



Kiwanigram

Missouri-Arkansas District

Issue No.35

August 2021



Serving the Children of the World™



Message from Governor AC Paxton

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

MO-ARK website:

www.moarkkiwanis.org

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District of Kiwanis International



A.C. Paxton
Governor

Carla O'Brien
Governor - Elect

Ron Hill
Immediate Past Governor

Mary Vaughan
District Secretary

Robin Asher
District Treasurer

Diane Baker
Kiwanigram Editor

Maddie Ashlock
Key Club Governor

Ranen Miao
CKI Governor



The Mo-Ark District convention has come and gone! What a convention it was, and there is more information about the convention later in this Kiwanigram. The good news is we are neutral in membership however, we still have a month and half to go, let's work really hard and close out our year with a plus in membership. Remember: "EACH ONE REACH ONE".

This is my last message as your Governor for the Kiwanigram and I want you to know how much I have enjoyed being Governor of the MO-ARK District. Something I will remember and cherish the rest of my life.

Thank you and may God bless.

A.C.Paxton

MO-ARK District Governor



**THOSE WHO CAN, DO. THOSE WHO
CAN DO MORE, JOIN KIWANIS.**



New Leadership of the MO-ARK Kiwanis District

Mo-Ark District Governor 2021-2022



2021-22 MO-ARK
District Governor
Carla O'Brien



Carla O'Brien was elected MO-ARK District Governor for the 2021-2022 Kiwanis year.

Carla has been a member of the Gravois-St. Louis County Kiwanis Club for ten years, where she has served in every elected position with the exception of treasurer, and was honored twice as Kiwanian of the year. Carla has served two terms as Lt Governor, earning distinguished designation for the 2015-2016 year. She also serves as Earl Collins Trustee for Division 9 and Region IV Trustee.

In her professional life, Carla spent the past 19 years as a salesperson for a manufacturer's representative firm for industrial equipment, retiring in September of 2019. Prior to that she spent 20 years as an accountant and salesperson in a family auto parts business.

Carla has been happily married to her husband, David for the past 44 years. They have a daughter, two sons, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

"I was raised in a Kiwanis family; my father a 64-year member, and my mother a long time president of the Sinawiks auxiliary. Enhancing the lives of children and performing community service is very important in my life as a Kiwanian. I am honored to serve as your next Governor of MO-ARK District of Kiwanis-We are Family !"



Cathy Szymański, KI
Trustee, installs Carla
O'Brien as 2021-22 MO-ARK
District Governor.

Mo-Ark District Governor-Elect 2021-2022



2021-22 MO-ARK
District Governor-Elect
Roy Ockert

Roy Ockert was elected MO-ARK District Governor for the 2021-22 Kiwanis year.

Roy has been a member of Kiwanis since 1998, when he joined the Russellville club and later transferred to the Jonesboro Club in 2001. He served as the president of the Jonesboro club in 2008-09, 2014-15; and is currently the club's president-elect. He has received the club's Kiwanian of the Year Award four times. Roy has served as Region 8 Trustee 2015-18 and re-elected 2019-present. He also serves as chairman of the district's finance committee, where he developed and implemented a new budgeting system for the district. In his professional life, he got his Bachelor's degree in journalism from Arkansas State University and Master's degree in journalism from University of Oklahoma. He was a journalism instructor at ASU and Arkansas College (now Lyon) and received Arkansas Educator of the Year, Arkansas Press Association in 1995. He has been managing editor and editor of several state newspapers in Arkansas, from 1975-2012. After 30 years as a newspaper editor, in 2012 he retired leaving more time for his family, and pastimes, including Kiwanis. He is married to Pat, they have two daughters and 3 grandchildren. "I pledge to do everything possible to keep Kiwanis as a vibrant part of communities all over Arkansas and Missouri."



Governor-Elect Roy Ockert
and Governor Designate
Carla O'Brien.



MO-ARK DISTRICT CONVENTION

Report from the House of Delegates

The House of Delegates met on August 7, 2021 at the Embassy Suites Red Wolf Convention Center. There were 78 Clubs represented which gave us a quorum.

The Delegate Body elected Carla O'Brien from the Gravois, St. Louis County Club as Governor-Designate and elected Roy Ockert from the Jonesboro Club as Governor-Elect.

