THE ELIMINATE PROJECT UPDATE

JOHN C. HOLLEY, DISTRICT COORDINATOR, THE ELIMINATE PROJECT, jholley40@comcast.net

As we prepare to run the final leg of "The Eliminate Project Race", there are some who say we will not fulfill our pledge, and others say we will. Depending on which camp you are in, you both could be right. You see, it has to do with one’s attitude and how dedicated one is to the cause.

When we started this journey, Kiwanis International committed to raising $110,000,000 to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus (MNT) from the face of the Earth. This was a joint effort with UNICEF, who was to provide $130,000,000 of the $3,799,250.00. As of 31 August 2019, we have cash and pledges of $2,253,710. Although we have made great progress, our job is not yet done.

Still in 13 countries around the world, MNT still strikes babies and mothers who have little or no access to health care. This is because they are poor, live in remote areas, or are caught in humanitarian situations. More than 100 million mothers and their future babies are depending on us to insure the immunizations take place. This can only take place if we turn our promises into funding. If you have already made a contribution, consider making another. Make sure your club is deliberate and makes a pledge. 87% of our clubs have made contributions, but only 52 of our 150 clubs have made a pledge.

As Kiwanians, I am sure you would agree that it is unacceptable that innocent newborns and their mothers suffer and die from MNT when it can easily be prevented. Let’s make sure we are a part of the winning team as Kiwanis makes history for the second time on the global scene.

HAVE YOUR CLUB MAKE A PLEDGE!

The Georgia Kiwanian
Volume 63, Number 1
October 2019

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- 2020 Events/Rally Dates p. 8
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John Maxwell
Improving life through leadership
Presented by Kim Maxwell

Maxwell Training Sessions
You are invited to join us for a leadership training workshop that will be hosted all over the Georgia District. Kim Maxwell will be teaching “Improving life through leadership” as she walks us through a series of teachings she’s learned while training with the John Maxwell Team. Everyone is welcome to attend!

OCTOBER 19, 2019 - CARTERSVILLE
10:00 am - 1:30 pm
Fellowship Hall
Friendship Baptist Church
606 Cassville Rd.
Cartersville, Ga. 30120

OCTOBER 26, 2019 - ATHENS
9:30 am - 1:00 pm
Talmadge Terrace Lanier Gardens
801 Riverhill Dr., Athens, Ga
Hello and Happy Kiwanis New Year.

I am very excited to be the Kiwanis International Trustee for the Georgia District. Thank you to everyone who made David and I feel so welcome at district convention. We had a great time. The memory we made with all of you will last forever.

For those that did not meet David and I, here is little bit about me. We have been married 25 years this coming October. We have two Daushunds puppy’s, Oscar who is seven years old and Bob who is one year old. We also have Roxie our cat, she is 12 years old. She runs our house. I own a technology managed Services company, is 12 years old. She runs our house. I own a technology managed Services company.

My hobby’s are traveling, flowers, orchids, family and reading.

I have been a Kiwanian for 25 years and I LOVE our Service Leadership Programs. I LOVE almost everything about Kiwanis; however, our Service Leadership Programs truly inspire me.

I can’t wait to visit with all of you again this coming winter. First of all, it will be nice to get away from the winter weather in Eric, PA. But most importantly, I want to come visit and work with your district on helping grow existing clubs or working on a new club. Governor Andy and I will be working on a time to come visit and how to best utilize me while I am visiting.

As you know Kiwanis International New Year begins October 1st. Just like the new years goals you set in January, if you don’t share them; unfortunately they don’t last long. In order to make sure your goals last more than a few weeks they need to be written down and shared. This will keep you accountable. One goal/challenge I have for you is, to bring in one new member to Kiwanis to help your club make an impact in your community.

Many of us have issues setting goals for upcoming year. Some don’t feel they need to. I can assure you that you will greatly appreciate having goals to refer to during your meetings and board meetings. Goals are important, If you don’t know where you want to go, you won’t know when you get there.

Kiwanis International has a strategic plan for mission, vision, core values and goals. The priorities include:

- Perform meaningful service, with service to children as our priority
- Ensure financial viability and responsible stewardship
- Build, retain and support a growing Kiwanis membership
- Enhance the Kiwanis image worldwide
- Take care and have an amazing Kiwanis New Year.

Alexia A. Lieber
Executive Director
alexia@kiwanis.mgacoxmail.com

A new year, a new beginning, and a clean slate.

