

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

**June 3, 2010**

**Kiwanis Club of Kingsport Receives Distinguished Club Award**

<p><b>Upcoming Programs:</b></p> <p><b>June 4, 2010</b> – Gray Fossil Site, ETSU Natural History Museum – Jeannie Zavada.</p> <p><b>June 11, 2010</b> – United Way Young Leaders Society, Cameron Henri.</p> <p><b>June 18, 2010</b> – Bays Mountain Park, Rhonda Goins, Ranger and Naturalist.</p> <p><b>June 25, 2010</b> – Regional Eye Clinic, Dr. Eric Smith.</p>	 <p><i>President Peter Raber (center) presents Distinguished Club Award to Secretary Lee Cornell (left) and Past President John Crawford.</i></p>	<p>Past President John Crawford and Secretary Lee Cornell accepted the Distinguished Club Award on behalf of the Kiwanis Club of Kingsport.</p> <p>The award is based on an accumulation of 80 points during a fiscal year. In addition to the Distinguished Club Award, Crawford received the Distinguished President lapel pin for his successful completion of the criteria for distinguished club member. Cornell received the Distinguished Secretary pin by making sure all reports were submitted on time.</p> <p>John stated Lee does so much behind the scenes. He also said that having</p>
<p><b>Upcoming Events:</b></p> <p><b>June 24 – 27, 2010</b> – 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Kiwanis International Convention, Las Vegas, Nevada</p>	<p>great committee chairs and board members made his job so much easier. Crawford listed a number of significant accomplishments under his leadership as President: a net gain in membership, establishment of a social committee that planned events for members and their families to get to know each other better, a committee that worked out a Risk Management plan, and the first Kiwanis One Day project.</p> <p>Lee Cornell has been serving as secretary since 1999. She says, “I love serving in an organization that makes a difference in our community. Each year is different, changing with the leadership strengths exhibited by each new president.”</p> <p>Crawford, who is currently serving as the Lt. Governor of Division 7 of the Kentucky-Tennessee District, has enjoyed the role even though extensive travel has been involved. He hopes to continue in leadership roles at the district level. If the Trustee concept is approved at the national convention this summer, he is a likely candidate for the K-T District Trustee. If passed, a Trustee would have five or six Lt. Governors reporting to him. Crawford also has aspirations to become Governor of the K-T District some day.</p> <p>For more information on the criteria of the Distinguished Club Award, visit the Kiwanis International website at <a href="http://www.kiwanis.org">www.kiwanis.org</a>.</p>	

**New Officers and Board of Directors Elected**

<p><b>President - Dave Atkinson</b>  <b>President Elect - Barry Bailey</b>  <b>VP - Everett Bond</b>  <b>Admin Treasurer - Jeff Little</b>  <b>Civic Treasurer - Michael Bird</b>  <b>Secretary - Bill Sade</b></p>	<p><b>Board 2 Year - Julie Short, Chris McCartt, Russ Jackson, Tim Miller, Wade McClellan</b></p>
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## Darrell's Dream Continues to Grow



*The Anderson Treehouse rests on a hillside among the trees in the Boundless Playground at Warrior's Path State Park.*



*Kiwanis members Ross Kingdon, Gary Godsey and Gary Whittington at the grand opening ceremony.*

By Jim Cornell

**Thursday, May 27, 2010** - Darrell's Dream grew a lot larger with the Grand Opening of the Anderson Treehouse at the Boundless Playground. Sponsored by Past President of Kingsport Kiwanis, Sam Anderson, Jr. and his wife, DeLois, the Treehouse marks the completion of Phase III in the construction of one of the most unique playgrounds in the United States.

