

THE KEY TO THE

Southwest

Volume 55 | Issue 2

A WORD FROM THE Editor



Hey Southwest!

As we finish the first semester of school and the year comes to an end, now is a great time to look back and what we've accomplished and also set goals for the new year. In this issue, I wanted to highlight some of the amazing work that has been done so far this year. You will also see updates about what our committees are up to and information about upcoming conventions and events.

As I urge you to look back at your accomplishments and set goals for yourself, I have done the same. So far I have created two publications, worked on a committee, redesigned the website, attended K-Family events, done over 30 hours of service, and been an active member in my club. To finish off my term, I hope to continue working on the website, create one more publication, do at least 25 more service hours, continue being active in my club, and continue to work on the district board to plan events. I have had an amazing year in Key Club so far and I hope that you can say the same. Happy Holidays and stay spicy Southwest!

Sincerely,

Jennifer

Jennifer Harned

thekeytothesouthwest@gmail.com

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Board Updates

EXECUTIVES

Olivia Kurschat

District Governor



WE B COOL, WE B BEST! What's up Southwest? We've officially made it through the first semester, and I couldn't be more proud. We started with recruitment, built our membership, and are on track to surpass our membership from last year. We've conquered officer training conferences! Meeting people from all over our divisions and learning what it truly means to be a servant leader. And now we have our District Convention in T-4 months! That's right! April 13th- 15th, over 500 Key Clubbers will gather to learn all about service across Arizona, New Mexico, and El Paso. 2017 has been great, let's make 2018 even better!

Emily Woo Kee

District Secretary-Treasurer



As we near closer to looming deadlines there are a few things that I, as Secretary Treasurer, feel the need to inform everyone on. Dues [were] officially due the first of December, delinquency and subsequent deadlines are then applied to any clubs who don't meet this deadline. The club secretary is responsible for updating a dues-paid roster to the Membership Update Center (MUC). It is vital for members to understand the advantages granted when they pay dues such as being insured by Kiwanis International, allowed to participate in district/international events, able to run for higher office, given resource materials to better serve their club, division, and/or district, and are able to apply for club grants. I would also like to stress that the district directory is due by December first; hence, all information collected by LTGs at the beginning of the year needs to be uploaded to the drive. All in all it will be a busy month but Key Club wouldn't be quite as fun if everyone wasn't overwhelmed with things to do!

COMMITTEES

Keely Stockham

Council Elect | Committee Chair



Hello Southwest! My name is Keely Stockham and I am the committee chair of the Council Elect Committee. The purpose of the Council Elect committee is to aide Lieutenant Governors in the Lieutenant Governor elections that happen in the spring and to create the guidelines for the Key Club scholarships. So far, this Key Club year, the Council Elect Committee has produced a Power Point for the Officer Training Conference and we have produce a Dues flyer. The next thing our committee is concerned with is the Key Club scholarships and editing the Key Club bylaws. The Council Elect Committees goal for this year is to produce the guidelines for the scholarship and to get all Key Clubs prepared for the Lieutenant Governor Elections.

Kiana Russo

District Convention | Vice Committee Chair



The DCON Committee is diligently working on getting details for the convention organized and locked in. We have established our Key-note speaker, table centerpieces, hotel, date, and theme. We are currently contacting various colleges, companies, and branches of the military to set up a booth at our service fair that happens during registration. This year, the convention theme is cereal. The slogan is "Snap, Crackle, Service." In early November, Lieutenant Governors Alaya and Mackenzie, along with DCON Chair Alex, and Governor Olivia came to my house where we created a large portion of the convention decorations. There is still work to be done which will largely be finished at the District Board's meeting in January.

COMMITTEES *cont.*

Mackenzie Latham

District Projects | Committee Chair



The District Projects committee is dedicated to raising both funds and awareness for the efforts of the Lupus Foundation. This committee creates informative flyers on the chronic autoimmune disease known as Lupus, highlighting what the Southwest District is doing to help. The committee focuses mainly on encouraging clubs of the Southwest District to raise \$15,000 by DCON. This is also being accomplished with the help of the Southwest District T-Shirt, which is now being sold for \$15 at all district events. Interested in buying one? Contact your division's Lieutenant Governor! The District Projects committee also helps to inform clubs of the Major Emphasis Projects, which are nonprofit organizations that Key Club International encourages clubs to support through either community service or fundraisers.

