



# SPIRIT of the Amador County Kiwanis Club

P.O. Box 152, Jackson CA 95642  
[www.amadorkiwanis.org](http://www.amadorkiwanis.org)

## See's Candy Sales

Who is the Candy Man  
who lives in the Wagon?  
Does he like the lollypops  
or does it matter?

He gets cases and cases  
of all sorts of holiday chocolates.  
Find him in winter hiding in boxes.

Though there's always a profit  
he sweats the first bill.

Lets all tell Gil thanks  
and let him count the till.

It appears that we exceeded last year's profit in the winter months in spite of the rain, winds, snow and poor economy. The residents of our local communities again were very supportive of our efforts to raise funds for local youth programs and our college Scholarships.

Thanks to all who worked in the 'Candy Wagon'. Thanks to **Big O Tires in Jackson** for donating 2 tires to **Chris Zegler**. Thanks to **Patrick Scanlon** for changing the tires and for **John Wagner's** numerous trips to the bank. Also thanks to **Larry & Marge Stampfl** for storage of our inventory at the Linda Vista Motel.

We should also thank **Henry Cardana** and the many Kiwanians who developed and refined this major fundraiser thru the years. **The club began selling See's in 1983.**

**Thanks Gil Norr for another year's job job-well- done.**

## INSTALLATION OF THE 2009-2010 AMADOR COUNTY KIWANIS CLUB

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
*held September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009*

*at the Sutter Creek Ice Cream Emporium*

**Banquet - Awards - Auction**

### A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL!

Several members and guests were able to attend a great evening of festivities coordinated by incoming President **Debbie Blasingame** and Secretary **Christina Zegler**.

Lt. Governor **Karen Borman** and her husband **Bud** were happy to come and install our Board of Directors. Our perception that she was a real WINNER was confirmed when they left for home with a good share of raffle prizes.

She was generous in sharing many positive characteristics that she has observed of the Amador Club. She expressed amazement that so few could do so much.

Our new president took this to heart as she shared her goals for the New Year. She said with a beautiful smile, "**Hands-On-Service! Let's Get Out There! Educate the public to recognize the value of becoming a member!**" We all hope that her high energy level is contagious.

The food was good, the raffle was great and the camaraderie was terrific!

So forward we go with high hopes and solid goals. We **WILL** attract new members with the leadership skills and the enthusiasm of our new Board.

## DIVISION 44 INSTALLATION 2009-2010



### Lt. Governor Karen Borman

was installed in September at the last Division Council Meeting of Lt. Governor **James Chambers'** 2008-2009 term of office. This is not his first promotion to Past Distinguished Lt. Governor. He will remain involved with other Past Officers providing guidance to Karen during her term of office which began on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Past Division 44 Distinguished Lt. Governor **Jim Legler** is the new Division Secretary. Award winning Auburn Kiwanis Club Newsletter Editor **Carol Zobel** is Editor of the Division Newsletter 'Megaphone' and the new Webmaster is **Terry Schmidt** who has done a great job redesigning the Website had been maintained at a minimal level since the loss of **Betty Cardana** in February 2009, our division's first Webmaster.

**CHECK IT OUT!**



Faculty Advisor Kati Smithson and Kiwanian Rosalie Escamilla

## Argonaut High School KEY CLUB

**HOORAY! Our sponsored Key Club has a Faculty Advisor!**



### Kati Smithson, Faculty Advisor

Faculty member, **Keith Davis** resigned as the Key Club's Faculty Advisor at the conclusion of the 2008 school year. Mr. Davis had been the only Key Club Faculty Advisor since the Key Club's charter on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 1988. The school year ending in 2009 was difficult for the Key Club without having the guidance of **Mr. Davis** or full faculty support.

The new Key Club Officers and new advisors are at a disadvantage having not been able to attend the annual Regional Officers & Advisors' Training Program. However, with **Kati Smithson's** enthusiasm to assume the tasks of the Key Club Advisor, 2009-2010 will be a GREAT year for our Sponsored Leadership Program (SLP)! There are 40 plus Key Clubbers now actively involved in both service and fundraising projects.