In 2002, Darrell Rice and Mary Steadman met to discuss an early vision of the playground. Later, children of all abilities in the Tri-Cities participated in vision meetings and told the playground committee what they wanted to see in their playground. One of the ideas was to be able to look down from the trees that rise behind the site. Soon after the vision meetings, Mary Steadman's handicapped sister, Dianna Presnell, was looking on the Internet and saw a web-site for "Forever Young" Treehouses. This company constructed universally accessible treehouses for kids of all ages. Mary took the web pages to the playground committee and the dream grew.

At the Grand Opening ceremony, James Fyke, Commissioner of Environment and Conservation for the State of Tennessee, told the crowd that the Boundless Playground was one of the highlights of his 46 years of public service. Over \$1 million in state grants has been put into Darrell's Dream in combination with a unique partnership with local businesses and individual donors. Commissioner Fyke told the group that Warriors' Path State Park was the first state park in the country to build a Boundless Playground (accessible to children of all abilities).

Commissioner Susan Whitaker, Tennessee Department of Tourist Development, spoke about the huge impact Darrell's Dream has had and will have on our area. It is already bringing kids by the bus load from three states as well as older handicapped people who want to experience the Braille trail. Susan said the State recently published a brochure, the Sunny Side Trail, to promote tourism to the state. Warriors' Path is site #239 in the brochure with a mention of the Boundless Playground.

The Anderson Treehouse was designed by James Roth with Forever Young Treehouses, Inc, Warren, VT. James informed the audience that Kingsport not only has the first boundless playground in a state park but this is also the first Forever Young treehouse in a state park. Local construction firm J. A. Street assisted in building the treehouse, which was specially designed for its current location and built with locally harvested oak, hickory and pine. James said that no two treehouse that they build are the same. Each is unique. What they all share in common is universal accessibility. Ramps that can accommodate a wheel chair lead up to the treehouse. The Anderson treehouse is mounted to three large trees on the front edge of the structure, using a unique mounting design that does not harm the trees and provides freedom for the trees to move.

To make the climb to the treehouse more interesting, Essyx Exhibits & Displays designed about six signs that tell a bit about the early history of the area, as well as, the birds, trees, reptiles and insects that make a home here. Each station has an interesting story to tell through pictures and interactive exhibits, as well as, Braille.

Phase III of Darrell's Dream will begin shortly with the construction of an amphitheater on the hillside just behind the services building. As part of their mission to serve handicapped children, the Palmer Center Foundation will provide a significant part of the funding for this expansion. Kiwanian Ross Kingdon serves on the Palmer Foundation Board.

Darrell's Dream lives on! Many thanks to the Kiwanians and other volunteers who gave generously of their time and talent on April 23<sup>rd</sup> to ensure the playground equipment all looked shiny and clean for the Grand Opening. On this day of service, over 175 volunteers worked over 1500 hours on many projects at the park to prepare for a busy summer season. As always, bring a child to Darrell's Dream and see it through their eyes!

## Outstanding Key Club Awards Presented



*Dobyys-Bennett Key Club members: (left to right) Olivia Orten, Catrina Estes, Cole Mokry, and Alyssa Ison.*



*Sullivan South Key Club members: (left to right) Mathew Sheppard, Clay Holt, Emily Mallick, Sam Hiester and Caitlin Cherry.*

Cole Mokry (shown above with plague) was selected as this year's Outstanding Key Club member at Dobyys-Bennett. Although he was just a freshman this year, Cole threw himself into the program and led the club in number of service hours. President Ison, last year's award recipient, spoke highly of Cole's enthusiasm and dependability. He will be a great asset to the DB Key Club again next year.

Sam Hiester (also shown above with plaque) was selected as this year's Outstanding Key Club member at Sullivan South. Next year's President Catlin Cherry spoke highly of Sam's ability and trustworthiness. As a senior, Sam was involved in many activities at his school: Beta Club, culinary program, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, International Thespian Society, National Honor Society, Student Council, Key Club President and National Technical Society President. Sam received the ETSU Honors Scholarship and will be studying business there.

