are very important to Gary, he has also served as the district Builders Club Administrator for several years and continues to serve as the Key Club District Finance Officer to the Key Club board.

Gary's pet project since 1988 has been his club's "Every Child a Swimmer" program. Fellow club member, Forrest Priest, brought this program to his club's attention after learning of it at an international convention. The program has run annually, with a few exceptions, since 1988 and has provided free swimming lessons for over 3000 students in the Batesville area. Working with the Batesville Mayor, the program is slated to become an annual program of the city and will carry the Kiwanis name, with the club providing support while lessons are provided, free of charge, to all third grade students in Independence County. Gary has also been a major supporter of his club's Youth Football program since its beginning in 2004. He is involved in all aspects of the program, but enjoys his role as the head referee. While there is an occasional disagreement that needs to be resolved, he enjoys seeing the progress made by the players as well as the volunteer coaches. He is often rewarded when being recognized as "the ref" in public.

Gary is running for Governor Elect with two goals in mind. The first is to help provide support for new clubs, and existing clubs with new members, to retain their members. As a new club builder, he has seen the extraordinary work accomplished by our districts new club building teams. Maintaining these new clubs is critical if we are to grow. Another opportunity for growth comes from retaining members in existing clubs. This is as great a challenge as new club building. Many clubs are adding new members at a substantial rate, only to lose existing members even more quickly. If we can slow this loss, we will experience the growth we need to, to provide more service to our communities.

The second goal is to grow the support to our SLPs. Gary will encourage our districts clubs to become familiar with, and assist with, the work of their SLP clubs. Getting our clubs more involved with the SLP clubs in their area will provide a twofold benefit. One, it will dem-

Meet the Candidates for Governor Elect

onstrate to the young people involved that they have adults that care about them. Second, it will encourage our Kiwanis members by showing the enthusiasm with which the kids perform their service.

Gary believes that we can make a difference in the lives of others, both adults and children if we will work together toward these goals. By interacting with our SLPs, we all receive much more than we give.



Hi, my name is Ralph Baldi, and I am running for MO-ARK Governor Elect. I was asked to say a little about myself so here goes. I am 63 years old, and have lived in the Ozarks now for 11 years. I joined the US Navy in 1972, right out of high school from San Antonio Texas. I served in the Navy for a total of 3 years, 2 of these as a navy Hospital Corpsman attached to the 1st Marine Division, where I did what I was told. You do that a lot when you are junior.

During this time, I married and was blessed with two really smart kids, Elizabeth and John. Both are way smarter than my wife or me.

After being discharged from the Navy I stayed out of the service for 6 months before ending up back in the US Army National Guard. For the next 19 years I served in the Army Reserve or the National Guard and became a SNCO. I served in field commands as a line medic, NCOIC MEDICAL Platoon SSgt, Asst. Chief Ward Master/ Medical Training NCO for a 400-bed field trauma hospital. During this time I also served in many administrative functions in medical training and operations. My last post in the SMG slot was as the Medical Operation Sgt, for the 40 ID/ MEC in California.

Of course, you cannot live on working one weekend a month, so I also spent over 35 years as a critical care nurse at University, of California San Diego. (UCSD). The first few years I was assigned to the Neurosurgery unit, where I worked with closed head injuries. I then transferred to the Burn Center for over 30 years and worked on folks with critical burn injuries. I almost always worked with kids since, for some reason, they liked me.

While at the burn center I was the staff person dealing with families and the youth/ adult burn survivor programs. I worked on and was a member of the UCSD Burn Center Foundation for Kids, and served at 23 burn camps for kids as a camp nurse. This is where I found Kiwanis. My best friend, and a burn survivor, was the Lt. Gov. of Cal-Nev-Ha Division 31. This group of great people from Div.31 and the East San Diego County Kiwanis club, did a lot for our kids at every camp.

Since I moved to Springfield, MO, I have been a member of the Springfield South club. I have been Club President, served as Lt Governor for Div. 13 for 2 years and Mo-Ark Region III Trustee for 3 years, and am again a Lt. Governor, this time for Div. 26.

I am a trained club councilor, and became the councilor for the Marshfield MO. Kiwanis club, helping in a small way to start this club. I had so much fun with them I joined and now have a dual membership.

I also help with Aktion Club and have started 2 of them in Springfield. With the help of the Mo-Ark board I played an instrumental role in the Springfield-South club starting a CKI club at MSU. In April of this year I will begin serving as the CKI advisor for the Missouri-Arkansas District.

Kiwanis Calendar

May 5-7 2017	Lt. Governor Training Ramada Oasis Conv. Ctr. Springfield, Missouri
July 13-16 2017	Kiwanis International Convention Paris, France
August 3-6 2017	Mo-Ark District Convention Ramada Oasis Conv. Ctr. Springfield, Missouri
Oct. 13-14 2017	Key Leader Weekend Camp Mihaska Bourbon, Missouri
Nov. 3-5 2017	Key Leader Weekend Camp Tanako Hot Springs, Arkansas

Kiwanigram Submissions

Information to be included in the Kiwanigram may be submitted by mail to 1022 E. Greenwood St., Springfield, MO 65807, or by e-mail to Kiwanigram@gmail.com. Please include the name and location of your club. Information about Service Leadership clubs and events may also be submitted. Photos from club projects are always welcome. Preference will be given to photos of Kiwanians participating in and interacting with children at service projects. Please include a brief description of each photo and the names of the Kiwanians featured in the photo if possible. The deadline for submissions is 5:00 p.m. on the first Friday of the month in which the issue will appear.

IN MEMORIAM

Division 4

Wayne Shakespeare
Independence

Division 5

James Brumit
Mexico

George Wagner
Columbia Golden K

Division 7

George Sinovich
Bridgeton

Division 21

Stanley Russ
Conway

Division 24

Robert Collins
Springdale

John Harvey
Lincoln

Division 25

Russell King
Pulaski Heights-Little Rock