Sydne Ashford

Growth & Communication | Committee Chair



Hello, Southwest! The Growth and Communications Committee has been working hard to keep our members informed, inspired, and excited about Key Club. Our goal is to ultimately get more people to join Key Club! With our streamlined process for social media, we have established a consistent method of communication for our members. We have created new resources for membership recruitment in the form of flyers, posters, and cards. These resources readily available on the Southwest Key Club's website for our members' convenience (see [here](#)). Now that we are well into the Key Club year, the Growth and Communications Committee is working on providing resources for membership retention. We want to ensure members remain active in service throughout the year.

CONTACT US!

District Governor - swdkeyclubgovernor@gmail.com

District Secretary-Treasurer - swdkcsectreas@gmail.com

District Bulletin Editor - thekeytothesouthwest@gmail.com

Division Lt. Governors - see [here](#) or swdkeyclub.org/district-board

District Administrator - michaelwilliambraun@gmail.com

Council Elect:

Chair: Keely Stockham, email petroglyphswdkeyclub@gmail.com

Members: Emily Woo Kee (District Secretary-Treasurer), Russell Steans (Rio Grande), Joe Kaloniak (Papago)

District Convention:

Chair: Alexandra Chaparro, email swdistrictconventionchair@gmail.com

Admin: Katie Merrill, email kmerrillswd@gmail.com

Members: Gracie Kelliher (San Pedro), Michael Reinartz (Mohave), Kiana Russo (Superstitions)

District Projects:

Chair: Mackenzie Latham, email estrellaswdkeyclub@gmail.com

Members: Olivia Kurschat (District Governor), Faith Lopez (Sandia Mountain), Reyna Cruz (South Mountain)

Growth & Communications:

Chair: Sydne Ashford, email sangredecristoswdkeyclub@gmail.com

Members: Jennifer Harned (District Bulletin Editor), Reagen Barragan (Copper), Sarah Montano (Catalina)

K-Family:

Chair: Mikenna Gannon, email lookoutmtnswdkeyclub@gmail.com

Members: Alaya Alshemari (Black Canyon)

SNAP, CRACKLE, SERVICE! DISTRICT CONVENTION 2018

Chandler, AZ

This year when we've told people that the theme for District Convention (DCON) is cereal, most have given us confused looks. "Cereal?" They ask, "... how is that a theme?" So, I asked the person in charge of the convention. See what our District Convention Chair has to say about how DCON themes are chosen:

Alexandra Chaparro | District Convention Chair

This year's Southwest District Convention will be held at the San Marcos Crowne Plaza Resort in Chandler, Arizona from April 13th-15th, 2018! Our theme this year is Snap, Crackle, Service.

Choosing a DCON theme is somewhat of a tedious process because as District Convention chair it is my duty to incorporate each of the district board members ideas and visions for the convention. The selection began with an extensive list of ideas being sent out to the Lieutenant Governors. From there I took the top three ideas and created vision boards for each one. Once it was time for the board to



important stuff:

when: April 13th- 15th, 2018

where: San Marcos Crowne Plaza Resort
Chandler, Arizona

how much: \$249 per Key Clubber
(for a quad room)

meet for training I brought along the boards so that each person could contribute their thoughts and ideas about each of the themes. This year was somewhat untraditional as our lovely governor brought her own theme idea along with her to present to the board along with the three other themes. After seeing how unique, moldable, and fun a cereal theme could be, I couldn't help but to be on board! After a unanimous vote the board decided cereal it is!