The excitement occurred during the ByLaw amendment discussion to change the bylaws by removing the requirement of serving as a Lt. Governor in order to run for Region Trustee. The pros were that this would make it easier to run for Trustee and beyond. The cons were someone could get elected without having any knowledge and experience. It was decided to send the proposed amendment back to the board for further discussion.

The prorated dues bylaw amendment passed. Starting in October KI and Missouri Arkansas dues will be prorated for all new members. There will be no new member fee, just prorated dues.



Foundation Reports from the Convention

1. Barbara Thompson gave the Earl Collins report as follows:

- The Earl Collins Foundation has moved their investments from Simmons Wealth Management to Edward Jones in order to save fees; annual savings are estimated \$3000-\$4000.
- The Earl Collins Foundation has awarded 26 winners of the 2021 scholarships, one each in 25 divisions and two in Division 5 where they received the additional "incentive" scholarship for being the division that donated the most funds to the Earl Collins Foundation in the Mo-Ark Kiwanis District in 2020-21. There were no applicants from Divisions 25.
- The Earl Collins Foundation has made the following donations:
 - \$25,000 in January 2020 to the Beatrice Johnson Kiwanis Youth Kamp Foundation (BJKYKF) for the Kamp Restroom Project. This donation will be considered part of the \$100,000 that the Foundation has pledged for the Headquarters building.
 - Three grants under the Missouri-Arkansas Earl Collins Foundation Kiwanis Service Leadership Grant program for Service Leadership Program grants approved 2-28-20, two to Key Clubs and one to Springdale Aktion Club.
 - \$4,500 to Missouri-Arkansas Key Leader to help pay for Key Leader Camp fees in order to keep the student fees at \$225 per student.
- Club contributions for October '20 – June '21 was \$11,714, down from October '19 – June '20. See the next item to see the effect of the decline in club contributions.
- Total net investment return for October '20 – June '21 was \$179,252, including both recognized and unrecognized gain; up from -\$3197 for October '19-June '20. We are pleased with the investment income. It does place us at the 33 1/3 ratio of public contributions to investment income. If we fall below that level, we can be considered a private foundation, subject to taxation. Please encourage clubs to donate at least \$5 a member per year (as funds permit) to enable the foundation to maintain its tax status, fund scholarships, and make other donations. Since many fundraisers have been cancelled due to COVID-19, the ECF Board of Trustees greatly appreciates the generosity of the Mo-Ark District Kiwanis clubs in uncertain times.



MO-ARK DISTRICT CONVENTION

Foundation Reports from the Convention (continued)

2. Nancy Hoff gave the Children's Fund report as follows:

On behalf of the Kiwanis Children's Fund, thank you for your support. It is because of your commitment and the generosity of your members that we can make remarkable things happen for kids. The Kiwanis Children's Fund harnesses the collective power of 200,000 members and 8,000 clubs to make an impactful difference in the lives of children around the world. We are pleased to partner with your district to amplify your impact.

Over the past year, the Kiwanis Children's Fund and Kiwanis International trustees have led discussions regarding the future grant making and fundraising priorities of the Kiwanis Children's Fund. As a result, three Kiwanis causes were identified:

- Health and nutrition: Children need access to nutritious food in order to be healthy.
- Education and literacy: Children need access to educational materials, resources and support services so they can learn basic skills such as reading.
- Youth leadership development: Youth need programs and opportunities that prepare them to lead today, and into the future.

Since the beginning of the 2019-20 Kiwanis year, thanks to gifts from Kiwanis members and clubs, we have awarded US \$2.17 million in grants and scholarships, impacting the lives of 7.2 million children worldwide.

3. Roger Jespersen gave the Eliminate Advocate report as follows:

I want to thank you for the honor of being your last official MO-ARK District Eliminate Advocate. Thanks to Jerry Martin, Susan Jespersen and all those who led the Eliminate team before me. Raising almost \$1.8 Million was a huge goal and we nearly made it. The total giving from our district was \$1,767,686.34. I want to thank all clubs and individuals for your generosity to save the lives of babies and their mothers.

