



Kiwanigram

Missouri-Arkansas District

Issue No.31

December 2020



Serving the Children of the World™



Governor-Elect Carla's Message

The Kiwanigram is published bi-monthly in December, February, April, June, August, and October.

MO-ARK website:

www.moarkkiwanis.org

Facebook: Missouri-Arkansas District of Kiwanis International



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Seasons Greetings to all MO-ARK Kiwanians!

First and foremost please keep our Governor, AC Paxton, in your thoughts and prayers as he remains in the hospital recovering from various health issues.

As we all deal with the changes in our lives due to Covid 19, please stay careful, safe and thoughtful to others. While Covid requires great changes in our lives, it also presents opportunities. We all are required to think out of the box to continue meetings, perform service, and have fundraisers. Everyone understands that these times call for change, so we can move forward with new plans and ideas. If regular meetings have been suspended, you might consider Zoom or Free Conference Call meetings; at a minimum use the time at home to make phone calls to members that you haven't seen – they will so appreciate knowing that you care!

Please be aware that you still have until 12/31/20 to bring in new members with no new member fees for this Kiwanis year. Each one, reach one! There is also the New member contest from MO-ARK in effect, 11/1/20 to 3/31/21, with two club groups under 30 members and 30+ members. Add new members to your club and you have potential to win \$4,000, \$3,000, 2,000 or \$1,000 to perform community service projects – what an earning opportunity when fundraising dollars are down!

MO-ARK clubs have an international service project recommended by Daniel Vigneron, past International president. Details appear later, but basically we have been asked to assist a French family as they travel to St Louis Children's Hospital for an operation for their 6 year old daughter, Ilyana, who suffers from cerebral palsy since birth. Please do assist as you are capable.

Please have a blessed holiday season. We will come through this pandemic as better, more capable, more considerate Kiwanians!

Carla OBrien, Governor Elect



Kiwanis in Action

Dancer Dream For Ilyana

A Request from Past KI President Daniel Vigneron

Ilyana is a 6-year-old girl who has suffered from cerebral palsy or spastic paraparesis since birth, which results in daily pain, difficult walking and therefore wearing braces day and night. Her main enemy: spasticity which makes her muscles as rigid or even more than her bones.

THE MAIN RISK: PAIN, LOSS OF WALKING AND BONE DEFORMATION DURING GROWTH

There is a solution in the USA !!! A neurosurgeon, Dr. Park of Children's Hospital in ST-LOUIS performs an operation, the selective dorsal rhizotomy, which reduces or even eliminates this spasticity which prevents her from putting her feet down and which can lead to bone deformities.

The operation is set for JANUARY 5, 2021 but it represents a huge financial cost. The operation alone costs 50,000 euros plus rehabilitation, accommodation, displacement etc.

We therefore created an association DANCER'S DREAM FOR ILYANA to raise funds so that we can fly away Ilyana, her dad and I to realize her dream of being able to walk and run like all children of her age and continue classical dance !!

Facebook : [Rêve de danseuse pour Ilyana](#)

Email : rêvededanseusepourilyana@yahoo.com



Daniel Vigneron, Kiwanis International Immediate Past President, has requested MO-ARK to assist with helping. This is a French family who has to come to St Louis Children's Hospital for the operation for their daughter, Ilyana. They should arrive 12/26/20 to begin the quarantine period before the operation. They probably need to stay the duration at the Doubletree, attached to Children's Hospital, as Ronald McDonald House only allows families if they have room after a two week quarantine period. Doubletree hospital rates should end up close to \$100/night with taxes.

We are asking any MO-ARK individuals or clubs that can help this family to do so by sending a check to:

Gateway Region Kiwanis Foundation

2408 Oakmont Ct

High Ridge, MO 63049

For: "Ilyana Fund"

We will then have a single entity that the family can go to for the assistance that they require. Any

questions, call Carla Obrien at 314.520.7905 or Barb Thompson at 314.780.4464







Kiwanis Amplify

LEARNING & LIVING LEADERSHIP OUT LOUD

Build your leadership skills. Improve your career, your community and your Kiwanis club.

Kiwanis Amplify is a program for emerging leaders who want to amplify their ability to lead a team. Participation is encouraged for, but not limited to, young leaders, new members and graduating members of Circle K International.

