Have you signed up for Mid-Winter Conference yet? If not...don't delay...go to www.kiwanisconvention.com and register as you won’t want to miss what this weekend has to offer!

Friday night will be hosted by the PLGA. The speaker for the evening is B. C. Fleming who served as a Team Leader in a Reconnaissance Platoon with the U S Army’s 10th Mountain Division. A Purple Heart recipient, he was blown up TWICE while fighting the war on terror and sustained multiple life-threatening injuries from the attack of a suicide bomber who exploded feet away from him on July 24, 2006 in Kandahar, Afghanistan. After enduring reconstructive surgery and fourteen months of rehabilitation at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, he began his career as an author and speaker. He now travels all across North America teaching others how to turn tragedy into triumph through mentoring and writing their books in order to have a lasting impact on the world around them. He has been featured on Fox News, CSPAN, CNN, ESPN, the 700 club, the front page of the Dallas Morning News, and several others.

Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. the General Session will begin with an address by Kiwanis International President, Alan Penn. Saturday lunch is hosted by Foundation President Guy Orr and First Dude Tom and will be honoring 25 years of Texas Oklahoma women in Kiwanis.

Saturday afternoon 20 workshops are scheduled to teach everything Kiwanian and then some. Also on Saturday tours of the new Texas Oklahoma District Office will be offered.

Saturday night highlights the ELIMINATE Program. UNICEF and Kiwanis have partnered to Eliminate Maternal Neonatal Tetanus. Our guest speaker for the evening is KI President Alan Penn. President Penn will be bringing his own personal story regarding ELIMINATE. Saturday night is open to the public and seating is limited so be sure to reserve your tickets.

Bet you’re not! More than likely if you are registered for the International Convention then you are arriving by trains, planes or automobiles!

Why? Well, for most it’s a long walk...kind of like the song says... but if you did have to walk to New Orleans would you do it barefoot or would you want a good pair of shoes that didn’t rub a blister on your foot because you’ve outgrown them?

As we go about our daily lives take a minute to look down at your feet and think about the child who has no shoes or has outgrown his shoes.

The Governor’s project for 2011-12 makes it easy to help a child to a better life. You know if your feet hurt you can’t concentrate on school or anything else.

Shoes for Orphan Souls has been responsible for putting shoes on the feet of 2.2 million children around the world and in the US.

The banner patch your club can collect by bringing two pairs of new shoes or $25 to the Mid-Winter Conference is nothing compared to the joy on a child’s face as he walks to school humming a tune (and it won’t be the blues)!
Sharing The Kiwanis Story
By Governor Susan Hennum

We have had a great first three months. The District Growth Team has been working hard to get the District membership numbers on track and share the Kiwanis story with others. The Team has completed nine zone conferences of education and training. We are testing our new club concept called Partnership Project Club with the launching of the partnership between Garland and Richardson. This is a plan for growth for Texas Oklahoma developed by the Texas Oklahoma Growth Team.

We all have stories to share about our Kiwanis work. Because of T/O Kiwanis members there are students who will not go hungry over the weekend. There are students who have the opportunity to learn all about leadership. There are individuals who can get out of their homes because John Laine of the Richardson Kiwanis Club had a dream and taught others how to build a ramp. There are areas in the country who were served by the T/O Canteen because we have someone like Carlene Campbell who cared enough to train all the Kiwanis members in disaster training. Children’s Hospital has 25,000 coloring books because Kiwanis Clubs donated them. CMN has thousands of quarters because Auggie Augenstein taught Key Clubbers how to make quarter art.

Girls in Garland have goals because Elvia Flores reached out to them and gave them the hope that they could do anything they wanted. There were folks who got to have Christmas this year because the Tyler Club made it happen. I could go on and on about our members and what they have done. Plain and simple...Texas Oklahoma Kiwanis Members Change Lives!

Kiwanis Int’l Convention in New Orleans is fast approaching! Register now and SAVE!

Early Bird Deadline expires Feb 15th Register before the Feb 15th & SAVE $55 - $95 !!!!!

Go to www.KiwanisOne.org/convention/registration

This is what the front of my house look likes...how about yours?
Be Proud...Shout it Out…
Get your yard sign at Mid-Winter!
The Kiwanis Club of Texarkana is proud to announce the charter of a K-Kids at Kilpatrick Elementary School in Texarkana, Arkansas. An assembly was held for the 3rd and 4th grade students to be recognized as Student Leaders. Kiwanis Club President, Darla Cigainero, was proud to present them with their Charter.