October 1st marked the beginning of the 2019-20 Administrative Year. By now, Club Officers have attended their GOB Training or have taken the online training and in turn, the Club President has trained his/her officers and committee chairs. The incoming Lt. Governors are eager to begin a record-breaking year under the leadership of Governor Andy Pipkin.

Clubs are urged to get off on the right foot by reporting their Official Monthly Reports online by the 10th of each month. The 2019-20 Contribution Workbook is printed in this issue and will be on the District website. Please mail a copy of the summary sheet along with your club check to the District Office, so I will know how to split the money.

Guidelines for 2019-20 Governor’s Cup:

These guidelines are printed in the October issue of the Georgia Kiwanian. SPECIAL REQUESTS: Club secretaries are urged to delete members and make address changes online so that the Kiwanis International data base has the most updated information.

I am looking forward to working with you this year.

The Governor’s Message

Andy Pipkin
Governor Georgia Kiwanis District
dawgandkat04@gmail.com

Leadership Makes a Difference

Why should we go to the trouble to learn more about leadership? Because good leadership always makes a difference! Good leadership will turn around clubs and impact a community because communities need Kiwanians.

We will have eight training sessions on leadership all over the state. Kim Maxwell will lead these as she is a trainer for John Maxwell on leadership; she will also be a Lt. Governor this year. She has done some training at our convention and midyear.

We will charge $20 for a continental breakfast and break. This training can make a difference in your club and that difference will make a difference in your community.

The following seven training sessions with dates and locations are listed below. Some of the locations do not have the building address at this time. The locations do not have the building address at this time. The locations do not have the building address at this time. The following seven training sessions with dates and locations are listed below. Some of the locations do not have the building address at this time.

1. October 19, 2019 - Cartersville
   Friendship Baptist Church
   Fellowship Hall - 10:00am - 1:30 pm
   606 Cassville Rd.
   Cartersville, Ga. 30120

2. October 26, 2019 - Athens
   Talmage Terrace Lanier Gardens
   9:30am - 1:00 pm
   801 Riverhill Dr.
   Athens, Ga.

3. November 9, 2019 - Pooler

4. November 9, 2019 - Tattnall

5. December 7, 2019 - Lagrange


7. February 8, 2020 - McDonough

We are inviting anyone in your club to come because we are looking for leaders in your club.

Hope to see you at one of the training sessions.

In Memoriam

Joseph H. Brooks
White Oak Golden K

Douglass J. Brown
Spalding County

Carol Oleta C. Dekle
Toccoa

Janet M. Kriss
Lost Mountain

Tommy Stutts
 Heard County

The Georgia Kiwanian

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GEORGIA DISTRICT OF KIWANIS

Publish seven issues: October, December, February, March, May, July, and September. Circulation 5,800

Alexia Lieber - Editor
ADVERTISING

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Box 6618 • Macon, GA 31208

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Alexia Lieber - Editor

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Richmond Hill First Meeting

Richmond Hill held their Blitz in June and held their first meeting in July. We’re excited about serving the children and youth of Richmond Hill and Bryan County.

We will be sponsoring Richmond Hill’s Key Club and expect to have at least 25 members before October 1st.

Pictured L-R Fulton Love, Abbie Sutker Cumming (2019-2020 Lt. Governor, Div 4), Chris Barr (President-Elect), Caitlin Hawkins (Vice-President), Megan Myrick (President), Justin Farquhar, Amanda Younger, Rick Townsend (Lt. Governor, Div 4), and Sarah Lippert (Treasurer).

After hours ‘sub’ club at Thomaston Kiwanis

The Thomaston Kiwanis Club now has an after hours ‘sub’ club that meets the first Tuesday of each month. Location TBA.

The founding members of the ‘Kiwanis After Hours’ are pictured to the left. The club meets every Tuesday at noon, Upson County Civic Center.

Trennis Dumas (State Farm), Denise Searcy (Echelon), Dr. Linda Gordon (Zoe Pediatrics), Pete Searcy (Commercial Driver), and Travis Craft (State Farm), Denise Searcy (Echelon), Dr. Linda Gor-OCTOBER 2019

Business Card $25.00
1/8 Page 4” x 4” $100.00
1/4 Page 5” x 7” $150.00
1/2 Page 10” x 7” $250.00

Size Requirement Cost Per Issue
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February $20.00 $50.00 $70.00
March $20.00 $50.00 $70.00
April $15.00 $50.00 $65.00
May $15.00 $50.00 $65.00
June $10.00 $50.00 $60.00
July $10.00 $50.00 $60.00
August $5.00 $50.00 $55.00
September $5.00 $50.00 $55.00

All payments submitted to Kiwanis International.

