VOLUME 89 ISSUE 1

OCT - NOV 2011

Ki-Notes

"KEY-NOTES"
KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL
TEXAS-OKLAHOMA DISTRICT

TEXAS OKLAHOMA DISTRICT

K-Family Provided a Weekend of Fun for All!

Kiwanis members, Circle K Board and Key Club Board gathered together October 28-30 for a great weekend of fellowship in Irving, Texas for the annual K-Family Weekend.

Friday night was hosted by Governor Megan Iselin and the Key Club board. Featured speaker for the evening was Sims Scott. Sims is a 9 year old brain tumor patient at Children's Hospital. Sims and his mother told their tender story of Sims's diagnosis and treatment at Plano Legacy Children's Hospital.

After the program the K-family participants were entertained by the sweet voice of country crooner C.B. Luce of the Garland Opry. A great night was had by all.

Saturday kicked off a day of great workshops. The luncheon program was provided by the K-Kids and Builders Club Administrators. The focus of the luncheon was Kiwanis International's World-wide Service Project - ELIMINATE maternal/neo-natal tetanus.

The evening was hosted by Governor Donnesh Amrollah and the Circle K Board with the program focusing on Texas-Oklahoma District Kiwanis Governor Susan Hennum's project - Shoes for Orphan Souls. The guest speaker, Dr. Reyes told the history of Buckner's Children's Home and how Buckner came to fund the shoe program. Donations of new shoes and socks will be collected all year throughout the Texas-Oklahoma District.

Sims Scott

Saturday night was Circle K movie night and everyone enjoyed watching "Young Frankenstein".

Texas-Oklahoma Mid Winter Event Rolls Out Red Carpet for International President Alan Penn

Make your plans now… go to www.kiwanisconvention.com and be sure to register for the Mid-Winter Conference scheduled for February 10 - 12, 2012 at the DFW Airport Marriott, Irving, TX. This weekend is sure to be one for the record books as the TO Board is pleased to announce that Kiwanis International President Alan Penn will be our guest speaker for the Saturday evening ELIMINATE fund-raiser. In addition, for the first time ever, the Saturday night program will be open to the public.

Friday evening will be hosted by the Past Lt. Governor's Association. The program for the evening will be B. C. Fleming. This veteran and author has an amazing story to tell. Check out his biography on the convention website.

Alan Penn

Our Kiwanis Foundation will be honoring 25 years of Women in Kiwanis. Our luncheon will be hosted by Foundation President Guy Orr and First Dude Tom. Celebrate with us the many contributions of our Texas Oklahoma Women.

Saturday night is our big evening with KI President Alan Penn. This evening will be all about our World-wide Service Project ELIMINATE. We are opening this event to the public. This is an excellent opportunity to invite folks to hear about this great world service project. For more on ELIMINATE go to www.theEliminateproject.org

TEXAS-OKLAHOMA
DISTRICT
KIWANIS
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KI-NOTES

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Sharing My Story

By Governor, Susan Hennum

Welcome to the first issue of our on-line K-Notes. This is **your** marketing tool. Send this newsletter out to all contacts in your address book. Share all the great things your Kiwanis club does in Texas Oklahoma with your friends and neighbors. Use the information in here to recruit new members by sharing our story.

I truly feel that Kiwanis has something to offer that no other service organization does - the ability to work with at-risk students hands on. Today's student faces challenges that are so different from those that we faced as students. Some families do not know if there will be food on the table, a warm place to sleep or if they will even have a home to go back to. As our District sees an increase in unemployment, family violence and teen pregnancy we have to ask ourselves… Is my Kiwanis Club addressing these issue? Does my Kiwanis Club have a K-Kids Club and Builder's Club? Does my Kiwanis club reach out to at-risk families by providing help to family shelters and food pantries?

We all have our story about our Kiwanis Journey and what projects are near and dear to our hearts. I wanted to take this opportunity to share my personal story about my love for Kiwanis with you. I first joined Kiwanis 24 years ago to work with students and have not slowed down! My Governor's Project for this year, Shoes for Orphan Souls is one that I have been involved with ever since I was International Chairman for K-Kids. This program is designed to provide new shoes and socks for orphanages around the globe. Please check out their website at www.shoesfororphansouls.com

As someone who was adopted I count my blessings every day that I had two parents who wanted me and loved me. My life could have turned out very different had I grown up in an orphanage. This program gives these children their first pair of new shoes. I love this program as it is easy to administer no matter what age Kiwanis family member you are working with. Everyone gets it…kids need shoes.