Outstanding Service Awards 2010-2011

Congratulations to the 15 Clubs who garnered the Outstanding Service Award for 2010-2011!!

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<tr>
<th>Key #</th>
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<td>K02300</td>
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These clubs all scored the necessary 10 points in each category: Current Sponsor of a SLP; Sponsored a New SLP; Have a Kiwanis Branded Program; Had an additional Service Project and Donated to the Kiwanis International Foundation for a total of 50 pts.

Seven of these 15 clubs also made Distinguished Club (highlighted in purple)

There’s A New Kid In Town! (K-Kid that is)

The Kiwanis Club of Texarkana is proud to announce the charter of a K-Kids at Kilpatrick Elementary School in Texarkana, Arkansas. An assembly was held for the 3rd and 4th grade students to be recognized as Student Leaders. Kiwanis Club President, Darla Cigainero, was proud to present them with their Charter.
Bill Rauhauser Announces for Governor-Elect

Dr. Bill Rauhauser’s career included teaching, coaching, Assistant High School Principal, High School and Jr. High Principal, Curriculum Director, Assistant Superintendent and State Department Consultant. In 1987, after 17 years in public education, he started his own company and has conducted over 4,000 workshops in 45 state, New Zealand, Europe, and Canada training school administrators in Strategic Planning. Bill has a B.A. from University of Northern Iowa, a M.A. from Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri and a Ph.D. from Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa.

Bill’s Kiwanis experience started in 1975 when he joined the Kiwanis Club of Milford, Iowa. In 1976 he was elected club president. During his presidency, the club doubled in size and he was honored as a distinguished president. After a career move to Spirit Lake, Iowa, Bill was a member of the Spirit Lake Kiwanis Club.

Bill joined the Kiwanis Club of Robson Ranch as a charter member in 2008. He became President in 2008-09 and was elected Lt. Governor in 2009-10. During his term of Lt. Governor, Bill was instrumental in building two new Kiwanis clubs and an Aktion Club in Division 39. He also was awarded T-O District "Most Valuable Lt. Governor Award" for 2009-2010.

During his Kiwanis career, Bill has been the recipient of many other awards such as: Multiple years as a Distinguished Member, Distinguished President (2), Distinguished Lt. Governor, Robson Ranch Kiwanian of the Year, George F. Hixson fellow and the C.T. Bush award recipient (2). He is also a life-time member of Kiwanis International as well as the T-O Past Lt. Governor’s Association. He is presently serving on the board of the T-O Foundation.

Bill tells his story like this…

“Growing up on welfare as the ninth of nine children and a single parent mom, (dad died when I was two) I developed a keen sense of what it meant to live in poverty. At 15 I dropped out of school, following in the footsteps of six older siblings. My high school football coach cared enough to come to my house, and he literally took me back to school. Every young person needs a positive relationship with a significant adult that does not practice self-destructive behaviors. Coach was that person for me. Kiwanis is all about the kids. That is why I have such a passion for changing the world one child and one community at a time.”

It is because of his lifelong dedication to kids and education that Dr. Bill Rauhauser is seeking the nomination to the office of Governor-elect of the Texas-Oklahoma District of Kiwanis.

Deadline for submission of articles & pictures for the February/March edition of Ki-Notes is March 20th, 2012!

Email to: samanthabruce@embarqmail.com or
snail mail to: Samantha Bruce 638 CR 4905, Troup, TX 75789
Mid-Winter Fun - Community Service Project

Fun Chairman, Tanya Dickert and Community Service Chairman, Kelly Poland are joining forces with Governor’s Project Chairman, Jay Macauley to raise a "MILE" of shoes.

"Community Service comes in all shapes and sizes. Joining with Jay to get as many shoes for the SOS project as possible makes sense. Joining with Tanya to have some fun with it shows that while community service is serious business, it doesn’t necessarily have to be done in a serious manner" says Kelly Poland.

The trio of chairmen are asking you to bring several pairs of shoes with you to the Mid-Winter Conference. Have a contest within your club or sister clubs. Donations of cash will also be accepted. The whole point is to provide “Shoes for Orphan Souls”.