The District Key Club Convention is scheduled in Sacramento on April 9, 10, and 11. Amador Kiwanis Club funds are available to assist with participation costs.

Key Clubbers are eligible for Kiwanis scholarships. Information is on the Cal-Nev-Ha Key Club website [www.cnhkeyclub.org](http://www.cnhkeyclub.org). Application forms are due in February.

**90<sup>th</sup> Cal-Nev-Ha  
District Convention**  
RENO, Nevada  
**August 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>**  
**Silver Legacy Hotel**



**WINGS & WHEELS**

**Henry Cardana, Howard Edson, & Gil Norr** were quite creative in getting a sign up for the Kiwanis Food Booth at the October 1<sup>st</sup> event at Westover Airport in Martell.

**MEAL DEAL - BBQ Sandwich, Chips & Drink for \$6.00!**

**Chris Zegler & John Wagner's** signs are just a bit tidier. Perhaps the woman's touch?

Money rolled in and everyone had a good time. There were free flights & lots of airplanes on display. It was a 'Children's Day' and lots of fun. It was also the first time members have seen Howard's fine looking knees.

**SAVE THE DATES!**

The newsletter 'SPIRIT' is published quarterly by the Kiwanis Club of Amador County. The Amador County Club was sponsored by the Placerville Kiwanis Club and chartered July 13<sup>th</sup>, 1965.

Club meetings are held on the 1st and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of every month. Project meetings are frequently held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday.

Meetings are scheduled to begin at 7:00AM and end at 8:00AM. They are held in the downstairs banquet room in Mel's Diner located at 31 N Hwy 49/88, Jackson, CA 95642. Members frequently arrive a bit early to socialize and get a head start on breakfast. Breakfasts are ordered from the normal menu and paid individually. Guests are welcome.

The Board of Directors meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday each month at various locations. They are scheduled 7:00PM – 8:30PM. The general membership is welcome to attend.

- President.....**Debbie Blasingame**
- Imm. Past Pres.....**Terry Meyer**
- President Elect.....**Rosalie Escamilla**
- Vice President.....**Steven Brown**
- Secretary.....**Christina Zegler**
- Treasurer.....**John Wagner**
- Director.....**Kevin Blasingame**
- Director..... **William Scanlon**
- Director.....**Jim Gouze**
- Director.....**Howard Edson**
- Director.....**Gil Norr**
- Webmaster.....**Sandy Wagner**
- Newsletter Editor.....**Melody Anderson**

This editor is solely responsible for the content. It is the intent to be accurate. Any errors or questions on content should be directed to the Editor and Club President.

Relevant information, articles & photos is extremely welcome from whomever. The editor may be contacted via email at [melodyndick@yahoo.com](mailto:melodyndick@yahoo.com).

Acknowledgement of contributors will be made. However, the frequent ideas and formats that will be gleaned from John W. Seigal's publications of the KFH 'House Talk' and the Rancho Murieta Kiwanis Club 'Kronicle' are hereby formally acknowledged for this and future issues to save space.



Scout Leader Patrick Scanlon tends the fire as a Boy Scout carefully drops a flag strip into the fire.

**BOY SCOUT TROOP 78  
Flag Retirement  
Ceremony**

On Veterans Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009, The Amador Kiwanis Club's sponsored Scout Troop 78 performed a Flag Retirement Ceremony at the **Bill Scanlon** Scout Hut in Jackson. Several veterans, parents, Kiwanians, friends and neighbors participated

in the ceremony. There are only two organizations authorized to destroy flags that are torn, frayed or ruined in some way. These organizations are the American Legion and the Boy Scouts of America. The flags are handled with respect as pieces are dropped into the fire.