New Kiwanis Club
Kiwanis Club of Warner Robins
Division 9
Meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday’s at 12:00 Noon
Old Time Buffet
1208 Russell Parkway
President: Chelsea Dozier
cdozier@ashleys.info
Secretary: Jackie White
jwhite@colonybank.com

Kiwanis International
Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.
SCHOOL DAYS!! are here! It is time to plan and start the 2019-2020 K-Kids year. The best planning tool to help guide the process is the Annual Report. The parts of this report help you and your club advisors plan all aspect of the K-Kids program: meetings, service, fund raising, social activities, and contests. By following the annual report and turning the K-Kids print this guide, remember your K-Kids clubs for all that they do for their communities.

Remember the K-Kids web site has a wealth of information to help you in the role of the Kiwanis Advisor to K-Kids. Some of these suggestions include:

- Identify a Kiwanis advisors for each SLP Club
- Develop a Kiwanis sponsorship committee to help meet the needs of your SLP club
- The Kiwanis and faculty advisors need to make sure the SLP club follows the Kiwanis guidelines
- If you are changing Kiwanis advisors for the 2019-2020 on October 1, please have the secretary of your club update that information on the Dashboard.

Be sure that the Kiwanis advisor and the committee (as well as other members) attend the SLP club meetings.

The Kiwanis advisor should meet with the principal about the K-Kids plans for the new year.

Be sure to pay all dues/renewal for each club to Kiwanis International.

Check the Dashboard for the amount owed.

The member boxes should arrive soon.

The Kiwanis club advisor is responsible for training the new officers.

These are just a few suggestions to help you get off to a great start with your K-Kids Clubs!! I am here to help you with anything you need.

#kiwansneedkiwanis

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The Georgia District of Circle K International Fall Membership Retreat (FMR) T-shirt Sponsor Form

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The Georgia District of Kiwanis website: www.GeorgiaKiwanis.org

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Maxwell Training from page 1

Maxwell Training from Clayton State (2002) and a Masters of Business Administration from Georgia State (2008) and is a licensed CPA in Georgia. It’s often said that “Kim Maxwell is unlike any accountant you’ve ever met”. Her focus is on educating and helping her clients grow themselves and their businesses. Her philosophy is teach others to fish and feed them for a lifetime, give them a fish and feed them for a day.

She started The Accounting Firm, LLC in McDonough is 2007 to offer a different type of accounting practice. Here, she educates and trains clients on QuickBooks, tax law, and leadership development.

OTHER SCHEDULED DATES WITH MORE DETAILS COMING SOON...

- NOVEMBER 9, 2019 - POOLER
- NOVEMBER 16, 2019 - TIFTON
- DECEMBER 7, 2019 - LAGRANGE
- JANUARY 25, 2020 - WARNER ROBINS
- FEBRUARY 8, 2020 - MCDONOUGH
Lt. Governor’s for 2019 - 2020

Division 1
Jeff Minton
4534 Mt. Paran Pkwy., NW
Atlanta, GA  30327
404-543-8990
jeminton75@gmail.com
Galleria – Northwest Atlanta

Division 2
Patricia M. Morrison
2060 Paris Drive
Columbus, GA  31906
706-615-1831
ptyann55@gmail.com
Golden K of Columbus

Division 3
Blake Bass
8 Forest Place
Newnan, GA  30263
678-877-2225
rblakebass@gmail.com
Newnan

Division 4
Abbie C. Cumming (Allan Giese)
804 Seminole Avenue
Saint Marys, GA  31558
912-576-6240
accumming@hotmail.com
Saint Marys

Division 5
Kathy Megahee
460 Smith Ave
Thomasville, GA  31792-5535
229-421-9542
homasfc@rose.net
Thomasville

Division 6
Ron Carden
638 Main Street
Warrenton, GA  30828
478-972-8118
ronald.carden@gmail.com
Warrenton

Division 7
Mike Hill
130 Deerfield Road
Bogart, GA  30622-1736
229-344-0494
michaelwhill@gmail.com
Athens

Division 8
David Bates
2995 Millwater Crossing
Dacula, GA  30019
404-394-2855
batesdavidp@yahoo.com
Lawrenceville