I encourage you to find your passion in Kiwanis this year. Share with others what it is that brought you into our Kiwanis family. We can no longer afford to be the best kept secret. Families in Texas and Oklahoma are depending on us to make a difference!

Ramping Up

The Kiwanis Club of Abilene's Ramp Builders Committee builds ramps as a part of the Texas Ramp Project. The expressions on their faces shows the satisfaction that they get from helping others. It is their way of "changing the world one child and one community at a time".

Pictured are (standing) Bill Hoogstra, Jerry Carter, Curtis Blackburn; (kneeling) Brice West and Kelly Jones

Greenville Golden K members are averaging about three ramps per month. Pictured on the left are Rich Ryan, Willey Fults, Mrs. Mozelle Gillespie (age 88 and ramp owner), Cliff Riggins, Tom McAllister and (not pictured) photographer, Mike Peterson.

This ramp for Ms. Fay Judge was completed by Willey Fults, Steve Frazier and Mike Peterson

Texas Oklahoma District Puts Together Top Notch Growth Team

By Susan Hennum, Governor

In an aggressive movement to increase awareness of the great things we do in Kiwanis and to help get the word out Governor Hennum has put together a dynamite Growth Team. This team will be traveling with her to all zone conferences to provide hands on training for each of the Divisions and their members. This new team is as follows.

Growth Chairman	Governor, Susan Hennum
New Club Building District Chair	Jim Walther
KI Area Director	Stephanie Ursini
Education/Training District Chair	Past Governor, Sam Curry
Social Media	Marshall Kregel
Long Range Planning Chairman	Bob Jantz
Membership Cheerleader Deluxe	Jerry Wright
Member	Governor-elect Ann Wilkins

In addition to these folks we have established positions of zone chairs for New Club Building and Membership. This team is continually working on innovative ways to get the word out about Kiwanis.

A "Tour of Distinction" began on Oct. 1, 2011 with the Growth Team in Altus, Oklahoma. Since that time training to members has also been provided in seven other zones. Members from all over Texas Oklahoma are being urged to recruit new members and help to build new clubs. It is imperative for the survival of Kiwanis sponsored youth programs that new clubs are built and new members sought out.

Kiwanis is the best kept secret and it is high time we started sharing our accomplishments with others and inviting them to join. School Districts from all over T/O are asking for our student programs such as K-Kids and Builders club. We can not reach out to these students without new members. In an effort to get the word out our very own Laura Lammons has come up with this new yard sign. They can be bought at any of the zone conferences or ordered from the district office.

Help us get the word out about Kiwanis! Help build a new club…

Our schools NEED you!

Builder's Club of Wheat Middle School

The Club members, who meet every 2nd Wednesday, perform service projects in the school as well as in the community.

The club members are Jason Martin / President, Hannah Tredway / Secretary, Hannah Kite / Historian, Kourtney Tredway, Rachel Cofer, David Cofer, Dalton Parkingson, Zachery Blackburn, Kailey Robinson and Lilly Diaz.

The Builder's Club sponsor is Mrs. Leslie Spillman and is a SLP of The Kiwanis Club of Cleburne, TX

Texas-Oklahoma District Kiwanis International 2011-2012 Officers and Staff

Governor
Susan Hennum
5206 Lee Hutson Ln
Sachse, TX 75048
214.460.9537

Immediate Past Governor
Sam Curry
P O Box 3
Mineola, TX 75773-0003

Governor-Elect
Ann Wilkins
209 Woodlawn Ave
Tahlequah, OK 74464-3317

District Secretary
David Ross
3010 W Park Row Dr.
Suite 100
Pantego, TX 76013

District Treasurer
Erby Eikner
14873 CR 1148
Tyler, TX 75704

Ki-Notes Editor
Samantha Bruce
638 CR 4905
Troup, TX 75789
903.842.4701
samanthabruce@embarqmail.com

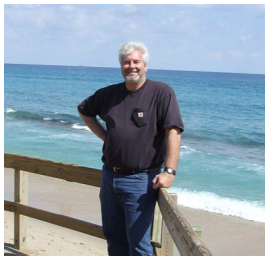
T/O District Counselor & International Trustee
Jerome E. "Jerry" Peuler, Jr.
1-800-KIWANIS

Texas-Oklahoma Kiwanis District Office
3010 W Park Row Dr.
Suite 100
Pantego, TX 76013
Phone: 817-640-7711
Fax: 866.574.0698
Email:
txokdist@swbell.net

Technology Report for Tx - Okla District - November 2011

By Marshall Kregel, District Webmaster

Marshall Kregel



The purpose of the technology committee is to provide assistance to the clubs in using technology and social media to help market club programs and to get the word out to the community about these programs. Furthermore, it is our responsibility to make sure that all official district meetings and conventions have audio/video equipment in the required rooms used for training and programs.