Key Leader

February 17th-19th, 2018

Kamp Kiwanis | Vanderwagen, NM

\$225* per student - includes meals, lodging, t-shirt, and materials

*Price for non-members is \$250

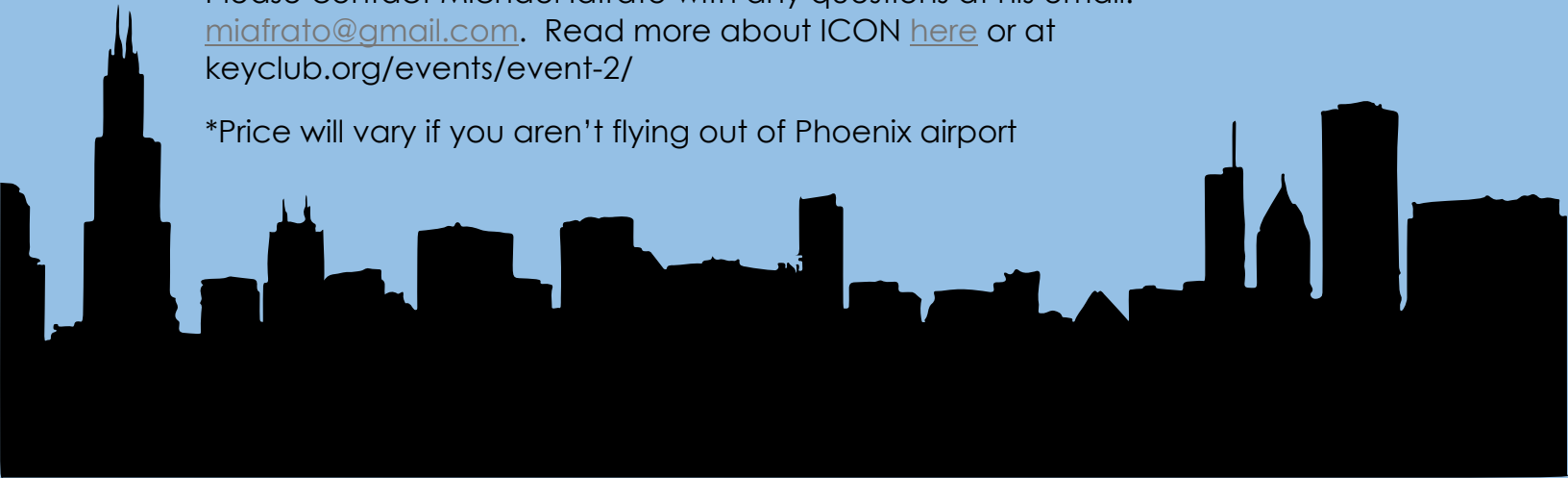
More information is TBA



INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

International Convention 2018 (ICON) will take place in Chicago, Illinois from July 4th- 8th. The Southwest District tour will be from July 2nd- 9th. The price is \$1,275* per member which includes flights, convention costs, tour costs, and hotel. You must pay for your meals and any extra items/ souvenirs. At ICON you will meet Key Clubbers from other states and countries, elect the next International Board, attend workshops, and hear amazing speakers! Don't miss your opportunity to educate yourself about Key Club on a larger scale! We look forward to seeing you there. Please contact Michael Iafrato with any questions at his email: miafrato@gmail.com. Read more about ICON [here](#) or at keyclub.org/events/event-2/

*Price will vary if you aren't flying out of Phoenix airport

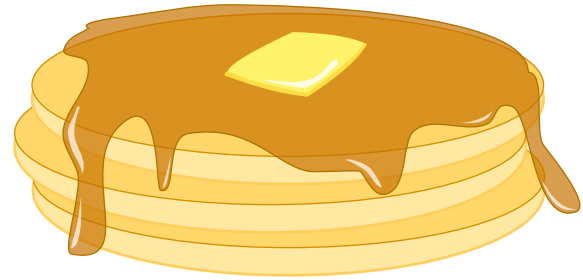


Fundraising

Whether it's to help pay for materials for an event or to donate to our Governors Project, fundraising is a major part of Key Club. However, sometimes it can be hard to find the best way to raise money. Luckily, the Willow Canyon Key Club from Arizona made lots of money by hosting a pancake breakfast! See how they raised money below:

Mackenzie Latham | Estrella Lt. Governor

Willow Canyon High School Key Club held a pancake breakfast event in conjunction with Applebee's and their Flapjack Fundraiser program. This fundraiser also doubled as a car wash. There were five members working as waiters, serving the pancakes and beverages. Each person who



came would spend only \$7 for all-you-can-eat pancakes and bacon with any beverage. Each ticket sold raised \$4 for the club. Meanwhile, around ten clubbers at a time were outside running the car wash. Members held up signs near the street while other members washed the cars that came by to donate.

The fundraiser took place November 19th, 2016 to raise money for AIDSpirit USA, the Southwest District Project that was promoted last year. The event raised over \$300 through one day of volunteering.

The success of this fundraiser could be attributed to how actively engaged the members were to both volunteer and promote. This was achieved by splitting the club into teams with the goal of selling the most pre-paid tickets out of the other teams. The winner was able to win the coveted "Golden Spatula" award, in which double



hours were awarded, along with a cute golden spatula and a pack of cupcake mix. This small-scale competition built up anticipation for the day of the pancake breakfast.