The work is not done as 12 countries still have not been verified as free from this killer. We can still give to the Kiwanis Children's Fund and designate our gifts for Eliminate. The Kiwanis Children's Fund will continue to work with UNICEF on both the Iodine Deficiency Disease and Maternal/Neonatal Tetanus until the children of the world are free of these two diseases.

THANK YOU from the mothers, THANK YOU from the babies, THANK YOU from the district. Thank you for your generosity.

There were four resolutions approved:

Resolution 1:

That the Convention Committee as well as the members of the Kiwanis Clubs in Division 16 are to be commended for their efforts on behalf of all attendees and guests at this District Convention, and that the host city, Jonesboro and the Embassy Suites Red Wolf Convention Center, all should be commended by this delegate body for their outstanding efforts and support.

Resolution 2:

That the delegate body assembled at this convention express a sincere thank you to Governor AC Paxton and Linda, Immediate Past Governor Ron Hill and his partner Karen, Governor-Elect Carla O'Brien and her partner David, Secretary Mary Vaughan, Treasurer Robin Asher, the Lt. Governors, Trustees, District Committee Chairs, and the Past Governors for their dedication to the objectives of Kiwanis and to their efforts to achieve the goals of the Missouri-Arkansas District for the year 2020-2021. We extend our Best Wishes and support for your continued efforts on behalf of all Kiwanians in Missouri-Arkansas District in the coming administrative year 2021-2022.

Resolution 3:

That the delegate body of this convention observes a moment of silence in memory of all Kiwanians who have died during this past year.

Resolution 4:

That the delegate body assembled at this convention supports Past Governor Ron Hill as he begins his campaign for the position of Trustee of Kiwanis International with the election to be held in Indianapolis, IN on June 10, 2022.



MO-ARK DISTRICT CONVENTION

Installation of 2021-2022 Lieutenant Governors and Trustees



2021-2022 District Lieutenant Governors pictured with Governor-Elect Carla O'Brien.

The District Lieutenant Governors for the 2021-22 Kiwanis year are pictured at left as follows; Front row: Matt Silas, Patsey McGuire, Katie Rennard, Tiffany Ermeling, Marsha McClanahan, Charlie Cooper, Will Williams, Victor Head. Second Row: Carla O'Brien Gov.-Designate, Les Mace, Jim Fritz, Lyndal Waits, Greg Atkins, Joe Pearson and David Mast. Not pictured: John Hoffman, Becky Panchot, Maretta Diestelkamp, Gary Beckman, William (Bill) York, Blake Robertson, Jim Brisco, Erik Pebetes, Stewart Marshall, Derek Witt, Haskell Anderson.



2021-2024 Region 8 Trustee, Gary Baker, 2021-2024 Region _ Trustee, Mary Saale, Carla O'Brien, Governor-Designate

Exchanging of the Home Club banners



At left, District Governor AC Paxton hands over the Home Club banner to Governor-Designate Carla O'Brien and members of Gravius-St.Louis County Club. At right Gov-Designate Carla hands over the Governor Elect banner over to Governor-Elect Roy Ockert and members of the Jonesboro Kiwanis Club.



Ceremony of Roses



Les Mace, First Lady Linda, and Governor AC Paxton

The Ceremony of Roses was held during the Governor's banquet Saturday evening. This tradition was started in 1973, at the MO-ARK District Convention, by past MO-ARK Governor and Kiwanis International President, Ray Lansford, to honor Governor Partners. A bouquet of yellow roses, representing a symbol of friendship, joy and caring were given to First Lady Linda Paxton in appreciation of her courage and grace and a job well done. Les Mace then presented a bouquet of red roses (and a Kiwanis necktie) representing respect, admiration and harmony to welcome upcoming First Gentleman David O'Brien.



Les Mace, Governor-Designate Carla and First Gentleman-Designate David O'Brien

MO-ARK DISTRICT CONVENTION



Westside High School, Jonesboro, AR, Junior ROTC present colors at the luncheon.



Mayor Harold Copenhaver, Jonesboro, AR, welcomes Kiwanians to Jonesboro, AR.



Emily Sharp, KI Area Director, leading a show and share session.