The technology committee has expanded to 6 members: Tom Brehm, Michael Ehrman, Teri Jones, Chase Beavers, Misty Middleton, and Marshall Kregel. You can easily access this list from the District Website under: "Contact Us", then look for the Technology Section. This team has dedicated their time over the next 2 years to help build the district by directly assisting the clubs to develop media programs that reach into the community to promote our programs.

We have created a new District Facebook Page that now has over 630 "friends". We are encouraging Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube accounts for clubs and members and have many members creating these new accounts and getting together online. Facebook is a great way to reach our SLP programs and also friends and family. The more you "reach out" to the community, the more interest will be shown in your Kiwanis Club projects.

Our District Website is being developed as a marketing tool to help market Kiwanis projects and programs to folks who have not heard about Kiwanis before. We have a new K-Kids website developed around a WordPress template form that looks great. We are building a new Builders Club website along the same design as the K-Kids website and are looking for it to be online very soon.

We are assisting clubs in Texas and Oklahoma build new websites. To date, we have over 20 new websites in various levels of construction. New website building classes are offered the day before each of the zone conferences around the district. Many members of our technology committee have website experience and are offering their services to any club that wants to create a club website. These websites will definitely help clubs attract new members and even donations from local businesses!

New rules have been written for the website contest with entries due by May 15th, 2012. Websites can be built on any platform, and have certain rules regarding use of Kiwanis links and graphics. The best part is, your technology team will help your club build a new website or show you how to update the one you have if you no longer have a webmaster.

We have a new convention website (www.KiwanisConvention.com) that will allow members to register for all upcoming events and use their credit card if desired. We have contracted with a Rockwall club member, Glen Farris, who has extensive experience in convention websites (he did the Rockwall convention website) and he will cover all the overhead of the website by charging a tiny fee for each registrant who uses the website.

The Texas Oklahoma District has applied for a PayPal account as a 501(c)4 organization so that we can allow payments and donations through the district website. This will be in place before Mid-Winter Conference. Clubs an also apply for a PayPal account. Contact your technology team if you have questions about how to do this.

We have a new Ki-notes Newsletter editor (Samantha Bruce with the Tyler-Rose City Kiwanis Club) who has experience with Microsoft Publisher and has taken on the task of creating the new online edition of Ki-Notes. The first edition will be attached to the website at the end of November. A special "Thanks" goes out to Samantha for doing this for the District. We appreciate her very much!

As many of you have noticed, we have our own district internet service utilizing a router and AT&T air card for internet access which allows up to 30 users at one time at the zone conferences and conventions. Total cost for these items are $810 for the 1st year and $660 for each year after. Estimated savings using this equipment rather than buying internet access through local hotels and convention centers is estimated at over $3,000/year based on historical purchases of internet service for our meetings.

The budget for the technology efforts in the District comes from the money saved on printing Ki-Notes and moving it to a digital format. So far, the only funds spent from this budget have been some travel fees (mileage and hotels) for website building activities, as well as some funds to the Lt. Governors to develop or purchase software tools like Skype and webinar software to facilitate meeting with club officers and district staff.

PAGE 5

The Kiwanis Club of Kerrville presented their Annual 4H Youth Leadership award on Nov 1st to deserving recipient, Ethan Muchlstein. Pictured are L-R: Parents of Ethan, Ethan Muchlstein, Kerrville Club's Past President Joe Piszcor and Ed Cook.

Do You Know a Great Kiwanian Woman?

Since 1987, when women were allowed official membership in Kiwanis International, they have been constant contributors to the objects and goals of our organization. Indeed, long before that time, they stood beside their Kiwanis husbands, helping with projects and supporting them in many ways. We are aware of organizations like Kiwani-Annes, Queens, Honeys, etc. with their own organizational structures.

WOMEN IN KIWANIS
CELEBRATING TWENTY FIVE YEARS
Over the Top Texas Oklahoma District

These are the women we would like to honor this **25th Year of Women in Kiwanis**, but we need your help. We need details on the great ones we know, and we are sure there are special women in your club who deserve to be recognized.