Participants will:

- Explore the value of servant leadership.
- Discover their personal strengths so they can lead confidently and successfully.
- Strengthen the ability to lead others in a strategic manner.
- Build and manage a strategic plan that works.
- Learn from experts as well as from peers from across the globe.
- Earn a certification of completion.

Participants will take a deep dive into eight leadership topics:

1. The qualities of a good leader.
2. Methods of communication.
3. Planning engaging events.
4. Promoting diversity, equality and inclusion throughout a team.
5. Working with others.
6. Sharing a message.
7. Planning for the future.
8. Staying focused.

The participation fee is US\$200. Individuals may nominate themselves for Kiwanis Amplify — or a club, division or district may sponsor participants. The participation fee is considered an educational expense, so clubs have the option of paying it from their service accounts.

Past Governor Ron Hill is heading up the program for the MO-ARK District.

If you have any questions contact him at:
ron.hill@conwaycorp.net

To enroll, learn more or recommend someone for the program, visit
kiwanis.org/amplify.





Service Projects in the time of Covid-19



When it comes to service projects, Kiwanis members are dedicated. Each year, they devote more than 6 million hours to service. These service projects are popular because they are unique, they are easy, they raise awareness and they're fun.

CARD WRITING

Contact your local chapter of the Red Cross and ask them if your club may participate in their ["Holiday for Heroes" program](#).

Make or buy greeting cards for kids at your local children's hospital for any holiday or occasion.

Send signed greeting cards to club members who encounter health challenges, life hardships, milestone birthdays or Kiwanis anniversary dates, etc.

Write "thank-you" notes that can be passed out to teachers at schools your club sponsors.

Ask members to gather "thinking of you" greeting cards and sign notes of encouragement for distribution to elderly residents of local assisted living homes.

Your club could distribute cards to your local NICU. [March of Dimes](#) also offers an electronic version your club could sign right now

KIWANIS FAMILY PROGRAMS

Organize [Terrific Kids](#) or [Bringing Up Grades](#) gifts into bags, or tie them up in bows for easy distribution at the next Terrific Kids or Bringing Up Grades event.

Partner with your sponsored [Key Club](#) to spruce up the high school grounds (or partner with your [Builders Club](#) for middle school or [K-Kids Club](#) for elementary school).

VOLUNTEER IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Make ["superhero capes"](#) for your local children's hospital with basic materials (glue, string, fabric, felt, scissors).

Knit [baby blankets](#) or [booties](#) to be presented to newborns at your local hospital.

Ask members to bring in new, gently-used, stuffed animals to your club meeting so they may be donated to free health clinics in your community.

Switch up your club meeting spot, and ask members to meet at a local Goodwill or similar store to shop for books to be donated to local school libraries.

Ask your club members to collect coloring books for kids at the local [Boys & Girls Club](#).

Ask members to bring inexpensive toys and games to wrap during a club meeting and then deliver to a women's domestic abuse shelter or other local charities for kids.

Shop online at [Dollar Days](#) (a Kiwanis International partner) to buy basic supplies for schools supported by the club.

Ask your club members to secure coloring books and crayons for kids in hospitals.

Ask members to bring canned food to your club meetings around Thanksgiving time, so it can be donated to homeless shelters.

Organize your club members to make up survival kits for civil servants to be utilize as they interact with kids.

Ask members to bring in discarded cell phones to your club meetings that can be donated to domestic violence shelters.

Organize your club members to make bookmarks and door hangers.

Start a "diaper dump" service project, asking members to collect disposable diapers in various sizes that will then be delivered to local shelters, free health clinics and youth-serving organizations to give to mothers who cannot afford expensive disposable diapers for their children.

Do your club members have old sneakers that have a few miles left in them? Collect and send them to [Soles4Souls](#), a charity that will find someone who needs them.





District Membership Contest

The competition began on Nov. 1, 2020, and will end on March 31, 2021.

All clubs are encouraged to increase their membership to compete for community service grants. These grants are only for service projects, community improvement projects and new educational scholarships, not for general and administrative purposes. An accounting would be required in writing within 60 days of receipt of a grant.

Competition is in two divisions: Division A, for clubs with 30 or more members, according to the official Kiwanis International Membership Report as of Nov. 1, 2020; and Division B, for clubs with fewer than 30 members, according to the official KI Membership Report as of Nov 1, 2020.

