

Membership and Education Book

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Section 1 History of Kiwanis International

The organization originated in August 1914 in [Detroit, Michigan](#) from a conversation between Allen S. Browne and Joseph G. Prance. Browne's idea was to solicit business and professional men asking them if they would be interested in organizing a fraternal organization with a health benefit feature. Browne was compensated five dollars per new member that joined for his operating budget. Browne and Prance set out and recruited enough members to apply to the state for a not for profit status. The state approved the application on January 21, 1915 and The Supreme Lodge Benevolent Order Brothers was formed. The name was changed to Kiwanis a year later. The Kiwanis Club of Detroit is the original local club in Kiwanis.^[10] By 1927 the organization had more than 100,000 members. The name "Kiwanis" was coined from an Otchipew [American Indian](#) expression, "Nunc Kee-wanis", variously translated as "we trade," "we share our talents,"^[4] "we make a noise," or "we meet."^[5] The organization's founders translated it as "We build," which became the original motto of Kiwanis.^[6] The current motto is "Serving the Children of the World". Members of the club are called Kiwanians.

Kiwanis became international with the organization of the Kiwanis club of [Hamilton, Ontario, Canada](#), in 1916. Kiwanis limited its membership to the United States and Canada until 1962, when worldwide expansion was approved. Since then, Kiwanis has spread to all inhabited continents of the globe.

The original purpose of Kiwanis was to exchange business between members and to serve the poor. The debate as to whether to focus on networking or service was resolved in 1919, when Kiwanis adopted a service-focused mission. Each year, clubs sponsor nearly 150,000 service projects and raise more than \$107 million. As a global project in coordination with UNICEF, members and clubs contributed more than \$80 million toward the global elimination of [iodine deficiency](#) disorders (IDD), the leading preventable cause of mental retardation. Beginning in 2010 Kiwanis International joined with the [World Health Organization](#) to launch a new worldwide health initiative, Project EliMiNaTe, dedicated to wiping out maternal and neonatal [tetanus](#) (MNT), which kills more than 100,000 babies worldwide each year.^[12]

Until 1988 the organization accepted only men as members. By action of the International Convention in 1987, the rules were changed to admit women as well.^[13] Currently women constitute about 26% of total members.

Section 2 Founding of the Athens Kiwanis

The first meeting with the view of organizing a Kiwanis Club in Athens was July 29, 1920 at Petty-Manker Hall on the campus of Tennessee Wesleyan College. The Club was chartered August 11, 1920 with 54 members. On September 6, 1920, the charter was presented to 60 members by Lt. Governor Charles R. Roberts. The Cleveland Club is about a week older than we are, and the Sweetwater Club is a week younger. The Kiwanis representative traveled by train following Robert E. Lee Highway (U.S. 11) setting up clubs.

The Clubs were originally set up as “trade associations” to promote trade between the members (the business and professional men of the area). It soon became evident, however, that the club functioned more importantly as a watchdog for the community – and meeting the needs of the community – that’s what happens when you get a bunch of community leaders together in one place every week!

The First Picture of the Kiwanis members was in front of Trinity United Methodist Church (or at that time, the Methodist Episcopal Church, North) from The Semi-Weekly Post of Saturday, December 16, 1922. The club still had around 60 members at this time. The caption read: “Not the handsomest bunch in the world, but they have the “pep”, and that’s what counts.” In the article it is later stated, “Kiwansians are not just of the kid glove type, but are true he-men, and can justify their manhood on any occasion.”

During the 20’s, the club did actual “hands on” work, where today we raise money, and let our money do the work for us. An example is the story in which S.A. Jenkins, Town Marshall, was killed in the line of duty. He left behind a widow and two small children who had no permanent home. The Kiwanis members raised \$ 1,500, bought materials, and physically built her a home. Another example of “hands on” work regards the annual strawberry crop in Meigs County. Annually, about 55 box car loads were shipped from Athens, the nearest railhead. During one particularly bad year weather wise, the road to Athens (present-day Hwy 30) had become impassable for about a 2 ½ mile stretch. The club recognized this problem and formed what were called “work the road days.” On Saturdays and Wednesday afternoons (the “other” Saturday), the business and professional men of Athens put on their work clothes, took shovels, picks, wheelbarrows, trucks and etc. and physically rebuilt that 2 ½ mile portion so that the crop could make it in to market.