The district bell has been found! After several years of not knowing where the bell was, Les Mace and Troy Massey found it in a box at the Mo-Ark Kiwanis District Museum in Harrison, AR. The bell was donated to the district in 1960 when Joe Mueller was District Governor. A fourth level was added this year. OP Hardwoods, Springfield, MO, donated the wooden "doughnut" section. Les Mace provided the gavel and had the ring updated by adding 21 past governors and included 2020-21 Governor Designate Carla O' Brien.



Above, Dwight Tosh, keynote speaker during the "We Are Family" Luncheon, shared with Kiwanians his experience being Patient No. 17 at St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN.



The Governor's banquet finished on a musical note with the attendees singing the Kiwanis version of "We are Family". Seen here is KI Trustee, Cathy Szymanski leading the group.



Kiwanians got an early morning (around 1:30am) surprise! A fire alarm and constant message over the speaker telling occupants of the hotel to exit the building. Many left the building and waited an hour or two for the ok to go back in. Later that morning, the manager of the hotel explained that a sensor in an elevator had malfunctioned.



MO-ARK DISTRICT CONVENTION

Governor Award Winners Carla O'Brien and Mary Vaughan



Governor AC Paxton presenting the award to Gov-Elect Carla O'Brien.

As many of you know, Governor AC Paxton became very ill and hospitalized early on in his term and could not fulfill his duties. Governor-Elect Carla O'Brien and District Secretary Mary Vaughan grabbed the reigns and continued on. They worked tirelessly to keep the district running smoothly until Gov.AC could resume his duties. AC presented Carla and Mary with the MO-ARK District Governor's Award. Congratulations, Ladies, it was well deserved!



Governor Award Winners, Mary Vaughan, District Sec. and Gov-Elect Carla O'Brien

Distinguished Clubs and Members 2020-2021



Distinguished Clubs & Members 2020-2021



Carrollton	Ozark Coast, Osage Beach
Smithville	Monett
Mid-Town, Kansas City	Bolivar
Boonville	Springfield (Downtown)
Columbia	Sikeston
Fulton	Clark County
Montgomery City	Golden K, Benton
Wright City	Paragould
Bridgeton	Cave City
Creve Coeur	Gravette
Florissant Valley	Rogers
Greater Ferguson	Siloam Springs
Greater Spanish Lake	Fort Smith
Jennings-MO	Fayetteville Metro
Normandy 24-1	
Farmington	
Perryville	
Crestwood-Sunset Hills	
Gravois, Saint Louis Co	
Meramec Valley Comm	
St. James	
Jefferson City	

Distinguished Districts

Division 5

Ken Jarvis, Lt. Governor

Division 7

Chuck Seevers, Lt. Governor

Division 9

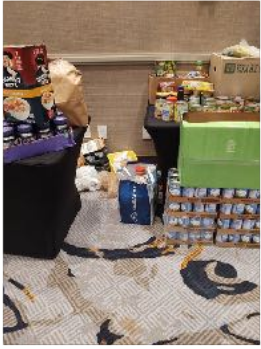
Becky Panchot, Lt. Governor



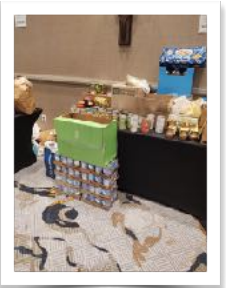


Kiwanis in Action

MO-ARK District Convention Service Project



District Kiwanis members and their guests collected perishable and non-perishable food items to donate to the local Jonesboro VFW food pantry as the convention service project. On Saturday, the food was presented to Robert B. Murphy, Jr., Commander and Diana Rerucha, Quartermaster, of the Roy Wiles Post 1991 Veterans of Foreign Wars of America. Pictured left to right, Mary Vaughan-District Secretary; Carla O'Brien-Governor Designate; Robert B. Murphy, Jr. – Commander Roy Wiles Post 1991 VFW; A.C. Paxton-Governor; Nancy Hoff-Vice President of the Mo-Ark eCentennial Club; Susan Lafond-Region VII Trustee; Diana Rerucha-Roy Wiles Post 1991 VFW Quartermaster. The service project was organized by the MO-ARK eCentennial Club.



Auctions raised money for Earl Collins Foundation



Many clubs and individuals brought baskets and items for the silent auction and Kiwanian Nancy Willmoth made and donated a beautiful stained glass picture that was auctioned off during lunch. The money raised from both auctions went to the Earl Collins Foundation. Pictured at right auctioneer Bobby Smittle.