Stilwell Key Club Attends Weekend Of A Lifetime

By Kathy Francis

This was the first Weekend-of-a-Lifetime for Stilwell High School Key Club. They sent six students and two sponsors to this 3 day camp just 30 minutes south of Dallas at the Lakeview Camp in Maypearl, Texas. Leah Reynolds of ADCO Kiwanis chauffeured the students in a school van for the 7 hour trip.

Leah, being a true teacher had taken along some papers to grade in her spare time but when they arrived, they were divided into families with students from other areas and the sponsors were given the task of playing mom to the families. So much for grading papers.

It was late when they arrived and after they had checked in they went to look for a cabin to stay in. The girls found one easy enough but for the two guys it was a little harder. The first cabin they went to, they were asked to leave so they went back to Leah saying, “We want to go home. They don’t like us here.” “Oh, come on guys,” Leah encouraged them. “You’re going to have a great time.”

The next cabin they went to they were surprised to find the camp counselor took roll. At the end of the roll call, the counselor asked, “Is there anyone here whose name wasn’t called?” The boys looked at each other, sunk their heads, and raised their hands. They just knew they were going to be sent home this time, but the counselor took down their names and allowed them to stay.

The next morning at breakfast, they were just about to get a plate when someone from the kitchen came out and said they would have to go to the other canteen. They were not taking any more kids. It seems they were off to a bad start but by the end of the weekend the camp had somehow woven its magic into them, because they did not want to leave their newly found friends. Even the guys were chosen to be group leaders in their new family and even enjoyed singing the silly songs at the closing ceremonies.

Through the classes and group activities at Weekend-of-a-Lifetime these six students learned the benefits and importance of being people-centered, showing respect and having integrity, excellence and balance.
At the Piney Woods Zone Conference held in December, The Kiwanis Club of Terrell, Division 2, stepped up and became the first club to pay 100% of the membership’s share in the “Own Your Future” campaign.

We are inviting you to be a part of owning our own District facility and eventually assist your Kiwanis District with no leasing and no debt. The T-O Foundation has made it possible to purchase a beautiful two-story building to house all of our office needs and expand to much greater use. While we lease from the Foundation, our goal is to return the funds to the Foundation over a period of the next 4 years. Once accomplished, your District will formally be relieved of any budgeting for office leasing or payments. This might very well postpone or prevent a need of any dues increase in the foreseeable future, and you can take pride in helping to make it happen. It is a simple plan. With you and nearly 10,000 other members of T-O Kiwanis, a contribution of just $40 will get the job done. And we target up to four years to complete the campaign. Many believe our membership has enough pride to do this in just one year. But at whatever time period, we become “Finally Free with 40 in 4”. Therefore, we encourage your participation in pledging just $40 over the next four years. Please understand this is strictly VOLUNTARY. There is no requirement to participate.

For more information con-
Location for
Governor’s Trip Selected

The Flying L Ranch
Bandera, Texas
June 8-10, 2012

Come join us for a weekend of nothing buy FUN!!!  The price per person includes
dinner, breakfast, 3 water parks, kids camp, tennis, cook out and a tractor ride.

Golf and horse back riding available for a small charge.

$109.00 per adult per night and $60 for kids 3—12 years of age.

Under 3 is Free.  Join Governor Susan and First Dude Tom for a weekend of fun.  Give Susan Jenkins at the Flying L a call to reserve your room.

800-292-5134  For more information check it out at www.flyingl.com
Dec 17th was the official open house and ribbon cutting of the new Texas Oklahoma District office in Pantego, TX. Local dignitaries, the mayor, two city councilmen, the planning/zoning head and two policeman were in attendance along with a bevy of Kiwanians including Mel Cowart.

Eddie Moore Celebrates 50 Years as a Kiwanian

Elk City Kiwanis Club recognized Eddie Moore for his fiftieth year as an Elk City Kiwanian. Eddie was recognized at a regular meeting on January 3, 2012.

Pictured L-R; Danny Ringer Elk City Kiwanis President and Eddie Moore, 50 year member.
Ann Wilkins has all the credentials, honors, and Kiwanis experience resulting in her election as Governor-elect of our Texas-Oklahoma District at the 2011 District Convention. Many will remember Anne as Lulu the Bug Lady because of the costume she created and wore to local and District Kiwanis events. When asked what her favorite project in Kiwanis has been, she quickly responded, “The BUG program.” Her club continues the work she began for elementary school children in the Tahlequah, OK area.