Grant winners will be determined as those clubs with the greatest percentage increase in membership, according to the official KI Membership Report as of March 31, 2021. In case of ties the money for a certain place will be split evenly.

All winning recipients must be in good standing with KI and Mo-Ark.

Schedule of grants:

Division A

1st place — \$4,000

2nd place — \$3,000

3rd place — \$2,000

4th place — \$1,000

Division B

1st place — \$4,000

2nd place — \$3,000

3rd place — \$2,000

4th place (3 awards) — \$1,000 each

District Board will be final arbiter for the contest, provided that any board member whose club is involved in an issue must recuse from that decision.



GAME ON!!



Kiwanis®

MISSOURI-ARKANSAS DISTRICT

EARL COLLINS FOUNDATION



Earl Collins Scholarship applications are due to your Division Earl Collins Trustee [January 15, 2021](#). Make sure your club president has signed the applications and the graded sheet.



Cataloging Kiwanis Projects

Kiwanis International needs your help. Kiwanis wants to know what projects in our district carry the Kiwanis name. These include campgrounds, learning centers, playgrounds, buildings, senior living centers, retail stores, parades, festivals, events etc. They are trying to identify how and where the Kiwanis' name is being used.

They are asking for your help, because we all cannot accomplish this enormous task without you. The purposes are two-fold:

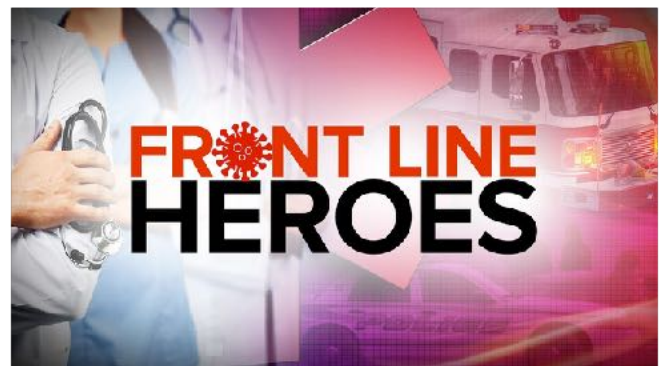
- (1) To identify all the good that Kiwanis is doing.
 - As we identify these projects, each District will be able to create a brag sheet demonstrating their success; and
 - Kiwanis International can create a map showing all the areas where Kiwanis has benefited the community.
- (2) To improve our liability protection through proper diligence and education.
 - As we compile information, Kiwanis International can work with District Leadership and District Risk Managers to obtain indemnification agreements and insurance certificates that will better protect the Kiwaniverse for all of its projects.

You will find an excel spreadsheet on the MOARK website www.moarkkiwanis.org that shows you the information that they are looking for. Will you please fill out that excel sheet with as many of the current projects that you are able to gather in your clubs? Then when complete please send the final sheet to the District Secretary, Mary Vaughan at kiwanismoark@outlook.com by March 1, 2020. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. For more information, don't hesitate to call Mary at 314-581-0497.



Kiwanis International is looking for K- Family front line heroes.

Kiwanis magazine is looking for K-family members on the front lines of this pandemic. Are you a nurse? Doctor? Scientist? EMT? Teacher? Hospital worker? Essential service provider? We want to hear from you! Send your name, club name, hometown, brief description of how you're part of the global COVID response team and a photo of you "in your line of work" (in a mask or PPE scores bonus points) to shareyourstory@kiwanis.org. We want to know how you're doing and what you're doing...and we want to thank and celebrate you!



Cheering on our Heroes





Kiwanis in Action

Boonslick Kiwanians cooking dinner for families.

Boonslick Kiwanis in Columbia, MO is always on the lookout for service projects that we can do while being mindful about COVID. Ronald McDonald House provides us the perfect opportunity! Each month, we have been able to serve, 4 volunteers at a time, masked, each in a separate workstation. Coordinator extraordinaire, Pauli Landhuis, prepares instructions for each station to prepare a dish. Volunteers easily whip up a fabulous dinner for the families of hospital patients and leave the empty dining room smelling and looking VERY appetizing. We imagine that guests probably break into spontaneous song and dance (or at least smile with appreciation) when they arrive and find that we have prepared dinner for them!



Rebekah Robertson cozies up with Mr McDonald himself.