Reflecting on the event, members were proud to be a part of such a great cause. "Knowing that our efforts were making a tangible difference to others is what truly made this event special," said Danielle Egharevba, current Vice President of Willow Canyon High School Key Club. Informing the members that the money was going towards building a school in Uganda gave the members purpose, and was what ultimately led to this event hosting the most volunteers out of any other for that year.

Are you interested in hosting a pancake breakfast for your club? Click [here](#) for more information on how to make it happen.

“Knowing that our efforts were making a tangible difference to others is what truly made this event special,” said Danielle Egharevba, current Vice President of Willow Canyon High School Key Club.



Got Funds?

Do you feel like your club has enough money or don't know why you should fundraise? Well, money can be used many different ways in Key Club! Here are some ways that your club can use funds:

- help reduce the cost per member of events (ex. Key Leader, DCON, ICON, etc)
- raise money for the Lupus Foundation (read more [here](#))
- raise money for any of our Sponsors or Partners (read more [here](#))
- buy materials to hold an event (ex. chalk for a color run)
- put away for use in future years
- buy club shirts or put on a club social
- buy food or gift cards for the homeless

Growth & Communication

By Regan Barragan | Growth & Communications Committee Member

Within our committee, we have been able to relay information and grow a lot via social media. We post about any necessary information as well as getting the district members involved by our Member Crush Monday (see more [here](#)). By posting about members, we are encouraging them and others to be the best Key Clubbers of their ability. We would like to have an overall growth of 9.4% district wide. Aside from just the district social media, our sister districts have a joint social media account and some divisions have pages to keep their clubs up to date on all information. Overall, social media is a very big factor as to how we plan to grow this year.

member recruitment & retainment



Download our member retainment and recruitment posters and flyers [here](#) or on our website at swdkeyclub.org/flyers



@swdkci

International Trustee

UPDATE: DECEMBER



Happy December, Key Clubbers!

I hope you all have had a wonderful start to December! December is the perfect month to perform a wonderful holiday project in your community! Make Christmas cookies for firemen, sing Christmas carols and make gingerbread houses for local nursing home residents, or participate in other types of service to spread Christmas cheer throughout your communities. If you need any more ideas for holiday service project ideas, feel free to reach out to me and I can try my best to assist you!

If you have not yet paid dues, you must do so as soon as possible if you do not want your club to be suspended. Please keep reminding the clubs in your division/district to fully pay their dues so their members can take part in all the special Key Club-related things happening second semester!

Merry Christmas to all! Keep up the wonderful work in your positions and keep serving your homes, schools, and communities.

Yours in friendship and service,

Luke Gilmore

Luke Gilmore

Key Club International Trustee

(620) 717-8110 | lukegilmore.kci@gmail.com | www.keyclub.org

*See the rest of Luke's December update [here!](#)

— Service Project —

Highlight

Jennifer Harned | La Cueva High School

Every year, Albuquerque Kiwanis and members of the Albuquerque K-Family work long shifts scanning and selling tickets and the biggest event of the year: Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. The nine-day-long annual balloon festival in Albuquerque is internationally known for being the largest in the world. It draws hundreds of thousands of people from all over to see over 500 balloons ascend into the air on chilly October mornings. It is a huge part of Albuquerque's culture and tradition and it is largely put on with the help of volunteer work. La Cueva Co-Vice President Daisy Mee



said, "I really enjoyed working the balloon fiesta because I was able to be a part of something so important to Albuquerque's culture and being able to take part in something so large-scale is an unforgettable experience." Dedicated Key Clubbers sign up for five or six hour-long shifts, often starting at 3:30 in the morning. Family members of the K-Kids and Builders Club members volunteer also. Every club gets paid for each hour that their volunteers work, making it the largest fundraiser of the year for our Key Club.

"I really enjoyed working the balloon fiesta because I was able to be a part of something so important to Albuquerque's culture," said Daisy Mee, Co-Vice President of La Cueva Key Club.

This year the La Cueva Key Club put in over 300 hours of service there as a whole.