Anne has served her Tahlequah club as president and as chair or co-chair for many service projects such as Kiwanis One Day, Pancake Day, Weekend of a Lifetime, Relay for life, Key Leader, Clay Felts Memorial Golf Tournament, Christmas Angel Tree, and BUG and Terrific Kids program. Club committees she has chaired are Young Children Priority One and Achievement and Administration committees and Lay Person of the Year.

She is looking forward to her club’s chartering of a CKI Club at Northeastern State University in April and wants to start a K-Kids Club with forty potential members, in the near future.

Her Kiwanis honors are Distinguished Lt. Governor, Life Member of the T-O District and of the Past Lt. Governors Association, recipient of the C.T. Bush Award and Trustee on the T-O District Foundation Board.

Voted as Outstanding Graduate of Leadership Tahlequah Class VII, her other involvement in the community includes serving as President of the Tahlequah Area Chamber of Commerce, Vice-President of the Tourism council, President of the Cherokee County Cultural Center, and as a certified volunteer for the Salvation Army National Disaster Team. She is a recipient of the prestigious Heritage Award for exceptional community service, bestowed by her Chamber of Commerce. She was 2009 Mrs. Oklahoma United States.

Ann, as an Oklahoma State Certified Mediator, is employed at Northeastern State University as Director for the Early Settlement Northeast Mediation program provided by the Oklahoma State Supreme Court handling cases from small claims to permanency mediation. In that position, she says she has done a lot of listening over the past fifteen years and is prepared to use that experience in her upcoming job as District Governor.

Her wish is “for everyone to be happy,” making her occupation a perfect fit; however she carries it to further lengths. In her travels here at home and abroad, with friends or with husband, she brings school supplies and clothing to leave behind with those in need.

We asked Ann why she joined Kiwanis. Her response was, as is most often the case, that she was asked by the President of the Tahlequah Club when she was their guest speaker. The activities and service of the organization has held her interest for the past nine years.

Her earned degrees are Bachelor of Business Administration, Master of Administrative Studies, and Master of Business Administration.

She is a member of First Baptist Church in Tahlequah, a member of Kappa Delta Gamma, and president of the Cherokee County Historical Society. She is married to Dr. Leonard Wilkins and is the mother of Lacy and Tim who live in Durant, and grandmother to Stella and Jonah.

Born in Durant, she lived in a few other areas before moving back to Oklahoma and Tahlequah twelve years ago, where she continues to lead an interesting and fulfilling life.
...coming to the conclusion that some companies and organizations are just cursed to have bad PR people working for them. I'm catching up on work email, and finding all kinds of things that might have gotten coverage if someone had taken a little more trouble than lobbing a press release and then hoping for the best. Listen: I live in a blizzard of email. Send the email. Call my work phone and tell me you've sent the email. Follow up in a week or so if it was not of a timely nature. If it *was* of a timely nature, and ALL you did was send the stupid email, well, sorry: You didn't get coverage because I didn't get the message in time. SENDING is NOT COMMUNICATING. GRRRR.

Several things to consider here: This guy really wants to help but you gotta live in his world. He has deadlines to honor, bosses to satisfy, rules to live by and a life to live that may not even understand what you do or who you are. From my experience working with media folks, I know he may not be in the majority as to his willingness to help, but at least he's trying. His words may offend us, but they include some wisdom for us to pay heed to. I happen to know this individual and have been able to get publicity for Kiwanis events by working through him. I was successful because I did just what he said to do: I contacted him before I sent the release, I made changes to my draft that he suggested and I followed up. That follow-up included a “thank you” when the procedure was completed.

Often, we get so accustomed to going through the steps of planning, funding, staffing and doing our functions that we fail to get the publicity to help us or to report our success. It takes a little time to become acquainted with media representatives who can help us with publicity, but it pays off in a number of ways. When our club presented the proceeds of our golf tournament to the CMN representative recently, we not only had the manager and staff of the local Hooters who sponsored the tournament there, we bought the lunch for the publisher of an area newspaper. We got front page, above the fold publicity and pictures. Cost us the lunch, but we didn't even have to write the story or take the shots.

If your club isn’t getting credit in the press for the good things you do, you’re missing out on a chance to get the works of Kiwanis out to the readers. That publicity might be the thing that brings your club new members or volunteers on your next project. Each club should have someone designated to contact the local print or other media and make sure they have an opportunity to publicize what the club does.