Jim Hogan strikes a pose but we are not scared.



Bill Tucker snaps a selfie with the whole crew.

Crestwood-Sunset Hills Kiwanians participate in trunk or treat.



On October 24, 2020, members of the Crestwood-Sunset Hills Kiwanis Club participated in a COVID friendly drive-through Trunk or Treat event sponsored by the local Chamber of Commerce. Cars were decorated and five Kiwanians from our club gave pre-packaged candy bags to children driving by in their parents' cars. Pictured L to R are Kiwanians Lisa Marin, Nancy Benson, Teri Jacob, Club President Diane Slattery, and Donna Rabbitt with some appreciative trick or treaters!





Kiwanis in Action

Cottleville Weldon Spring Kiwanis Club helps neighbor for Christmas.



Scott Politte and Tammy Hempen.



Cottleville Weldon Spring Kiwanis Club's President Tammy Hempen, Club Treasurer Brian Mack and Board Member Mary Vaughan presented Scott Politte, O'Fallon, MO resident, with \$300 worth of gas cards and \$300 gift cards to help him and his family during the month of December. Mr. Politte is a single father of three. His 17yr old daughter has been diagnosed with Hodgkin Lymphoma and has been in the hospital since October 19th. He is traveling back and forth between O'Fallon and Children's Hospital, while working two jobs and supporting his three children. We really feel this is what our purpose is to the community.



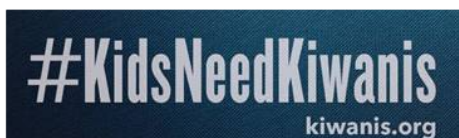
Brian Mack, Scott Politte & Tammy Hempen

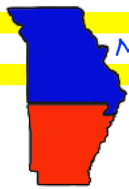
Kirksville Kiwanis Traveling Christmas Parade

Instead of the usual Kiwanis Club Christmas Parade and the Parks and Recreation Department's Breakfast with Santa program, the two partnered for a different event this year: the 9th Annual Kirksville Kiwanis Traveling Christmas Parade. There were two separate parades, one through the north part of Kirksville, Saturday, and the other through the southern part of town on Sunday. With current COVID-19 guidelines, it wasn't wise for the Parks Department to bring a bunch of kids into Maxwell's to visit with Santa, and the Kiwanis Club didn't want to have hundreds of people gather downtown. These parades went through neighborhoods and past city parks.



Santa's Elves, Racheal and Ashley Young





Kiwanis in Action

Rock Bridge Key Club help create outdoor classroom.



Rock Bridge Key club, sponsored by Boonslick Kiwanis in Columbia, MO, helped create an outdoor classroom at Paxton Keeley Elementary School, led by Science Coordinator, Mike Szydlowski. The project was sponsored by Columbia Public Schools. About 20 Key Club members worked on the outdoor science classroom. Thanks for the pictures. Photo credit goes to Jim Hogan!



Liberty Kiwanians and Key Club members pickup litter.

Saturday, October 24, was Kiwanis One Day, a day of Community Service for all Kiwanians worldwide. The Liberty Kiwanis Club, joined by 19 Key Club members from Liberty Hi and Liberty North Hi spent the morning cleaning and picking up litter on Highway 291 just past town. Kiwanis Key Club is the worlds largest student lead service organizations.

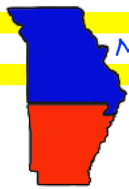


Clark County Kiwanians deliver gifts to kindergarteners.



Members of the Clark County Kiwanis Club recently delivered holiday gifts to kindergarten students, at right, at Perritt Primary. Pictured at left are Ali Painter, Leah Hooper, Nicole McGough and Kyla Batson.





Kiwanis in Action

Gravois Kiwanians perform a service project for homeless shelter.

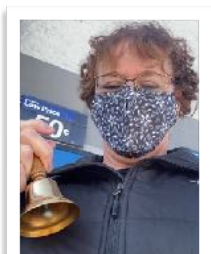


Gravois Kiwanis performed a service project for St Louis Gateway180 Whole Family homeless shelter by making goodie bags for 60 kids and delivering cupcakes for all of the residents for Halloween. The goodie bags had a small game, a Halloween and Terrific Kids pencil, a Terrific Kids pin, candy, a spider ring, and stickers. The week before, we delivered 60 wall decorations that can be used as Halloween backpacks by the kids.

