



Central/Western Kansas  
& Northwest Oklahoma

Mike and Kris Reed



## Awana Newsletter

### New Website!!

We are excited to introduce our new website to better serve you! The address is the same as the old website, but we have added many new features and resources that we hope you will find useful, including:

- Auto e-mail updates
- Current territory news
- Ministry calendar with links to view rule books, forms, etc.
- Awana church finder
- Access to current and past newsletters
- Resource page with links to information on AwanaGames, Quiz-zing, Grand Prix and much more!

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

### Regional Shepherding Parents Seminars

**January 20-21**  
Rogers, IA

**February 10-11**  
Dallas, TX

**March 3-4**  
Marshalltown, IA

**April 21-22**  
Lincoln, NE

We will also be offering a one-day seminar at our fall Leadership conference on August 26, 2006.

## *Praise and Prayer*

### We praise Him for....

...travel safety. So far in 2005, we have traveled over 20,000 miles for the Awana ministry! We sincerely appreciate all of you who pray for our travel safety. It is vital to our ministry.

...the **wonderful opportunity** God gives us to meet pastors, club leaders and clubbers! Since our last newsletter earlier this year, we have conducted multiple basic trainings, laid down five game floors, made **29 club visits**, attended two Grand Prix events, two AwanaGames, two Bible Quiz events and gave Awana presentations at 11 churches. Mike also had the privilege to give messages during three Sunday services.

...the **seven** new clubs starting this fall and two that are planning to start at the beginning of 2006!

...the incredible turnout of leaders and pastoral staff at our fall leadership conference in Wichita. We had **approximately 400** people attend the conference more than **doubling** the number of attendees last year!

...the wonderful group of **volunteers on our ministry team**. Our territory has been greatly enriched by their commitment and dedication to serving Awana in this way.

...an **increase in financial support** for our ministry the past two months.

### We ask prayer for...

...preparations being made for Bible Quiz, AwanaGames and Sparks-a-Rama events in 2006. Pray that more clubs **will get involved** in these events which can be a great outreach to **unsaved** family and friends.

...those clubs in our territory that are going through **struggles** in various areas of their ministry and **leaders** who may be discouraged.

...God to call an **increased network** of ministry team volunteers throughout our territory, especially in **western Kansas**.

...more **churches and individuals** who will partner with our ministry financially. We are currently at **65% of our needed support**.

## *Shepherding Parents Seminar*

Rorheim Institute, Awana's training network for ministry workers and parents, will be launching it's latest seminar titled *Shepherding Parents*. Let the Rorheim Institute assist your church as you encourage parents in your congregation to assume their role as the leading spiritual trainers of their children—and begin preparing them to fulfill that role today. Together, we can teach the next generation how to light their lives with God's truth ... and shake our churches, communities, nation and world for Christ in the process. The *Shepherding Parents* seminar is aimed at both parents and children's ministry workers. Parents can learn how to more effectively parent their children and

ministry workers can learn how to better help parents in the challenging task before them.

You will find a list of seminar sites in our region to the left of this article. To learn more or to register, go to the Rorheim Institute website at [www.rorheiminstitute.org](http://www.rorheiminstitute.org) and click on Seminar. The cost is \$39 for the Saturday seminar.

We are also excited to announce that we will be offering the *Shepherding Parents* seminar at our fall leadership conference on August 26, 2006. Please check the Central/Western Kansas & NW Oklahoma website for details at [www.wksawana.org](http://www.wksawana.org).

Visit us on the web at [www.wksawana.org](http://www.wksawana.org)!