(left) Tori Pompeo
and (right) Daisy Mee

This was my first year volunteering at the fiesta and it was amazing to see how much of the event is run by volunteer work. I scanned tickets, answered questions, and handed out guides to hundreds of attendees. The Vice Presidents of the La Cueva Key Club, Tori Pompeo and Daisy Mee, both volunteered many shifts to be the volunteer support. They drove around in a golf carts dropping people at their stations and making sure that each group had enough supplies, snacks, and water. Through our clubs' connection with our Kiwanis club they were able to have a large part in this year's fiesta. "Key Club gave me the opportunity to be involved in the bigger community of Albuquerque and I am so thankful for that chance. I am looking forward to

be a part of Balloon Fiesta next year, and to see how influential my work can be," said Tori Pompeo.



"Key Club gave me the opportunity to be involved in the bigger community of Albuquerque and I am so thankful for that chance." said Tori Pompeo, Co-Vice President of La Cueva Key Club.

Member Crush Monday

This year to thank our outstanding members from all over the district, we are implementing the Member Crush Monday (MCM) program. Each Lt. Governor will nominate one member from their division for MCM to recognize their outstanding work as a Key Clubber. MCMs will be posted about two Mondays per month on our District Social Media. Read about the members we've been crushing on lately!



Dakota Dolister
Estrella | Paradise Honors High School

Meet Dakota Dolister, a very dedicated clubber from Paradise Honors High School. She has been serving the community as a member of Key Club for the past two years, and during that time she has always taken the role of a leader by running service projects and encouraging others to join in. She even comes up with her own projects for the club to do by actively searching for volunteer opportunities. One of these projects was a teddy bear drive for a local children's hospital, which the club has added to their schedule for this year!



Angelina Sanderson
Copper | Silver High School

Angelina Sanderson is the current President of the Silver High School Key Club. She is one of the most dedicated key clubbers I've ever met and I look forward to see how much she will grow over this year as president. Ever since freshman year, Angelina has been attending nearly every service project possible and even coming up with projects on her own. Aside from Key Club, she is very involved in her community and school. She never gives up on her club and serves everyone in any way possible.



Elizabeth Covely
McDowell Mountain | Horizon High School

Elizabeth Covely is a senior and the Key Club president at Horizon High School in Scottsdale, Arizona. Elizabeth has been chosen to be the McDowell Division's Member Crush Monday. Elizabeth has amazing presidential qualities and is a great role model for her club. She is responsive, unafraid to ask questions, and participates in division projects. Thank you Elizabeth for serving your community and being such an outstanding Key Clubber!

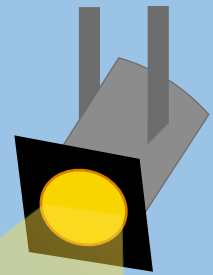


Raquel Annaylie Salazar
Caverns | Roswell High School

Raquel Annaylie Salazar is from Roswell High School as a Junior and is Treasurer of her Key Club. She is understanding and looks for anyway to help out. She always helps with service project once an opportunity is open! She has giving her time and dedication to Key Club to the fullest.

Club Spotlight:

SABINO HIGH SCHOOL



Sarah Montano | Catalina Lieutenant Governor

Being the Catalina Division Lieutenant Governor for my second year has given me a chance to truly connect to my clubs. Out of all the Catalina Division clubs, the Sabino High School Key Club stands out the most. Even though they are not as large as other clubs, with only 25 members they have worked very hard to get closer to our Kiwanis Family and have become more active in Key Club events. When I first became Lieutenant Governor in October of 2016, this club was unresponsive and not very active. However, throughout the year they have blossomed into an amazing part of our K-Family.

ABOUT OUR Preferred Charities

Key Club is the largest student service organization in the world and reaches an audience of over a quarter of a million teenagers from across the world. Other organizations have partnership opportunities with Key Club International as a way to reach students and help us serve our communities. These organizations are also our preferred charities. Read below to find out a little bit about our partners & preferred charities:



Partners:

- Nickelodeon has programs like the Worldwide Day of Play, Get Dirty Campaign, and Halo Movement help to educate, promote activity, and give scholarships. Find out more about their scholarships [here](#).

- The Thirst Project works to educate people about the amount of people who don't have safe, clean water around the world. During March, Key Clubbers help by participating in the

"Dirty Little Secret" campaign. Find out more about it [here](#).

- The US Army helps put students through college debt free with their programs like ROTC and March2Success.com. Find out more about what they do with Key Club [here](#).

- Landscape Structures has partnered with Kiwanis to bring quality play equipment to communities around the country. Find out more about our partnership [here](#).

- Up With People helps participants gain insights into the cultures and needs of different cities through hands on volunteering. Find out more [here](#).