Remember to get your club bulletins ready for contest by May. Check the T-O District website for dates and contacts for both the printed and web issues.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
THE LT GOVERNOR’S TRAINING DATES HAVE BEEN CHANGED TO MAY 4 - 6, 2012 AT THE DFW AIRPORT MARRIOTT

ALERT
ALERT
ALERT
Greater Abilene

Gene Boone is Greater Abilene’s newest member

Greater Abilene Kiwanian & Club President Kevin McSherry was the Kiwanian of the week

Bullard Key Club Participates in Governor’s Project

This year’s Governor’s project is showing support to our soldiers. We signed hundreds of Christmas cards that were to be delivered to US Soldiers all over the world.

The pins on the map show all the places that Bullard High School graduates are now serving in active duty
Tech Notes by Marshall Kregel, Technology Chairman, TX Ok District, Kiwanis International

For each issue of Ki-Notes, we’ll cover a different technology that can help your club grow. This issue, we’re going to talk a moment about business cards. Yep, those little stacks of paper that fill your wallet, cover your refrigerator, and overflow your desk drawers. Aren’t business cards obsolete already? Seriously, we can email our information to folks, and even trade electronic business cards with special apps for our sparkly new smart phones. A recent article in Mashable.com (a great source of technology and business news) stated that the age of the paper business card was coming to an end. It also stated that 10 billion of the ubiquitous little cards were printed last year. I guess the end of the business card is still over the horizon so that brings us to this question: Why aren’t we handing these things out by the thousands?

If I was going to list the top 5 things a club could do to promote itself to the community, I think they would be (In no particular order)

1. Have a club PR chairman to write articles and take pictures for local newspapers and magazines
2. Have a club website
3. Participate in some aspect of social media, whether it was Facebook, Twitter, a blog, or maybe a YouTube page
4. Establish an email newsletter that is sent to folks all over the community
5. Print a stack of business or club information cards, give them to all the members and set aside a club promotion day where all the members hit the town and give away business cards.

Twenty years ago, whenever I wanted business cards for my company, the nice printer lady would come over to my office, take my order, and drive her Mercedes back home. I dreaded placing orders for business cards for my employees because it was so expensive. Well, it’s not expensive anymore and the benefits greatly outweigh the costs! Today, these little cards cost only pennies apiece and are great ways to advertise your club. These should be handed out at every event. I know club brochures are important and do a good job of sharing club information, but the business card carries enough information to get someone to visit your website, give you a call, maybe send you an email, or visit the club address listed on the card.

The business card is just as important as it ever was. It is not obsolete and is an easy way to spread the word about your club projects. Be sure to list your club website because your website can tell your club story and show the world what cool people Kiwanians really are. If you need some help designing a personal or club business card, contact someone on the T-O Geek Squad or contact me directly at mkregel@hotmail.com. If you don’t have a club website, let’s work on that. There are lots of free or inexpensive opportunities for club websites and our district built over 25 new club websites just in the last 3 months of 2011

Below is an example of a business or club card that you can order through the KI website.

Business Cards (page 38 in the Kiwanis Store Catalog)
Featuring the new image of Kiwanis International and customized with your district, club or personal information, these cards are professional printed (front side only) on business card stock. Shipped directly to your from the printer within 2 to 3 weeks of order receipt. Please MAIL, FAX or ORDER ONLINE, providing card layout with information exactly as you want it to appear:

11907 Set of 250 - 12 oz ………………..$15.00
11908 Set of 500 - 1.5 lbs ………………..$29.00

Here is the actual link to the page on the KI website:
http://store.kiwanis.org/c-33-marketing-materials.aspx
You can easily design and print your own cards as you need them. This is an example of a personal card that I created using a free Avery template that I found online. It was easy to add the Kiwanis and Texas-Oklahoma logos. I chose colors that were easy to see and worked in a simple Arial font. I prefer to print my own cards because this allows me to change email addresses, or insert an office phone instead of home phone, etc.

Online templates for business cards and marketing material are free from several suppliers. I have used the Avery templates and have had great success with these. Check out this link: [http://www.avery.com/avery/en_us](http://www.avery.com/avery/en_us). You can purchase the business card stock in several different colors and designs for either Laser Jet or Inkjet printers. Most computer stores carry Avery products as well as most office supply stores. Target stores carry Avery as well as their home brand. When picking out card stock, be sure to match the stock to your printer, either Laser or Ink Jet. Getting the wrong stock can make for messy printing. Putting Laser stock in an Ink Jet printer means the ink does not get absorbed into the paper very well and can smudge easily even after it is dry.