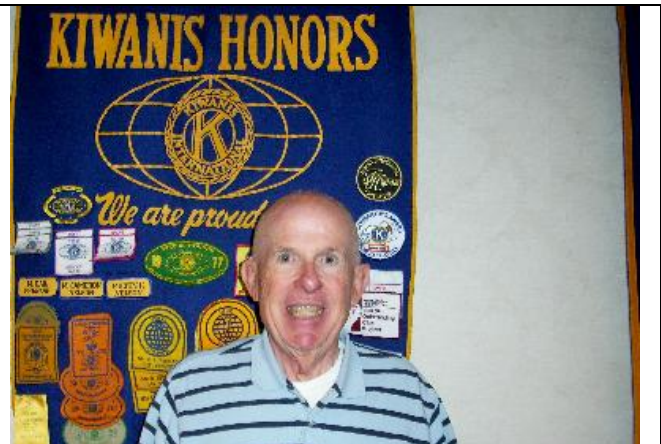
## More Key Club News

Several Sullivan County teens received awards at the Kentucky-Tennessee District Key Club Convention this year. Emily Cook, Ross Kingdon's granddaughter and a junior at Appalachian State University, received one of the \$1,000 Kentucky-Tennessee District scholarships. Sullivan North Key Club, sponsored by Cosmopolitan Kiwanis, received second place/silver level of the Distinguished Club Award. Sullivan North also received first place at the silver level of the Single Service Award. Blake Roller from Sullivan Central received the Jim Boodry Leadership Award and the Governor's Service Award. Sullivan Central received the Outstanding Club Award in Division 7. Sullivan Central is also sponsored by Cosmopolitan Kiwanis. Be sure to congratulate Cosmo members on a outstanding year of Key Club sponsorship.

## Kiwanians Receive Recognition for Achievements

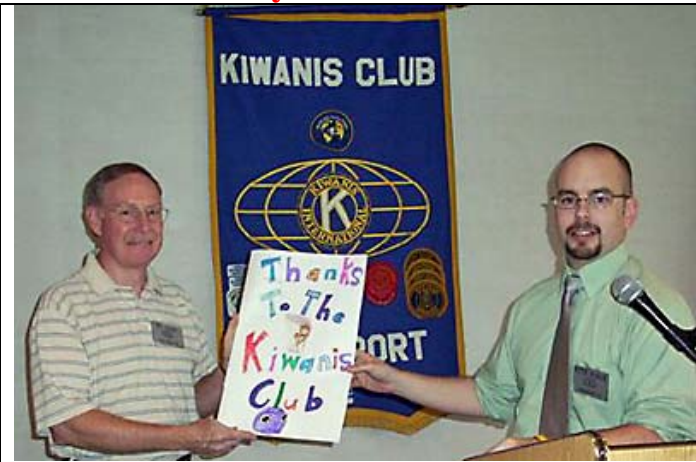


*Left to right: Wayne Case, 6 years; Chuck Smith, 7 years; Jack Vaughn, 4 years; and Bill Sade, 1 year.*



*David DeVault retired from the National Railway Historical Society after 53 years of service.*

## Boys and Girls Committee Makes a Difference All Year



*Bill Sade accepts card from Girls Inc. on behalf of members who worked on Kiwanis One Day project in April.*

Members of the Boys and Girls Committee hit the ground running at the beginning of the Kiwanis year in the fall with the coats and shoes project. Once the need for coats and shoes for area school children is fulfilled, the committee moves on to the next project – Kiwanis One Day. This year’s One Day project resulted in a stairwell to the Girls Inc. attic, lots of shelves for storage and sprucing of the grounds, including tree removal by Wade McClellan. Recently, committee members attended area school awards ceremonies to present Kiwanis sponsored awards. Each school selected the type award and set up the criteria for selecting the award recipient years ago, some as many as more than fifty years. This year, 21 students received awards at 13 area schools. 2010 Scholastic Awards Coordinator Dick Blair invites everyone to join the Boys and Girls Committee in congratulating the students and their parents on their outstanding achievements:

- Aditva Coresh** - Scholarship Award (highest grade point average) – Dobyns-Bennett High School
- Stephen A. Murray** – Sportsmanship Award, Sullivan North High School
- Heather Dykes** – Sportsmanship Award – Sullivan South High School
- Sarah Van Dierdonck** - Science Award – Ross N. Robinson Middle School
- Ashley Hazlett** – Science Award – John Sevier Middle School
- Caroline Kennedy** – Science Award – John Sevier Middle School
- Faith DeMotts** – Citizenship Award – John Adams Elementary School
- Alexa Hale** – Citizenship Award – Jackson Elementary School
- Robert Summers** – Citizenship Award – Jefferson Elementary School
- Jasmine Bingham** – Citizenship Award – Jefferson Elementary School
- Mackenzie Cutshall** - Math Award – Johnson Elementary School
- Ty Wilcox** – Math Award – Johnson Elementary School
- Brianna Roark** - Citizenship Award – Johnson Elementary School
- Olivia McMakin** - Citizenship Award – Johnson Elementary School
- Amber Nerren** - Citizenship Award – Johnson Elementary School
- Kensley Henry** - Citizenship Award – Johnson Elementary School
- Katie McQueen** - Outstanding Student Award – Kennedy Elementary School
- Lindsey Goddard** – Future Scientist Award – Lincoln Elementary School
- Jacob Bee** – Citizenship Award – Roosevelt Elementary School
- Sophia Smith** – Citizenship Award – Roosevelt Elementary School
- Jonathan Schallon** – Scholarship and Citizenship Award – St. Dominic’s School
- No Award – Washington Elementary

### Kiwanis Thank You

Kiwanis Club of Kingsport recently received a letter of thanks from the Kiwanis International Foundation for a contribution of \$180 for Skip-A-Meal. Kiwanians around the world raised over \$750,000 for the New Beginnings Campaign. The letter stated, “Thanks to you, more children will be fed, clothed, sheltered, educated and loved in the coming years. Thanks to you, Kiwanis and its Foundation will make a bigger difference in the world.” The contribution was matched by Kiwanis International as part of the New Beginnings Campaign because it was received by the April 30, 2010 deadline.

### Committee News

Wayne Ladd and Gary Godsey from Major Emphasis Committee recently met with Principal Mike Fulkerson and Reading Coordinator Mary Hess at Roosevelt Elementary to assess the impact of the reading program. Mary stated that the program was one factor in helping them to improve the overall performance of their school. They felt that the program had helped students with their self-esteem as well as improving their reading skills. The school also has a Lifeskills and a Reading is Fundamental program that Kiwanis has helped to fund. The Lifeskills program teaches children about caring, common sense, courage, cooperation, curiosity and more.

## **Announcements**

Kiwanis vests are available to wear at events. If your committee is planning a project or an event and you're interested in creating awareness about Kiwanis Club of Kingsport, see Lee Cornell to get the vests.

BIG SALE of Kiwanis items: Ball caps are \$5 and golf shirts are on clearance at \$10.

Free business card sized invitations, Ask Me About Kiwanis badges and Kiwanis magnetic ribbons are available for your use. They are located at the badge table.

Be sure to attend other Kiwanis Club meetings when you are out of town.

It not only counts as a make-up, but you may pick up some new ideas.

A club locator is available on the Kiwanis International website – [www.kiwanis.org](http://www.kiwanis.org).

Remember to sign-in and record your service hours at each weekly meeting and to silence your cell phones before the program begins.

**The Kiwanis Club of Kingsport, P.O. Box 3506, Kingsport, TN 37664**

**Meetings: Friday Noon at Americourt (AKA Quality Inn), Kingsport**

**Visited the Kiwanis Club of Kingsport Website lately?**

**Check out the recent photographs of events on the homepage -**

**<http://www.kingsportkiwanis.org>**