Some ceremonies are done by burning the entire flag at one time or several flags together. For safety reasons, the Scouts tear or cut the flags in strips and drop them into the fire.

The ceremony began with the singing of the National Anthem followed by a prescribed script onlookers took part in reading and an invocation.

It was an emotional event with all participating in some way. Following the ceremony, Veterans present shared stories with the boys. They interacted with the elder retirees respectfully and in awe of the tales told.

Refreshments were provided by the sponsoring Kiwanis Club of Amador County. **Patrick Scanlon** is the Troop's Scout Master. **Melody Anderson** arranged having coffee, hot chocolate and cookies available.

**Kiwanis International Foundation (KIF) Grant  
Targets Children in Haiti**

The [Kiwanis International Foundation](#) (KIF) has awarded a \$10,000 grant from its Disaster Relief Fund to [Sleeping Children Around the World](#) to provide bed kits for children in Haiti. The grant was requested by an Aktion Club, which adopted Sleeping Children Around the World as its service initiative about three years ago.

A massive earthquake struck Haiti on January 12<sup>th</sup>, reducing most of its capital and the surrounding area to rubble. This most recent grant brings the amount of money the foundation has earmarked for disaster relief there to more than \$40,000. Donations being made to the Foundation's Relief fund are being matched by two organizations which triples the amount.

**95<sup>th</sup> KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION – Las Vegas, Nevada**



If you registered as a volunteer by January 31, 2010, the club pays the \$100 registration rate. After January 31, the rate increases to \$250 with the club paying \$100 of the increased rate. It appears we will have five members representing us at the convention with three authorized club delegates. Club delegates are able to vote in the election of International candidates, Bylaw amendments and resolutions as presented. Be prepared to voice your voting preferences prior to being asked by the delegates as to how they can best represent the memberships' preferences.

**CONGRATULATIONS TERRY!**



Terry has just completed a GREAT year as the club's 2008-2009 President! She begins the new Kiwanis year promoted again to Past President and remains an Officer on the Board of Directors in 2009-2010. She has also assumed responsibility for several projects.

The club's gift of roses is the membership's way of saying THANK YOU for guiding the club this past year!

A more significant change in her life is her **marriage to Stew Carnes on November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009.** The new family of five is wished the best of everything!



**PROJECT THANKS**

The Thanksgiving Basket Project was completed on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. It was a beautiful morning of organized chaos. Twenty (20) baskets were filled to the brim with food for a bountiful Thanksgiving meal. They looked great!

The selected families were thrilled with the gift of food for a holiday meal they otherwise would not have had. The young children were delighted with a few surprises that **Chris Zegler** created just for them. Of course a Kiwanis Club pamphlet made it into the baskets.

**Dick and Melody** purchased laundry baskets in which everything was packed. **Members** at the prior project meeting pre-packed baskets so we new what still needed to be purchased.

We owe a **THANK YOU** to our helpers from **Scout Troop 78, family members** that were on hand to carry baskets out to cars and to all the **Amador Kiwanians** who donated food or cash. **Patrick** used his truck to pick up turkeys and all was finished using space at the Chamber of Commerce. Too many individuals assisted in some way or another to list in this article and shame if someone were to be forgotten.

**THANKS TO EVERYONE!**

**Terry** was the project manager but is quick to indicate that **Chris Zegler** became the driving force enabling such a successful event.

**Don't forget to check out these useful Websites for information:**

[www.amadorkiwanisw.org](http://www.amadorkiwanisw.org)

[www.calnevhadiv44.org](http://www.calnevhadiv44.org)

[www.calnevha.org](http://www.calnevha.org)

[www.kiwanis.org](http://www.kiwanis.org)

**See's for Soldiers**

This was a new project for Amador this year. Candy Wagon customers were able to buy See's candies and the selection was set aside for pick-up weekly by National Guard representatives who handled the shipping process.

Fifty (50) pounds were shipped to soldiers in Afghanistan from our club at Christmas. Hundred of pounds were sent collectively by the Kiwanis Clubs that sold See's candy during the holidays in the Greater Sacramento area (Division 44).