This is an example of a Club Card for a new club that started up in Garland. We needed a way to let local business owners know about the new club so we printed 250 of these cards to hand out around town. Our total expenses just for these cards were $5.00 for paper stock and between $5 and $10 dollars for ink. Once the front side has been printed, we can flip the cards over and print maps or club projects on the backs of these cards.

Printing sheets of business cards for our new PPC Kiwanis Club in Garland. The sheets of cards are printed at 10 cards per sheet. Then, they are snapped out of their paper frames and put into stacks of 5. Each stack of 5 cards then gets a paper clip. Each club member attending the meeting was given a stack of 5 cards to hand out to friends and acquaintances before the next meeting. The cards have the meeting address, meeting day and time, and website address. The website tells the story behind the club so be sure to put that on the card if you have a website. Putting down a contact name and phone number is also a good idea and there is plenty of room on the card for this.
In a bizarre turn of events the identity of Santa Claus, the legendary gift bearing advocate of children everywhere, has become known to this reporter. The jolly old elf refused to confirm or deny this story in a face to face interview but as you will see, the evidence speaks for itself. As myself and your erstwhile editor began assembling this issue of Ki-Notes we were overwhelmed with news articles and pictures that made references to shadowy figures known only as “Santa Jerry or Santa Ron”. These and others refused to comment. We are not sure why...perhaps they fear reprisals. Did they not give out the right toy? Are they afraid of being asked to be the next mall Santa? We can only speculate. But we do come to one logical conclusion….SANTA CLAUS is a KIWANIAN.

Santa Is A Kiwanian!!

By Ima Payne
Ki-Notes Investigative Reporter

The Kiwanis Club of Texarkana donated funds to be used to purchase a therapeutic tricycle for a very special little girl. This tricycle is modified for children with disabilities. It was a gift made possible through the Kiwanis Club’s “Santa Is Real” program. The six year old, Carshayla, has a diagnosis of Arthrogryposis, a disorder of the joints. She wanted to ride a bike but needed a special bike that can be pedaled with her hands. This Christmas her dream was fulfilled with an Amtryke. Kiwanis has been involved in this project for many years and the equipment is passed on to other children or to schools for use in other settings.

Mike Unger, Chairman of the “Santa is Real” project presenting check to Temple Memorial Rehabilitation Center

"Santa Is Real", says Kiwanis Club of Texarkana

Santa Visits A Place Of Grace

The Kiwanis Club of Cleburne once again had the pleasure of attending “Christmas with Santa” at A Place of Grace in Weatherford, Texas. The children received gifts from Santa Jerry. The gifts were sponsored by the Kiwanis Clubs in Division 1 of the Texas-Oklahoma District. The party was hosted by The Kiwanis Club of Weatherford, Texas.

Santa brought baseball gloves, bats, hats and balls. He brought shoes, socks, shirts, mascots and games for the boys and clothes, jewelry, pajamas, socks, shirts and pants for THE girl.

We wish to thank Steve and Lanette Gray who have their hearts and their hands full with this band of well groomed, well mannered children that make up A PLACE OF GRACE.

She wanted to ride a bike but needed a special bike that can be pedaled with her hands. This Christmas her dream was fulfilled with an Amtryke. Kiwanis has been involved in this project for many years and the equipment is passed on to other children or to schools for use in other settings.

Mike Unger, Chairman of the “Santa is Real” project presenting check to Temple Memorial Rehabilitation Center

“Santa Is Real”, says Kiwanis Club of Texarkana
What began in 1968 as a single Kiwanis Club Christmas Project with a goal to provide a Christmas dinner for 100 families, has grown to provide a box of food that will make at least 3 meals to 935 families at Christmas time. The club worked hard at collecting and distributing food on their own until the early 80’s when the Brookshires’ Food Store Co. asked to be a co-sponsor. With their help the program grew as Brookshire’s spread the idea to other cities in Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas where Brookshire’s Food Stores were located. Many Kiwanis Clubs as well as other service organizations have adopted “The Spirit of Christmas Food Drive” in their hometowns. “I’m proud that our club started something that has helped so many people across the years. When you deliver food to someone you may change their life…but you definitely change your life.” says David Lockridge, Secretary for the Tyler-Rose City Kiwanis and Chairman of the Spirit of Christmas Food Drive.