Kiwanis Club of O'Fallon partnered with groups to build a playground

Friday, July 2nd a new playground was dedicated at the Boys & Girls Club of St Charles County located in O'Fallon, MO. The Boys & Girls Club raised \$7,500 toward the purchase of this playground but needed another \$7,500 to complete the project. The Kiwanis Club of O'Fallon partnered with the O'Fallon Fire Protection District to raise the money. The O'Fallon Firefighters Community Outreach, O'Fallon Professional Firefighters, and the O'Fallon Kiwanis each donated \$2,500 for the playground. Children, firefighters, and Kiwanis members gathered together to celebrate the completion of this project.



Kiwanis in Action

St. James (MO) Kiwanis Club awards grants



Pictured is Cheryl Palmer club president and MacKenna Rodgers.

The St. James (MO) Kiwanis Club recently awarded education grants to two students who graduated high school in May 2021. Each student will receive \$1000 total with half being awarded in August 2021 and half in January 2022. This year's grants were presented to Preston Schmidt and MacKenna Rodgers. Preston is attending State Tech in Linn, MO and MacKenna is attending MIZZOU. Pictured is Cheryl Palmer, President and MacKenna Rodgers.

Maplewood Kiwanis Club awards Scholarships



Maplewood Kiwanian Bonnie Paulsmeyer presented three \$1,000 scholarships to deserving MRH seniors at the MRH Scholarship Night zoom meeting on May 25, 2021. The two scholarships that were in memory of Isaac Young went to Morgan Kime and Milan Henline, pictured at left. We thank Marilynn Young for her generosity which made these two scholarships possible. Max Cusick, pictured at right, received the Maplewood Kiwanis scholarship.



Hannibal Early Bird Club Awards Scholarships

Hannibal Early Bird Kiwanis Club member John Hark presented six \$1000 scholarships to seniors from Hannibal High School this past May.



Kiwanis in Action

Beatrice Johnson Kiwanis Youth Kamp has visitors



Russellville Kiwanian Joe Pearson showing a snake skin encountered during the nature hike.

A group from the Russellville, AR Boys and Girls Club visited the Beatrice Johnson Kiwanis Youth Kamp for a day camp nature experience. There were 80 kids in attendance. Activities included studying insect exhibits and some native flora. Then they went on a nature hike encountering snake skins, a turtle shell, looking for and identifying different tree types and animal tracks. They were treated to a BJKYK gourmet lunch.



A nature hike on one of the many trails at the camp.

Kiwanis Club of South County-St Louis donates to camp

Don Leupold, Past Governor of the Kiwanis Missouri-Arkansas District and Board Member of the Beatrice Johnson Kiwanis Youth Kamp, recently visited the Kiwanis Club of South County - St. Louis and gave a presentation about the Kamp to the members of the club. The camp's mission is to fulfill the need for kids to connect with nature through a variety of nature-based, hands-on activities in a natural environment to equip them with skills and abilities to thrive. The camp is located in northwestern Arkansas and is available for day camp and overnight activities for all age groups. Presenting Leupold with a check for the camp's upkeep and maintenance is Louann Elledge, President of South County Kiwanis Club.



Liberty Kiwanis Club members sort, bag, and collect



On Thursday evening, July 22, 2021, four members of the Liberty Kiwanis Club (pictured at left) volunteered at the Harvesters Community Food Network, where they sorted and bagged apples for distribution to needy families throughout the Kansas City area. Pictured at right is a sample of some of the items the club collected and donated to a local non-profit partner Love INC's Personal Care Pantry.



Kiwanis in Action

Gladstone Kiwanis Club members celebrate summer readers

The Gladstone Kiwanis Club partnered with the North Kansas City Public Library to provide an end of summer celebration for all the kids who completed the summer reading program. The library provided the registration, entertainment, and games. They also arranged an appearance by K.C.Wolfe, the mascot of the NFL Kansas City Chiefs, who joined in the festivities and posed for pictures with the kids (and dads). The Kiwanians furnished a lunch consisting of hot dogs, chips, cookies, and bottled water. Although 110 kids completed the reading program, the 94 degree heat and the re-emergence of the pandemic reduced attendance to about 100, including parents. Still, everyone had a great outing and club members look forward to doing it again next year.