Division 9
Ike Thomas
220 Pine Needle Road
Milledgeville, GA  31061
478-451-9292
ijmthomas@charter.net
Milledgeville
Lt. Governor’s for 2019 - 2020

Division 10
Jim Carr
2413 Old Parker Place Road
Ellijay, GA 30536
706-889-6078
jmcarr@etcmail.com
Gilmer County

Division 13
Kyle Tomlinson
1110 N. Main Street
Sylvester, GA 31791-1332
229-776-5868
ktomlinson2010@yahoo.com
Sylvester

Division 16
Thomas H. Legall
134 Lakeshore Drive
Stockbridge, GA 30281-3331
770-820-2490
THL1596@gmail.com
Lithonia-Stonecrest

Division 11
Brett James
346 Timberbrook Dr
Chatsworth, GA 30705
706-537-5209
bmj99sbj@yahoo.com
Murray County

Division 14
Samantha Griner
525 Glen Iris Drive NE
Unit 2427
Atlanta, GA 30308-2976
803-370-5599
samantha.griner@gmail.com
Dunwoody

Division 17
Dan Bennett
P O Box 2176
Reidsville, GA 30453
912-614-3194
daniel@lowcountrycremation.com
Tattnall County

Division 12
Bill Braswell
199 14th Street #612
Atlanta, GA 30309
404-457-3979
billbraswell@earthlink.net
Douglas County, Douglasville

Division 15
Henry Lust
3156 Woodberry Farm Ln
Powder Springs, GA 30127
770-639-4296
hlust75@gmail.com
Greater South Cobb

Division 18
Kim Maxwell
9 The Farm Road
McDonough, GA 30252
404-304-3308
kim@theaccountingfirm.net
Henry County
**October 5, 2019**
District Board Meeting (Scottish Rite Children’s Hospital, Atlanta, GA)
Meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m.
(1001 Johnson Ferry Road
NE, Atlanta, GA)

**November 8-10, 2019**
CKI – Fall Membership Retreat, FFA/FCCLA Campground – Covington, GA

**January – March 2020**
Division Rallies

**February 2020**
National Pancake Day (with IHOP)

**February 21-23, 2020**
Key Club and CKI Joint District Convention
Peachtree City, GA

**March 6, 2020**
District Board Meeting
Henry County

**March 7, 2020**
Mid-Year Training Conference
Henry County

**April 25, 2020**
Georgia District Art and Music Showcase
Lee County High School

**May 16, 2020**
District Board Meeting
Macon, GA

**June 1, 2020**
Club Election Reports Due

**June 18-21, 2020**
Kiwanis International Convention
Indianapolis, IN

**July 1-5, 2020**
Key Club International Convention
San Francisco, CA

**July 17-20, 2020**
CKI International Convention
Las Vegas, NV

**August 21-23, 2020**
Georgia District Convention
Savannah, GA

**August 2020**
Key Club Leadership Training
Six Flags

**DISTINGUISHED PROGRAM 2019-20**

For Kiwanis districts

The district must be in good standing with Kiwanis International as defined by Procedure 204 – District Status as of September 30, 2020.

A. Growth within the District

(Must accomplish two of three)

• Net gain in membership over the Kiwanis administrative year, as certified by October 10, 2020.

• Achievement of the new club opening goal, as set by agreement of the president and governor (as president-elect and governor-elect). A district may achieve new club opening credit for a Kiwanis club in another nation under any program approved as such by the Kiwanis International Board.

• Increase of at least ten percent (10%) in new members added by clubs during the administrative year over the previous year

B. Service by Clubs within the District

(Must accomplish two of three)

• Submission of a club signature project in the Kiwanis International annual signature project contest.

• Increase in overall giving to the Kiwanis Children’s Fund (including The Eliminate Project) over the previous Kiwanis administrative year, from all district sources.

• Achievement of a district’s goal of service to children, as set by agreement of the president and governor (as president-elect and governor-elect). May include:

  • Number of specific or overall Service Leadership Program clubs in good standing increased over the previous administrative year.

  • Monetary fundraising goal by clubs of the district to support a specific need of children within the district.

  (Must be documented and reported by the district to Kiwanis International by November 30, 2020.)

  • Documented service-hour goal by clubs of the district to support a specific need of children within the district.

  (Must be documented and reported by the district to Kiwanis International by November 30, 2020.)