We ask that you send information, suggestions, and details to either of the co-chairs, Nila Wilhelm at nilawilhelm@aol.com, or Pat Buck at pattyjo21523@sbcglobal.net. Be sure to include contact data, so that we may call the honoree for any additional information. We will do our best to include as many as possible so please send us your information as quickly as possible!

Please see our first article in another area of this newsletter.

Don't forget!

WEEKEND OF A LIFETIME

January 13 - 15, 2012 or January 27 - 29, 2012

REGISTER NOW for best price

For more information go to www.lifeleading.com/weekend/txok
Or contact Todd or Tonya Harden at
Daytime: 817.98032095
Evening: 817.447.8369
Email: empowertexas@swbell.net

Howdy from the Mighty Texas-Oklahoma District of CKI!

By Donnesh Amrollah
Texas-Oklahoma District Governor, Circle K International

My name is Donnesh Amrollah, and it is my humble privilege to serve as the District Governor for so many service-minded, dedicated, and passionate collegians that inhabit Texas and Oklahoma. I consider myself very blessed to have the opportunity to see so many college students bonded together through our tenants of service, leadership, and fellowship. More so, I appreciate that I have had the opportunity to be exposed to so many amazing members of the Kiwanis Family, especially our Kiwanis, from whose support for CKI has gotten me to this point. I can honestly say that is the sentiment from many of my fellow CKI peers, so on behalf of the Texas-Oklahoma District of CKI, I would like to take the time and say "thank you" for your support, and encourage you to continue your support through sponsoring new CKI clubs, or by providing us more opportunities to interact with you. Either way, you have the ability to change lives through your support, the same way you have done mine.

Past Kiwanis International Trustee, Jim Jennings put it best at the 55th Annual Circle K International Convention in St. Louis when he said that we as college students "are the most service-oriented leaders in the world". Our passion for service comes from our youthful energy, our autonomy and initiative, and our ability to think innovatively when approaching new and traditional service projects. From my experience I have come to believe that as a CKI member we not only think about how can we help our community, but we also ask "how can we change the world"? We, as college students, are looking to leave our legacy, and we look for the cooperation of our Kiwanis Family to do so.

"Our passion for service comes from our youthful energy, our autonomy and initiative"
Donnesh Amrollah

As a district, CKI has an initiative we call, "One Family, One Legacy". Simply put, we look to build and strengthen relations with all branches of the Kiwanis Family, and by doing so, hope to impact a larger community. We look to make a difference in the world by doing so, rather than make only an impression on it if we work alone. One way we will change the world together is through the Eliminate Project. As a Kiwanis Family, I know that Texas-Oklahoma will make a huge impact in making sure mothers and their future babies will be safe from such a preventable disease that is maternal and neonatal tetanus. Together, we will educate our community. Together, we will help raise money needed to support this project. "T-Ogether" we will eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus.

CKI looks forward to working with our Kiwanis Family this year, and we especially cannot wait to get more involved with our fellow Kiwanis members. You have so much experience and wisdom, from which we can learn and grow into young professionals dedicated to service. Again, I encourage every single Kiwanian to get involved with Circle K, because we have a lot to offer. We share your goal to serve the children of the world, we bring a new energy to the service we do, but more importantly, we are your future Kiwanis members, who will live on to continue the mission of the Kiwanis organization.

May your year of service be one filled with great success and lasting memories.

Yours in Service and a Smile,

Donnesh Amrollah
Governor
Texas-Oklahoma District of Circle K International
governor@txokcki.org

CKI
Circle K International

Lifetime Membership Awarded to Mickey Deison

A Kiwanian for over 55 years and now a Life Member, Mickey Deison has been a driving force in the growth of Conroe and Montgomery County, Texas. Past President, at least 4 times, of the Conroe Noon Club Mickey has served over and over again to betterment of the Conroe area through his leadership in the Conroe Noon Club. Instrumental in the formation of the children's home which the Conroe Club ran for many years until state regulations made it impossible for a non-governmental organization to provide services and was turned over to Montgomery County. The Conroe Noon Club still actively supports this agency.

Serving as County Judge for several years Mickey laid the ground work for expansion that has lead to Montgomery County becoming one of the fastest growing areas in the USA. Mickey also served as Mayor of Conroe where he lead efforts to bring expanded services which brought Conroe out of being a lumber and oil based community into a multi-focused community eager to bring in industrial and technical industries.

At 85 years of age (plus or minus - depending on who you talk to) Mickey is still one that is hard to keep up with. A practicing attorney he is on the job every day and still has the handshake of a 20 year old.