## 2006 Events Calendar

<b>Jan 28/30</b>	Coaches Meeting for AwanaGames and Sparks-a-Rama (attend on either date) Faith Bible Baptist, Valley Center	<b>Mar 25/ 27</b>	Line Judge Training for AwanaGames and Sparks-a-Rama (attend on either date) Faith Bible Baptist, Valley Center
<b>Feb 4</b>	Bible Quiz Calvary Baptist Church, Derby	<b>Apr 1</b>	Central Kansas AwanaGames and Sparks-a-Rama Valley Center High School, Valley Center
<b>Feb 11</b>	Bible Quiz First Baptist Church, Salina	<b>Apr 19-22</b>	Summit 06 Chicago, IL
<b>Feb 18</b>	Western Kansas Coaches Meeting and Line Judge training for AwanaGames and Sparks-a-Rama Location—TBD	<b>Jun 9-16</b>	Great Plains Awana Scholarship Camp Camp Comeca Cozad, NE
<b>Mar 4</b>	AwanaGames, Sparks-a-Rama and Bible Quiz Morningside Community Church, Montezuma	<b>Aug 26</b>	Fall Leadership Conference Grace Community Church, Newton
<b>Mar 10-11</b>	JV/Journey 24-7 Regional AwanaGames & Bible Quiz Blue Valley NW H.S., Kansas City	<b>Aug 26</b>	Shepherding Parents Seminar Grace Community Church, Newton

## This and That.....

- ◆ Leadership updates are due by **December 30, 2005** for this club year. You can now update your leadership information on-line at [www5.awana.org/leadership](http://www5.awana.org/leadership).
- ◆ Plans are taking shape to offer a **leadership conference in western Kansas** next year. Please check our website for updates on this important event as they become available.
- ◆ We will be reporting **results** of the 2006 Bible Quizzes, AwanaGames and Sparks-a-Rama on our **website**, so be sure to check it out!
- ◆ Basic Training is being **totally revised** and will be available by fall 2006. The new training will offer a general session and then individualized modules for pastors, commanders, directors, leaders (by club), game leaders and secretaries. It will also have affordable individualized role booklets and offer **DVD-supported training**.
- ◆ Yes, the rumors are true! **Updates to the Sparks** program are being developed and will be ready for the 2007/2008 Awana year. We are told by the folks at Awana that they are **committed to keeping** the things Sparks leaders and parents like about the current program. We will **keep you informed** as we hear more.
- ◆ Be looking for the totally new Journey elective titled **God-colored Glasses**, available January 3, 2006. It covers the issue of a biblical worldview from three angles: what it is, how to get one and how it plays out in real life. The lessons show how the key to a **biblical worldview** comes from focusing on the Lord and living according to His Word.
- ◆ If your club is planning to participate in **Quizzing, AwanaGames or Sparks-a-Rama** in 2006, make sure you check out the important information, including **registration deadlines**, at [www.wksawana.org](http://www.wksawana.org).
- ◆ The Awana **Grand Prix** track can be reserved for your next event. Make sure you reserve the track early as it is on a **first-come, first-serve** basis. If you would like to reserve the track or you want to find out how to do a Grand Prix event at your church, e-mail Mike at [MikeR@awana.org](mailto:MikeR@awana.org)!
- ◆ Did you know that you have access to **ideas from hundreds of leaders** all across the U.S. at the click of your mouse? Check out the **Awana Leader Forums** located on the Awana website at [www2.awana.org/cs/Forums/Default.aspx](http://www2.awana.org/cs/Forums/Default.aspx).

Visit us on the web at [www.wksawana.org](http://www.wksawana.org)!

## *JV changing to Trek in 2006*

The middle-school and junior-high program is going through its first major change since 1995. To be introduced in June 2006, Trek is a newly designed program that will replace the current JV program beginning with the 2006/2007 Awana year.

With a focus on relevant biblical topics and the key spiritual discipline of Scripture memory, this program is packaged in ways that are sure to engage your students. Newly developed Main Bible Studies give the depth and solid

teaching you've come to expect from 24-7 Ministries. Compass Points provide quick overviews of important topics with foundational Scripture verses to engage your students.

Don't forget: Trek fits directly into the Awana Meritorious and Citation Award tracks – a standard in children's and youth ministry excellence. So, if your church has not used Awana programs beyond T&T or if it has been a few years since you have used Awana for your teen ministries, 2006 may be the perfect year for you to introduce it!

We are also excited to let you know that we have two individuals from Awana Headquarters who are experts in middle-school and junior-high programming coming to our 2006 fall leadership conference. Along with conducting training on the new Trek program, they will also present workshops to help leaders more effectively reach young teens.