For Kiwanis divisions

Each district is encouraged to set criteria for recognizing distinguished divisions. Recommended criteria should reflect growth within the division, including:

• Net gain in membership in the division.

• Opening of a new club within the division.

• Increase in new members by clubs in the division. The district should determine the means and methods of recognition.

For Kiwanis clubs

Each district is encouraged to set criteria recognizing distinguished clubs. Recommended criteria should include:

• Increase in membership by the club.

• Completion of a signature project by the club.

• Participation by the club president-elect and officers-elect in club officer education.

• Sponsorship/support of Service Leadership Programs.

• Annual financial support of the Kiwanis Children’s Fund/The Eliminate Project on other national/district Kiwanis foundations.

The district should determine the means and methods of recognition.
Community Service Projects

2019 - 2020 Governor’s Cup

The Georgia Kiwanian

PAGE 9

The Kiwanis Club of LaGrange has joined with LaGrange College to create The Jack Tate Kiwanis Endowed Scholarship Grant for $25,000. The scholarship is to provide need-based grant-in-aid assistance to one or more LaGrange College juniors or seniors with great financial need who are from Troup County and who are working to finance their own degrees.

The grant is established by the Kiwanis Club of LaGrange to honor James W. “Jack” Tate, a dedicated Kiwanian and club member for more than 35 years. A local businessman and strong supporter of education, Mr. Tate has been the longtime leader of the club’s high school scholarship program that has provided thousands of dollars to local students, enabling them to attend the college of their choice.

Kiwanis Club of LaGrange Establishes Endowment

The Kiwanis Club of LaGrange and West Georgia Technical College created The Kiwanis Johnson-Frear Endowment to West Georgia Technical College for $25,000 to help keep students in school by assisting with “Gap Funding” allowing continuous class participation during a period of time when funds are not immediately available.

The endowment honors two Kiwanians, Jerry Johnson and Charlie Frear who have created and grown a very successful annual Sporting Clay shooting tournament. The proceeds from this event supports the endowment at WGTC, as well as, another endowment at LaGrange College.
### AUGUST SCOREBOARD

#### Division Totals

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<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Current Members</th>
<th>NC Clubs</th>
<th>NC Division Allocations</th>
<th>Donate NC District Project</th>
<th>Beg. Members</th>
<th>Current Members</th>
<th>District Projects</th>
<th>Donations to The Georgia Kiwanian</th>
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**Total Reported Members at 10/1/18**: 5,548

**Total Clubs as of Oct. 1, 2018**: 148

**Current Membership from Ki Membership Reports**: 5,708

**District Totals**

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<th>Division</th>
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**Georgia District Total**: 5548

**148 Clubs as of Oct. 1, 2018**

**Current Membership from Ki Membership Reports**

**Beginning Memberships Certified per Kiwanis International**

Legend: NC = New Club; CS = Club Suspended
Community Service Projects

Kiwanis Club of Lee County to Expand Backpack Blessings Program

In 2010, the newly formed Kiwanis Club of Lee County began the project, Backpack Blessings. This program was designed to provide weekend nutritional support to children Kindergarten through 5th grade who face food insecurity. In Lee County, 1 in 4 children under the age of 18 are food insecure.

The program began small, serving only 10 students per week. Through the years, as the need has grown, so has Backpack Blessings. Currently, we are serving 106 students per week. However, this is the maximum that our budget can afford.

The Kiwanis Club of Lee County is excited to announce that we are expanding our program. We are thankful for a new partnership with Feeding the Valley, the new food bank that will be serving our community. Through this partnership we are able to increase the number of students we currently serve from 106, to up to 160 per week.

In addition, we will be partnering with Lee County Middle School West to place Backpack Blessings Pantries, providing 100 pounds of food per school per month, to be distributed to students in need.

All of this would not be possible without the funding from Kiwanis Club of Lee County, the supportive partnerships with The Vine of Leesburg, Lee County Family Connection, Inc. and the Lee County School System.

Our annual campaign to support this program will begin on October 1, 2019. It costs only $200 per year to support one child for one school year. For more information on Backpack Blessings, please contact Patsy Shirley at (229) 903-3993.

Check for $3,000 from the Tennis Club of Fairfield Plantation

Our friend Les Hubl presents a generous $1 from the proceeds of a very successful tennis tournament. Receiving it is Jim Wilson, President of the Kiwanis Club of Fairfield Plantation, and a fellow tennis player. The Tennis Club also gave scholarships to local youth who are involved in school tennis teams.