Way to go Mickey!

Aktion Club of Texarkana Awards Perfect Attendance

Billy Neeley

On Oct 17th, new officers were installed and awards given for perfect attendance. The Aktion-Club of Texarkana was chartered October 15th, 2008 and just recently inducted their 13th member, Billy Neeley.

The club has been very active volunteering to sort collected food for Harvest, Texarkana, participating in the "Stuff the Bus" program filling backpacks with school supplies for back to school kids and teaming up with the United Way on the National Day of Caring. This involved visiting each worksite and handing out drinks and snacks. They ended their visit with a song from their Kazoo Band.

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time

See By Three

Lora Lynn Christensen of the Kiwanis Club of Abilene serves on the club's See By Three Committee. The committee visits Day Care and Child Development Centers to conduct screening of young children for Amblyopia, commonly known as "Lazy Eye". Children who show sign of "Lazy Eye" are referred for further testing and treatment.

1987

WOMEN IN KIWANIS

CELEBRATING TWENTY FIVE YEARS

Over the Top Texas Oklahoma District

2012

By Nila Wilhem
District Co-Chair

Throughout this 25th year of Women in Kiwanis, we will recognize and feature some of the outstanding women leaders who have contributed so much to our district and to our international organization. It is fitting that we begin our series with our current governor, Susan Hennum.

With 23 years of background leading to her job as our governor and leader, Susan has served in several offices and on many committees in her home club of Garland, Texas. In our Texas-Oklahoma District, she has served as Administrator to K-Kids and to Builders Clubs. As SLP Risk Management Chair, she initiated the current district policy for member background checks. During this period, she also served as International Chairman of the K-Kids Committee for three years.

Susan is a Walter Zellar and a George F. Hixon recipient as well as the C. T. Bush Award. She also is a member of the Texas-Oklahoma District Foundation Legacy Society and holds life membership in the Texas Oklahoma District and the Past Lt. Governor's Association.

She is well remembered for her shoe drive the year our International Convention was held in Indianapolis when, as K-Kids International Chairman, she motivated attendees to bring over 20,000 pairs of shoes, as well as socks and shoelaces - all transported in a big Mayflower van back to the Shoes for Orphan Souls headquarters in Dallas, Texas.

We can well understand why her project this year (in her words…her "passion") is shoes. She has a heart for children, especially orphans, perhaps in part because, having been born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, she herself was adopted by Jean and Charles Mahrt. At age 5, the family moved to Peru, Indiana, where she lived until leaving for Milwaukee to attend college.

In 1979 Susan moved to Texas, where she now lives in Sachse with First Dude Tom Brehm. The couple enjoy a blended family: Susan's daughter Allycia and three-year old grandson Kaleb and Tom's twin sons Peter and John.

In discussion with Susan, she expressed an urgent need to help struggling Kiwanis clubs and, therefore, has organized a top-notch Growth Team. She realizes that steady growth means more service. Her desire to help others, especially youth, probably stems from the person she calls her greatest mentor, her father, who told her, "Never forget how lucky you are to have the things you need, as there are others who have nothing."

In her endeavor to give young people opportunities, especially those in need, Susan has set up a special fund in the Texas-Oklahoma District Foundation to provide assistance to low-income Kiwanis Service Leadership members who wish to attend leadership conferences. Anyone who would like to contribute to this fund may do so by sending checks to the District Office, payable to the T-O Foundation, with SHEy in the memo line.

Howdy T-O!

Greetings from the Texas-Oklahoma District of Key Club International! Please allow me to take a moment and thank each Kiwanis Club which sponsors a Key Club as well as each Kiwanian who acts as the liaison between the Key Club and sponsoring Kiwanis Club. My generation often times forgets to take a moment and say "Thank you" for all the things we take for granted. I honestly can't thank you enough for your continued dedication and support throughout the years. Nothing Key Club does would be nearly as amazing and life-changing if we didn't have our sponsors.

If you do not yet sponsor a Key Club, then you're definitely missing out! The youthful energy in Key Club can often times revitalize a Kiwanis Club and ignite the flames of passionate service beneath its members. A great way to recruit more Kiwanis members is through encouraging high schoolers to volunteer with the rest of the K-Family and getting their parents involved too! I know that it works from personal experience; my Dad joined Kiwanis when I became a Key Club Lt. Governor, and this year my sister is aiding the charter of a Builder's Club at her middle school.