As time moved on, during the 30’s and 40’s, the emphasis of the club shifted towards youth – as did Kiwanis International. The club was instrumental in building the community pools that existed at City Park, Ingleside and North City. The first tennis courts were a Kiwanis project as was the school camp at Watts Bar in 1962 which is still enjoyed and used by students in the Athens City School system today.

Ever popular today, the annual Kiwanis Barbeque debuted September 6, 1951 as the “Kiwanis Barbeque and Tennessee Jersey Cattle Show.” 550 people were fed at that first

barbeque raising \$ 543.00 for community projects. Another mainstay, the annual Kiwanis Pancake day got its start in 1961.

As the years went on our club still served as the major civic club in the community. As needs arose our club has stepped up. In the early 1990's our club helped build the first soccer complex at Athens Regional Park. Then in 1995 the Athens Kiwanis saw a need and helped build the new E.G. Fisher Library. In 2000 the club turned its attention to McMinn County High School to help build Academic Programs and resurface the gym floor. In 2005 our club turned its attention to the Arts Council and helped buy and build the new arts council for Athens. In 2007 the Athens Kiwanis continued its support of TWC by installing new wireless internet and helped with the Tennis Courts. In 2008 the club once again saw a need for a new soccer complex and contributed \$30,000 to help build this project. In 2011 our club decided to expand our reach and started to assist with renovations to the McMinn County YMCA.

As you can see, the club has a long and proud history and has grown from those 60 men to over 80 men and women in today's club. Youth are still our focus, but I think you will find that the club remains the watchdog of our community – ready to find a solution to any community need that is observed.

Section 3 Our Budget

Our budget is broke up into 2 sections

Section1 is our Administrative side. This is funded by your dues and will go to pay for Meals, Postage, and administrative expenses that the club has. From day one our club has always had a paid secretary to keep up with everything that is needed for the club. This is the only paid position in the club

Section 2 of the budget is funded by our three fund raisers, then each committee will have a line item and they can spend up to that amount and use to better our community

Money can be used from section 1 to go to community projects, but money from section 2, since it is money collected from the public activities, can not be used to fund our administrative side.

Currently our dues are \$112.00 a quarter this will cover all dues with district and international, all your meals on Fridays, and then helps to better the club. Each quarter you will receive a statement through the mail. This will include your current balance, be advised that if you bring a guest with you then your statement will be increased for that person. Each guest you bring will be \$7.00

Currently we have two major fundraisers where you are given tickets

For the Pancake Breakfast you will receive 25 tickets for \$5.00 each

For the BBQ you will receive 15 tickets for \$8.00 each

If you wish you can purchase the tickets and give them out, or you can sell them, we ask that if you cannot sell them or purchase them please give them back to us. As the events come up your tickets will be included on your quarterly statement.. Remember that all the good work our club does is done through the money we collect off ticket sales.

Enclosed is a copy of what the budget looks like and it will show you what your dues are going to pay and what your tickets are going for.

Section 4 Officers and Board Members of the Athens Kiwanis

Currently our club is broke down into the following positions

The President:

Presides over the meetings
Runs the club

The President Elect

Fills in when needed to preside over meetings
Is in charge of lining up programs for the next year

The Secretary

Currently our club has an administrative secretary so this position does not handle a lot of the clubs affairs

The Treasurer

Will be responsible for signing checks when requested by committee chairman
Be responsible for preparing the budget for the upcoming year.

Administrative Secretary

This is the only paid position in the club. Kaye Burton currently handles all the finance, billings, and dues collection for the club. Should you have any problem please see her

Each Officer will serve a term of one year beginning on October 1st and run through September 30th of the following year.

To help ease the transition the past president will remain as an active board member to help with the transition of the new president

The Board

Currently the board is made of 9 members.

The officers and the board meet once a month on the second Tuesday at noon to discuss the club.

Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting.