Each year they have hosted a big Halloween dinner, but due to Covid19, they were unable to host a party and dinner for the Gateway 180 residents. Thanks to members Ginger Crooks, Crooks, Jean Eckrich, Paul Eckrich, Ed Golterman, Damian Haskins, Don Leupold Sr & Jr, Carla OBrien, and Ellen Sandweiss for their donations and hard work!



Kiwanis Bell Ringers*



*Borrowed from Mo-Ark Facebook page: Ms. Santa, Gravois Kiwanis Club and the rest are from Fulton Kiwanis Club.



Youth Protection and Background Checks



More than 300,000 youth participate in Kiwanis Service Leadership Programs and millions of youth around the world come in contact with Kiwanians through service projects. It is imperative that Kiwanians are not only cleared to work with children, but that they are trained with confidence in the safe practices our group provides.

Updated policies and procedures are now available on the [Kiwanis Youth Protection website](#). All members should have access to the document and read the policies annually. Please pay close attention to all the policies, for there are many new changes to the updated procedures. All SLP advisors and chaperones, who chaperone an overnight or single day off school premises, must complete and pass the Kiwanis approved Background Check by Safe Hiring Solutions.

Although it is not required of non-SLP groups to have members use the background check, many clubs have taken advantage of this opportunity to be prepared. I strongly encourage all members (SLP related or not) to have on file a cleared background check from within the last 10 years. Whether if your club gets background checks from the state or from the local police department, I want you to have up to date documentation that you were cleared to work with children during your time in Kiwanis. You are not covered by our risk management insurance unless you have an active Kiwanian background check on file. The training provided by [Praesidium](#) is a nice overview of what to look for when it comes to identifying situations in which you will need to report. Please take advantage of the training courses. They are easy to follow, informative, and free!

I appreciate your hard work to keep our Kiwanis kids safe and your members informed. This year has paused many SLP events and service projects. I am so proud of our MOARK district members for doing what they can during this time to help kids in our communities. Keep up the good work and remember that these policies are in place to protect everyone. For additional information on Youth Protection and updated policies please go to: [KI Youth Protection](#) or www.moarkkiwanis.org.

Thank you and Happy Holidays!

Paige Storey

MO-ARK Youth Protection Manager



MO-ARK Kiwanis Looking for Club Coaches

Mo-Ark Kiwanis is looking for a few good men and women (four or more) in every division to serve as club coaches for new and existing clubs in their respective divisions.

Coaches provide a mix of the practical and the inspirational—and several things in between. They provide a consistent presence to help clubs develop long-term goals for service and membership, while helping to monitor member engagement and suggesting improvements when necessary.

In the happy event of a new club in the division, a pair of coaches join the new club to attend meetings and provide support. The coaches help members navigate the exciting but delicate early stages of a new club's life.

In the case of existing clubs, coaches help struggling clubs and clubs with specific problems take the necessary steps toward club health.

Coaches are the club's main supporters to celebrate successes, recognize member achievements, and welcome new members. Most of all, coaches help member and clubs become self-sufficient by talking to each other, sharing observations, and pushing each other forward.

If you'd like to extend your impact and help clubs other than your own to improve the world, one child and one community at a time, please contact your Lt. Governor to sign up. You will become a Certified Club Coach by attending training with Mo-Ark Membership Coordinator Barb Thompson and join 18 of your fellow Mo-Ark Kiwanians who have already become Certified Club Coaches.



In Memoriam

Division 15

Gwen Bonds
Greater Hot Springs Village

Gerald Wallace
Hot Springs Village

Division 23

William Cook
El Dorado

Richard McClendon
El Dorado

Division 20

Alvin Hill
Russellville

Kiwanigram Submissions

Information to be considered for the Kiwanigram should be submitted by email to moarkkiwanis@gmail.com NOTE THE CHANGE IN EMAIL ADDRESS! Please include the name and location of your club. Preference will be given to photos and/or articles of Kiwanians, or Service Leadership Programs interacting with children at a service project. Please include a brief description of the project along with the names of Kiwanians, or SLP members featured in the photos. Please do not send your entire club newsletter, submit individual articles and pictures ONLY to be considered for publication. The deadline for submissions is the 10th day of the month prior to publication.

Diane Baker
Kiwanigram Editor