A great way to interclub is to do a joint fundraising project for the Eliminate Project! Some high schools are only allowed to have one pre-approved fundraiser during the school year which they solely rely on for club funds. Doing an outside fundraiser would enable Key Club to join along and not have to worry about dealing with the school district guidelines. Money has and will always be an issue. Note that there has also been an increase in the membership dues for Key Club members; the total amount each member owes to the Texas-Oklahoma District and Key Club International is now $12.50.

As a sponsoring Kiwanis Club, don't forget that it's your duty to make sure that your Key club pays it's dues, has a good group of officers, is holding regular meetings, sends in monthly reports to District Secretary Ryan Nava, continues fundraising and service projects, writes articles for the Tex-O-Key and Key Club Magazine and interacts with it's Key Club Lt. Governor. K-Family relations are being especially stressed this year by Susan Hennum, Donnesh Amrollah and me. Why not team up with your Key Club and co-sponsor a K-Kids or Builder's Club program? Carefully consider it. Dare to do something new this year.

May God bless you and be with you throughout this 2011-2012 year of service.

Yours in Service,

Megan Iselin
District Governor
Texas-Oklahoma District
Key Club International

miselin@rocketmail.com

Whitehouse Key Club Renovates Homes

By Megan Sayers, President

In a search for a way to start the new school year off with a bang, the Whitehouse, TX High School Key club was looking for a way to show the community how serious the club is about providing service, building character and creating leaders. On Saturday, October 8th the club was presented with an opportunity to do just that.

PATH (People Attempting To Help) is a volunteer service agency that functions with just 17 paid employees. On of whom works as the maintenance director. His responsibilities include the upkeep of the roughly 50 low income community homes PATH owns. This is where the club was asked to help. Eleven representatives of the WHS Key club came together at 8:30 Saturday morning, excited to give their day for the betterment of the community.

Together the club was able to paint and prepare two low income house for habitation. One home, already occupied by a family, needed new siding and paint. The other will soon be home to six women veterans who are currently homeless. The club started the day painting and replacing the siding on a house in need of outward repair then moved to a five bedroom, two bath house, previously used as an office and helped to finish the conversion of the office to a home. The Key Clubbers worked replacing electrical plugs and cabinet handles and repainting the living room until lunch, a time the club used as to fellowship and celebrate a Saturday well spent. The club is looking forward to our next service project.

Brownwood HS Key Club Helps with Fundraiser

Brownwood HS Key Club volunteered their time and service at the Cookie & Lisa Jaso Fundraising Benefit in August. Cookie was diagnosed with multiple myeloma this past spring. The fundraiser benefit was to raise money to help defer their expenses for the trip to Arizona for a stem cell transplant. The fundraiser, which was a brisket meal brought in over $4,200. Brownwood Key Club helped to serve drinks, brisket plates, carry meals to cars. The Key Clubbers worked very hard to help make this a successful fundraiser. What a great experience these Key Clubbers had!!

KIWANIS
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3010 W Park Row Dr
Suite 100
Pantego, TX 76013

Phone: 817.640.7711
Fax: 866.574.0698
Email: txokdist@swbell.net

CHANGING THE WORLD ONE CHILD AND ONE COMMUNITY AT A TIME

We are on the Web!

www.txokkiwanis.org

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

Upcoming Events

2011

Dec 3, 2011 **Bayou Bunch** **Zone 9 Divisions 3 - 9 - 10 - 28** at the Coldwell Hall Building, 555 Community College Drive, Houston, TX 77013. Registration is $15.00 payable at the door. Lunch is included. Registration starts at 9 a.m. The conference is over by 3 pm. We will have a Friday afternoon session on technology and website building. Location of this session will be determined.

Dec 10, 2011 **Piney Woods** **Zone 5 Divisions 13 - 14 - 26 - 34** The Zone conference for Piney Woods will be from 9 am at Mineola Civic Center, 1150 North Newsom, Mineola, TX 75773. Contact is Loy Frazier at swms72@flash.net

2012

Jan 6-8, 2012	Key Club Winter Board Mtg-DFW Airprt Marriot, Irving, TX
Jan 13-15, 2012	Weekend of a Lifetime-Lakeview Camp, Maypearl, TX
Jan 27 -29, 2012	Weekend of a Lifetime-Lakeview Camp, Maypearl, TX
Jan 20-22, 2012	SLP Conference - Indianapolis, IN
Feb 10-11, 2012	Mid-Winter Conference-DFW Airport Marriot, Irving, TX
Feb 10-11, 2012	CKI Mid-Winter Brd Mtg-DFW Airport Marriot, Irving, TX