This year's **Kiwanis** Rose Parade float won the Isabella Coleman Award for the best presentation of color and color harmony throughout the float. This was presented at the 121st Annual Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena.

*A credit for this information and photo: "Courtesy of the Tournament of Roses Archives".*

Amador Club members **Dr. Kevin & Debbie Blasingame and Howard** travelled south to see the Parade up close. The majority of our members were watching it in the comfort of their own home. **Kevin & Debbie** also went to the Rose Bowl game!

**Dick & Melody** watched both on TV in their hotel room in Disneyland. I have personal knowledge that they were recuperating from the prior night's ride on the Park Roller Coaster!

*Excerpts from the February issue of 'House Tal'*

## Kiwanis Dolls for Local First Responders

### SEW - STITCH - STUFF



Debbie, Chris, & Caleb with Al Lennox

Project meetings held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month are new this year. Members participate in hands-on projects and are able to socialize as well as discuss new fundraising and service project ideas. **President Debbie** picked our first project of the year. We have been making 'Kiwanis Dolls' for young children who unexpectedly find themselves in a situation of fear, panic and possibly pain. The local **American Legion Post 108** Ambulance personnel answer emergency calls for many reasons, but often times they are responding to an auto accident. Frequently children are involved and First Responders must in some way comfort a child in order to best accomplish what must be done. Appropriate medical treatment can be performed more efficiently by **Emergency Medical Technicians** (EMT) when a child is not frantic.

The dolls have no face, no ethnic or sexual identification. They are the shape of a small human body with arms, legs, torso and head. The child's own imagination creates the connection to create comfort from the innocence and safety of what they can hold closely and perhaps be the cause of a smile or a bit of calm. **Al Lennox, President and Executive Director of the American Legion Post 108 Ambulance Company** accepted the first group of 60 Kiwanis Dolls. A small tag identifying their source as KIWANIS is in one seam.



President  
Debbie Blasingame

### A Note from President Debbie...

I can't believe it has been three full months since becoming president of our club. Chris and I had a vision, molded by the club's expressed desires (i.e. questionnaire) to bring the club back to basics, Community Service and Camaraderie. These are the reasons in part why we joined Kiwanis. Our club has been working hard on both during this first quarter of our Kiwanis year.

Our Community Service has taken many different paths, both old and new. Supporting Pine Grove Elementary School, Project Thanks, Sponsoring BSA Troop 78, Patriotism Projects, Kiwanis Dolls, Labels for Education, Click to Give, our

*See's* Candy Holiday sales and Scholarships are just some of the wonderful things done by our club.

Everyone deserves a pat on the back. I'm proud of what we have accomplished for such a small club. Camaraderie in the form of monthly social activities outside our regular meetings began in November. Members attended the Sutter Creek Theatre production of Scrooge, the Interfaith Festival of Choirs and dazzled each other with their scores at the local bowling alley. Attendance has steadily grown with each outing.

We have been working on advertising the club to our community and beyond. Print ads, articles and photos continue to appear in the Amador Ledger-Dispatch and other local publications. The club has been on our local TSPN Cable TV station several times. These sources allow us not only the opportunity to advertise our projects and events, but also enable us to educate the public about Kiwanis and our club's positive impact on the local and surrounding communities.

The simple act of wearing your Kiwanis shirt and/or pin in public is a form of marketing our club. We all know we need to increase our membership. Many hands... We all need to continue to spread the word about the great experiences and opportunities our club provides for its members.

Along with our continuing projects, the next quarter we will host our first Mystery Dinner on March 6<sup>th</sup> and have a food booth at the Jackson Dandelion Days. No one can say that Kiwanians are lazy!

**PLEASE keep up the good work and LET'S HAVE FUN!**

*Debbie Blasingame, 2009-2010 President  
Kiwanis Club of Amador County*