Service Project at High Falls

District Service Project September 14th at High Falls State Park in Jackson. 35 Kiwanians and family members participated in the Project including Circle K Governor Lucy Zheng and two of her Georgia Tech Classmates. We painted the posts and railings on the 1/4 miles Falls Trail.
Dear Kiwanis Family,

As we near the middle of the school year, we hope you are able to assist us on making our goal. The Georgia Key Club is trying to raise money for our biggest goal for the year.

We have partnered with the Georgia Sheriffs’ Youth Homes for more than 30 years. Our District Governor, Andy Pipkin, and the Trustees, will have the next Board meeting at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta (CHOA) at Scottish Rite, a place which has touched many of us in our personal or professional lives. Our Young Children Priority One Team is looking forward to developing a service project (or projects) to help support CHOA and other hospitals that serve children in Georgia.

If you would like to join Barbara, Patsy, and me and be part of our Priority One Team, please reach out to me at rick.townsend@glynn.k12.ga.us or 912-506-5347. I am looking forward to a great year working with Governor Pipkin and his leadership team and, of course, all of you as we serve the children of Georgia! #kidneedkiwanis

Rick Townsend
Chair for Young Children Priority One
rick.townsend@glynn.k12.ga.us

Our Young Children Priority One Committee is back and off to a running start. I will be your chair, but will need help serving the children of GA. I am fortunate to have Dr. Barbara Hill and Ms. Patsy Shirley as part of the team to help guide us as we set-out to make a difference this year helping children in Georgia through service projects and activities. Both Barbara & I are educators and Patsy is a leader in the nonprofit sector with Family Connections, so we all have a background in working with children and youth.

We want to thank everyone who attended the District Convention in Augusta who volunteered and helped us make sensory bottles. Our Kiwanians members learned the process of making these bottles, so they could take it back to their clubs to show club members and their SLPs how to make them. We also made extra sensory bottles to donate to local Augusta children. We had a great time making the bottles and meeting other Kiwanians as we carried out our service project.

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We have partnered with the Georgia Sheriffs’ Youth Homes for more than 30 years. We are aiming to raise the bar by setting out to build an outdoor pavilion and family counseling area at the Boys Ranch campus in Hahira, Ga.– aptly dubbed the Key Club Wellness Pavilion.

The pavilion will be used for activities such as:

- To receive counseling
- To have supervised visits with family members and friends.
- To provide an outlet for recreational activities by building a new fishing dock and refurbishing an existing fishing dock.

Our district goal is $25,000, but the project cost $44,500 in total - a goal we are aiming to achieve by March 2020. ANY and all amounts of donations are welcomed!

Thank you for supporting us and we really appreciate you helping us to achieve our goal.

How to Donate:
- Make an online donation at gakeyclub.org/service/donate (up to $2000 with a credit/debit card).
- Mail a check made payable to “Georgia District Key Club” to:
  Georgia District Key Club
  Attn: Project Account
  P.O. BOX 6618
  Macon, GA 31208

The Georgia Key Club is trying to raise money for our biggest goal for the year: The departure of the children and the end of daily involvement with their needs, desires, joys, and needs.

While the departure of the children and the end of daily involvement with their needs, desires, joys, and needs, can sometimes force a couple to confront the problems existing between the two of them, problems that their focus on their children had allowed them to avoid. Some couples may find it so hard to be a twosome again that they choose instead to be virtually full-time grandparents. Another stress that may come to bear on the marriage after the children are gone is that a spouse, particularly women, may decide, during this midlife transition, to pursue a career outside the home. Husbands who were looking forward to spending some time with their wives find this new freedom for their wives, too hot to handle. Indirectly, this is another way to avoid confronting some possible difficulties in the marriage.

Along with the marital changes that accompany the empty nest and retirement, we may be unsettled by finding ourselves no longer the focal point for providing advice or in certain decision making processes. A poignant observation is that a marriage may be troubled for most of a couple’s married life, or real problems may arise only in later years - when we return to being two people instead of two parents and realize how little we have in common; when retirement leads to depression or too much togetherness; or when our previous status leaves us socially, emotionally, and often geographically dislocated. Notwithstanding, perhaps the biggest impediments to happiness as we grow older and older together are the illnesses and impairments that inevitably accompany the aging process. Judith Viorst says, this can be particularly demanding on the spouse provider who may also be in declining health. That said, love can endure all things.