Each board member serves a term of three years and are in rotation, so this year three new members will go off the board and three new members will roll on to the board

Section 5 Our Committees

Our Club is currently broke up into 14 committees, as a new member you will be asked to pick a couple of committees to sign up for. Once you have decided the chairman will spend some time talking with you about the committee. Currently our club has 3 fund raiser committees and 11 active committees

FUND RAISING

GOLF TOURNAMENT:

Every year the Athens Kiwanis hosts a golf tournament. If you decide to help with this project you may be asked to participate in some of the following ways

Contacting sponsors, finding teams, helping set up the event, manning the registration table, and various other projects. This event usually falls on the First Wednesday in May

PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND TAG SALE

Every Year the Athens Kiwanis hosts its annual pancake breakfast and tag sale, If you decide to help with this project you might be asked to help in some of the following ways: Doing event set up the night before, being a sausage cook, working the pancake breakfast, manning one of the stations, contacting businesses for our tag sale, or working the clean up shift. Usually this event will fall around mid may or the first of June. On this event you can pick the shift you would like work so its gives you the flexibility to work when it is convenient to you

BBQ

Every year the Athens Kiwanis hosts its annual BBQ fundraiser. If you decide to help with this event you might be asked to in some of the following ways. Set up, cooking the meat, chopping, and packaging, and working the selling station. At the BBQ most of the time we have a group who also spends some time making our famous BBQ sauce, which if you volunteer for this event you might be asked to help prepare, bottle or label the bottles. As with the other fundraiser, you can volunteer for a shift that fits into your schedule.

Section 5 Our Committees

ACTIVE COMMITTEES

COMMUNITY SERVICE

If you decide to volunteer for this committee then you will get the chance to work with various groups and projects based around Athens. This committee currently get involved with projects that affect the whole community, Although we are a children based organization, The Community Service Committee can spend funds on projects such as Festivals, and events for adults. Currently this committee works in festivals, donations, and city wide projects as well as small projects.

GUEST LUNCHEON

If you volunteer for the guest luncheon then you will have the chance to help plan and get ready for our annual Kiwanis guest dinner. This event is always held the first Friday in October. The event allows the Kiwanis families to come tighter and change board members and officers. If you volunteer for this committee you may be asked to help with decorations, planning a menu, setting up the event, getting program info together and helping the day of the event.

HOUSE

The House Committee currently has the job of setting up before a meeting, tending to meeting materials, and making sure items are in place when needed. If you volunteer for this committee then you might be asked to serve as a greeter for our club, putting out attendance slips before the meeting, turning on microphones, making sure a flag is in the room, setting out the Kiwanis bell and gavel, and making sure items are in place for guest speakers.

Section 5 Our Committees

ACTIVE COMMITTEES

INTERCLUB

The interclub committee is responsible for traveling to various clubs around our division and seeing what they are doing and setting an example for the Athens club. Interclub are based on the number of members so our club has to send 4 people to be an interclub. Most of the time this group will meet at a central location in Athens and the group travels together. Enclosed is a copy of the interclub that you can attend I our division.

Clubs	Location	Date	Time
Madisonville	Donna's Cafe	Tuesday	Noon
Oak Ridge	Ryan's Steakhouse	2 nd & 4 th Tuesday	11:40 a.m.
Roane County	Roane State	2 nd & 4 th Wednesday	Noon
Spring City	Presbyterian Church	1st & 3rd Tuesday	6:30 p.m.
Sweetwater	Dinner Bell	Thursday	Noon
Tellico Plains	Town Square Cafe	1 st & 3 rd Tuesday	6:30 p.m.
Tellico Village	Classico Italian Restaurant	1st & 3 rd Tuesday	11:30 a.m.
Vonore	Rarity Bay Country Club	1 st & 3 rd Thursday	Noon

MAJOR EMPHASIS

The Major Emphasis Committee is responsible for handling donations in our club from birth to age 5. This group currently is active in donations such as the Imagination Library and various other projects that benefit young children.

MEMBERSHIP AND EDUCATION

The membership and education committee is responsible for educating a new member once they have been approved by the board. If you volunteer for this committee then you will be asked to come and sit in on when new members are being educated. You will learn about club history and relay what you have learned in Kiwanis on to new members.

Section 5 Our Committees

ACTIVE COMMITTEES

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The public relations committee currently has the job of making our club look the best it can to the community. If you want to work on this committee then you might be asked to help with photos, the website, face book, scrapbook, newsletters or public activities

SPIRITUAL

The Spiritual Committee currently serves as leaders for the invocation during the meeting. If you volunteer to work this committee then from time to time you will be asked to lead the group in prayer before the meeting.

SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship committee has the job of selecting two students from TWC and presenting them the awards. If you work on this committee then you will be asked to help review candidates and decide of who is the best candidate for our club.

YOUTH CLUBS

The youth clubs committee currently involves working with the TWC Circle K program. As a member of this committee you will serve as an example of what Kiwanis means and to help recruit this young people to become members when they graduate, Currently the Circle K hosts various projects through the year to help the community, such as work with St Judes, Christmas for a needy family and various other projects

YOUTH SERVICES

The Youth Services Committee currently makes donation and helps support projects based on the Elementary and High school aged children. Every year this group requests names from the school and goes and awards the Kiwanis Student of the Year Award.

Section 6 Attendance, Make Ups and Interclub

As a member of the Athens Kiwanis Club, we want you to be active. There are a number of ways that you as a member can be active in our club.

Attendance – Currently our club does not have an attendance policy, however we encourage you to attend meeting regularly. This will help you get to know your fellow Kiwanis members and see what is going on in the club.

Board Meetings- If you miss a meeting you can attend one of our monthly board meetings to attain a make up. By attending a board meeting you will also be informed as to the running of our club and what is going on in the club

Working a project- Currently our club has three major fundraiser projects. If you miss a meeting, then you can work one of the shifts for these projects and can receive a make up plus you will be helping the club with a fundraiser

Interclub- If you miss a meeting you can attend a meeting with our interclub committee. By attending an interclub you will travel with 3 others Kiwanis members and have the chance to meet Kiwanis member from other clubs. However if you wish to visit another Kiwanis club please feel free. If you go by yourself all you have to do is get a signed paper from that club and turn it in to our secretary and you will receive a make up. Below is a list of clubs in our division that you may wish to visit for interclub or by yourself

Clubs	Location	Date	Time
Madisonville	Donna's Cafe	Tuesday	Noon
Oak Ridge	Ryan's Steakhouse	2 nd & 4 th Tuesday	11:40 a.m.
Roane County	Roane State	2 nd & 4 th Wednesday	Noon
Spring City	Presbyterian Church	1st & 3rd Tuesday	6:30 p.m.
Sweetwater	Dinner Bell	Thursday	Noon
Tellico Plains	Town Square Cafe	1 st & 3 rd Tuesday	6:30 p.m.
Tellico Village	Classico Italian Restaurant	1st & 3 rd Tuesday	11:30 a.m.
Vonore	Rarity Bay Country Club	1 st & 3 rd Thursday	Noon

Section 7 Doing a Program

As a member of the Athens Kiwanis you will be required to present a program to the club about every 1 ½ years. The Vice President will take a list of member's names and start filling them in on dates. The list is done in alphabetical order. It will be your job to report your program information to the vice President in a timely manner so that our club can advertise it. If you have trouble finding a program please contact the Vice President as soon as possible so that they can find one for you. You will be notified about your program date by October 1st and will be reminded the month your program comes due.

A few things you should know about programs:

1. Your program cannot be of Political nature
2. Your program cannot be self promoting your business
3. Your program cannot be of Religious Attitude

We have these rules to try to help keep peace in the club. We are a civic club and do not want hard feelings between members due to the nature of a program.

Section 8 Some Things You Should Know

Once you submit your application it will be approved by the board.

From there you will be contacted by your sponsors and asked to attend an education meeting.

At this meeting you will be educated about our club.

When you are inducted, you will be brought up before the group and given your Kiwanis pin, and the group will sing our traditional song to you.

It is not uncommon for new members to sit with sponsors, and you will find out that in time everyone sits in the same place, however please feel free to move around this will give you the chance to meet new members.

As a new member you will be asked to pick a committee or two to volunteer for. We feel that the faster you become active the more fun you will have as a member.

If you get the chance, work fundraisers and projects. You will get more out of working a project or a fundraiser than by attending a meeting.

You will get out of this club what you put into it.

If you have supplies an email address then every Friday you will receive an email about what our program is, menu, upcoming projects, and a copy of the week's newsletter.

Our Club also currently has a website where you can see photos, read history, and find forms and information that you might need as a member. It is located at www.athenskiwanis.com

Last but not least we would like to say
Welcome to the Athens Kiwanis