Preferred Charities:

- Children's Miracle Network raises money so that its hospitals can provide the best care to their patients. Key Clubbers help with their annual IHOP National Pancake Day. Find out how you can help them [here](#) or about the pancake day [here](#).

- March of Dimes works to research and prevent birth defects, premature birth, and infant mortality. Key Club helps by raising money and participating in the local March for Babies. You can find out more about them [here](#).

- UNICEF works with the UN to provide education, health care, and water in developing countries for children around the world. Key Clubbers participate by helping with the Eliminate Project and by Trick-or-Treating for UNICEF. Find out how you can help [here](#).



Collaborative Partners:

- K Corps is the exchange program to Japan for Key Clubbers through Kiwanis. It allows students to experience culture, do service, and see another part of the world. Find out more about this program [here](#).

- Project Happiness helps promote positive thinking and happiness. It also campaigns against bullying by addressing the issue at its core. Find out more about this project [here](#).

*Click [here](#) for an overview of KCI's Partners or go to keyclub.org/about/partnership/

GOVERNOR'S PROJECT: Lupus Foundation

UPDATE

Olivia Kurschat | District Governor

Hey Southwest! Thank you all for your great participation with the governor's project! As a reminder, the Southwest District has a goal of raising 15,000\$ by DCON, and we're almost there! Through divisional and club fundraisers we have raised an immense amount! I am so proud that we have come together as a district to raise money for the Lupus Foundation. With the help of all of our donations those struggling with lupus will get the long awaited answer as to how to help their disease! Remember we're not quite there, so keep at it! Don't forget to tag @swdkci in all of your fundraising efforts! And stay spicy Southwest!

Fall Rally & K-Family

Alaya Alshemari

Attendee | Black Canyon Division

Getting a clue for service at CKI Fall Rally was an amazing experience. The weekend took place at Kamp Kiwanis in New Mexico. As of course Circle K International members were there as well as a few Key Club board members and the international CKI president. Much like Key Club's Fall Rally, everyone is split up into groups, working with and getting to know strangers that the same interest as yourself. Of the many activities that took place, my favorite was the ropes course, when participating in activities like those you get the chance to build trust within your group as well as leadership roles take place. Due to it also being Kiwanis work day, one of the service projects was painting cabins. The overall weekend, you get a chance to step out of your comfort zone and connect with the K-Family.



Kiana Russo

Attendee | Superstitions Division

Although this was my second Fall Rally, I am very sad that it was my last. When I am came back this year for my second Fall Rally, I was so happy to see many of the people that I had grown close to at last year's camp. Along with the familiar faces from the previous year, I was excited to make new friendships. Fall Rally is truly a life-changing experience. It is through the activities, lessons, and learning provided at camp that makes each and every one of us who attended, a better person by the end of the weekend. A large part of Fall Rally is self-reflection. The campers and I participated in many activities that allowed for us to reflect on who we are as individuals, our individual learning styles, how to work well with a group of people of a different learning style, and many more valuable life lessons. I am extremely grateful that I had the opportunity to attend Fall Rally where made many friends and learned so much about myself.



Laura Belmont | Southwest Circle K Governor

The Kiwanis Family has been a major source of support for me since I joined, and every Circle K'er would agree that the K-Family has changed our lives. Kiwanians have always been there as a source of support for us. Kiwanis gave me a second set of parents that have continuously been there to support and advise me, both in my journey in the K-Family and in my personal life. This sentiment has been echoed by countless CKI members I've met; Kiwanians have always been there to inspire us and lift us up when we need it most. Key Club has changed us just as equally. For most of us, Key Club is what taught us to believe in ourselves and explore our potential as leaders, and what introduced us to our new family. Even today, it continues to impact us. We get to continue to interact with Key Clubbers, giving us the chance to give back and serve as mentors. You are our friends, our younger siblings, and always remind us how to serve with energy and passion. We always say Kids Need Kiwanis, but I think it is more accurate to say the Kiwanis Family needs each other.

WRITE FOR THE KEY TO THE SOUTHWEST



Do you have something you'd like to share with the rest of the Southwest? Do you want to be featured in the Key to the Southwest's next issue? Well now you can! Photo and article submissions are now open for the March issue of Key to the Southwest [here](#) and on our district website. I'd love to hear what you have to say!

You can also be featured by our district social media by following us and tagging us in your posts!



@swdkci



@swdkci