With volunteers from Brookshires, church youth groups and the Whitehouse Key Club, it all comes together each year.

(Pictured: Top left: Food is collected from stores and brought to the Club’s barn for processing. Bottom left: Volunteers sort food into bins and then begin packing the boxes on an assembly line. Bottom middle: Santa Pat lines up the filled boxes on pallets ready for delivery. Bottom right: A young Brookshire’s volunteer is happy to help.

Distributing food at the Tri-County Community Action office are, from left: Ed Williams, Beth Eubanks, Butch Ragland and Patricia Westmoreland. The Kiwanis Club of Gilmer and Brookshire’s Food Store combined to furnish 16 turkeys and gift certificates for almost 200 hens to go with all the ingredients of a Christmas dinner for deserving families.
The Kiwanis Club of Sun City Georgetown, TX, decided to do away with the usual gift exchange at its annual holiday party and to adopt a needy family instead.

Under the direction of the club’s Social Committee - Kim Moran, Myra Hill, Paula Kish, Susan Mathis and Jo Muir - and through the Heroes Night Out organizers, Wes and Judy Pierce, a Marine hero on 70% disability, and his family were chosen to adopt. The former Marine, Dav Carridine, served on active duty in Operation Iraqi Freedom and in Kuwait. He is married to Nicolle, and they have two sons, Bowin, 10 and Gunner, 9.

At the beginning of the Adopt-a-Family project the Chair, Kim Moran, nominated the two boys for new Trek bikes being given away from the Mix 94.7 Radio’s JB & Sandy Show. Never expecting to be chosen for the bike giveaway, Kim Moran was elated when she received the call from the radio station that both Bowin and Gunner would be receiving free bikes, helmets and locks for Christmas!

The club collected almost $1,400 to provide toys, clothes and gift cards for food & gifts for the family. What a joy it was when club President Paul Golay & Kim Moran delivered all the gifts & Bicycles to the Corridine family on Christmas Eve morning. The boys were so excited about the bikes; they kept thanking them & giving Kim hugs, quite a feat for 9 & 10 yr old boys! Dav & Nicolle also repeatedly thanked the Kiwanians for making this
**Bullard Key Club Wins Most Creative at Parade!**

Bullard Key Club had a busy month in December. They went to the Bullard Primary School and set up different stations for the children to rotate thru: Sitting on Santa’s lap, making reindeer’s food, snacks, coloring and story time.

They rang bells for the Salvation Army and received the Most Creative Award in the Bullard, TX Christmas Parade AND had a wonderful time while giving of their time.

**Santa Endorses Bingo For Seniors**

The Kiwanis Club of Cleburne and Crosier Pearson Cleburne Funeral Home sponsored their annual Christmas Bingo for Seniors at the Cleburne Conference Center. About 130 people were served a sit down lasagna dinner and some very good cupcakes. Bingo was played to win prizes and each person was given a box of chocolate covered cherries donated by the Grandview Bank of Cleburne. The guests were served by the Cleburne High School Key club and two exchange students from Italy and Taiwan.
Changing the world one child and one community at a time

Upcoming Events

2012

Feb 10 - 11  Mid-Winter Conference - DFW Airport Marriot, Irving, TX
Feb 10 - 11  CKI Mid-Winter Board Meeting - DFW Airport Marriot, Irving, TX
Feb 24 - 26  CKI District Convention, San Marcos, TX
Apr 12 - 15  Key Club District Convention, Sheraton Hotel, Dallas, TX
May 3 - 6    GATC
May 4 - 6    Lt. Governor Training, DFW Airport Marriot, Irving, TX
Jun 1 - 3    Key Leader Event - Sky Ranch, Cave Springs Camp near Quapaw, OK
Jun 8 - 10   Governor’s Trip - Flying L Ranch, Bandera, TX
Jun 27 - Jul 1 KI Convention - New Orleans, Louisiana
Jul 5 - 8    Key Club Int’l Convention - Hilton Lake Buena Visa, Orlando, FL
Jul 13 - 15  Key Club Summer Board Meeting - DFW Airport Marriott, Irving, TX

Deadline for next Ki-Notes issue is March 20th, 2012