Crestwood-Sunset Hills Club collect items for Ronald McDonald House



Crestwood-Sunset Hills Kiwanis club members collected food, laundry and personal care items for the families at Ronald McDonald House who are staying there while they await medical care for their ill children. Pictured at left; member Melissa Singler with daughter Addie, and Mallori Green and Dara Markus from Ronald McDonald House.



Wright City Kiwanians have a booth at festival



The Kiwanis Club of Wright City had a booth at the First Friday on First Street Festival in Wright City. They made walking tacos and offered bean bag games with prizes for adults and kids. The club made \$500 to help with their Kiwanis Sports Closet in Wright City. Pictures at right is Kiwanis member Rhonda Wallace serving tacos and left is Kiwanis member Ed Radginski wearing the hat, he was in charge of games.





Meet our MoArk Key Club District Board!



To the MoArk Kiwanis District,

We, the MoArk Key Club District Board want to thank you for your support and commitment to helping Key Club and all the MoArk K-family programs! We look forward to working with you all on future projects, and we hope to grow our districts together as a K-family.

- Signed,

Maddie Ashlock, Jaden Zelidon, Mahathi Manikandan, Zachary Lay, Hunter Trickey, Ruby Schmidt, Kaeleigh Cooper, Andrea Byrd, Collin Oritz, Dax Sutton, Sophia Delcampo, Brenda Vargas, Jasmine Lewis, Madison Bell, Emilee Evers, Madison Sisco, Jim Fritz, Jim Major, John Hoffman, Deb Hoffman, Gary Baker, and Susan Lafond



In Memoriam

August 1, 2020 - August 1, 2021

Division 1

Kent Troester
Kirksville
Gary Broughton
Hannibal
Ernest Esry
Macon

Division 2

Mason McIntire
Mound City

Division 3

Robert Swafford
Richmond

Division 4

Gary Hanson
Raytown Three Trails
Willis Grinstead
Kansas City
Joesph Vigliaturo
Blue Valley, Kansas City

Division 5

Gordon Brown
Lowell Daugherty
Emil Didovich
Columbia-Golden K
Robert Craghead
Fulton
Laura Deneke
Columbia

Division 6

Gerald Schoenherr
O'Fallon
Harold Daniels
Troy

Division 8

Ronald Schneider
Festus-Crystal City

Division 9

Harold Goedde
Crestwood-Sunset Hills
Sidney Guller
Morris Grattendick
Gravois, Saint Louis Co
Jack Wichmann
Hampton-Midtown, StL

Division 12

David Honeycutt
Monett

Division 13

Hal Williams
Republic

Division 14

Terry Crowell
Cape Girardeau
Gerald Penn
Charleston
Laura Sherman
Sikeston

Division 15

Ralph Felder
Gwen Bonds
Keith Brown
Greater Hot Springs Village
Frank Rysan
Gerald Wallace
Hot Springs Village
Gary Goldman
Malvern Area

Division 16

Dickie Kennermore
Osceola

Division 18

Richard Hart
Harrison

Division 19

Danny Elrod
Siloam Springs
Charles Davis
Bentonville
Robert Ford
Rogers

Cindy Jack
Gravette
Gordon Garlington
Bentonville

Division 20

Dianne McKissack
Clarksville

Division 21

Mike Millar
Searcy

Division 23

Frank Roth
Hope
William Cook
Richard McClendon
El Dorado

Division 24

Betty Dillahunt
Huntsville
Daniel Nichols
Fayetteville-Sequoyah
Claude Wallace
Lincoln

Division 25

C Ball
Gordon Garlington
Charlie Martin
North Little Rock
Charles Calkins
Pulaski Heights, Little Rock



Kiwanigram Submissions

Help!!! Please share your projects with me. Many Kiwanians do not do FaceBook and don't get to see the wonderful work everyone is doing. Information to be considered for the Kiwanigram should be submitted by email to moarkkiwanigram@gmail.com. Please include the name and location of your club. The photos should be jpeg format. 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.

Diane Baker
Kiwanigram Editor