**Note: There will not be a “dual-track” year where JV and Trek run side-by-side. 2005-2006 will be the last year for JV.**

## *Kris' Korner*

It is hard to believe that we have been in Kansas for 1 ½ years. However, when I look back at all that has happened in that time, it is hard to believe it has been ONLY 1 ½ years. The school year ended rather uneventfully. Unfortunately, our summer did not start quite as uneventfully. Mike left in early June for Awana scholarship camp in Nebraska. In his absence, two of my friends from Ohio and five of their children were coming to visit. About five hours after their arrival, we discovered water coming into our basement. In Newton, we had experienced about 20 inches of rain in four days. Finally, the water table was so saturated that it had no place to go but up. Although it was a horrific experience, God was so good in providing an abundance of helping hands to get everything up off of the floor and eventually removing the carpet. Other than many hours of labor and redistributing the sleeping arrangements for three moms

and nine children, we survived. It could have been so much worse. When I look at what happened in the southern part of the United States this year, our situation was miniscule.

We had the opportunity to return to Ohio for a visit with family and friends. While we were there, Ben and Emily were able to go to a church camp that they had regularly attended. God again provided us with His abundant traveling mercies. Upon our return to Kansas, I dove knee-deep in VBS as I was part of our church's VBS leadership team. August was spent getting the Awana leadership conference ready and the kids ready for school.

The school year began in mid-August with Ben entering his freshman year in high school; Emily, her 8th grade year and in Awana JV; Megan, her 5th grade year and in Awana T&T; and Katie, her 3rd grade year and in Awana T&T. This is my first year in a LONG time where I don't have a Sparky. I am now the assistant director for Sparks at our church and it seems strange not to have

a Reed child in class with me.

After much prayerful consideration, we enrolled Ben at Berean Academy, a Christian school. He seems to be adjusting and advancing well. He participated in soccer, playing on the varsity and junior varsity teams. He is currently on the junior varsity and freshman basketball teams. Emily has been developing many friends and is enjoying being a basketball manager for the 8th grade boys' team at Chisholm Middle School. She will play on the 8th grade girls' team starting in January. Megan is involved in SOS (Students Offering Service) at her elementary school. She is enjoying participating in this group on a weekly basis. Katie is playing basketball at the recreation center and is now actually taking some interest in her brother's games!

All three girls will be participating in a young musicians' prelude to our Christmas program by playing piano solos. Megan and Katie are in the Christmas program as well. We are looking forward to spending Christmas in Ohio with family and friends and pray there will be no ice storms this year!!

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### Postage Stamp Project

Awana missionaries mail information to churches and commanders several times a year—we are no exception! As you can imagine, postage can be a large part of our annual budget, and this all comes out of our regular support funds. We would like to offer the challenge to area clubbers and leaders to be a part of our Postage Stamp Project to buy first class postage stamps for our use again this year. We hope you choose to participate. You could run contests club vs. club or boys vs. girls or clubbers vs. leaders or color team vs. color team (see which club or group or team bring in the most stamps). This is a great way for your club to help with our postage expenses! At the end of your contest, please mail your postage stamps to **Mike and Kris Reed, 504 S. Quail Court, Newton, KS 67114.**

### Financial Support of our Ministry

We continue to receive inquiries about our support status. As you may know, we are 100% faith-supported through the contributions of churches and individuals. It is our responsibility to raise our support. When we started our ministry here, our support level was at about 20% of our needs. Currently, our support level is at about 65% of our needs. We praise the Lord for those individuals and churches who have taken us on for financial support. For information on how you can begin supporting us with your financial gifts, please go to our website at [www.wksawana.org](http://www.wksawana.org) and click on “Your Missionaries”. As great as our financial needs are, nothing can replace the power of prayer. Please pray that the Awana ministry will be used to get out the saving message of our Lord Jesus Christ to children and their parents! Please continue to lift us up in your prayers!

### Missionary Penny Project

Another way your club can help is through an Awana Missionary Penny Drive. Like the Postage Stamp Project, you can do a contest or other incentives to get your clubbers excited about bringing in pennies for their Awana missionaries. We currently have a negative balance in our ministry account so all funds we receive will go directly to eliminate this deficit and assist with needed items for our ministry. Please mail a check, payable to Awana Clubs International, to our home address listed above.

## Ministry Calendar

### Have we visited your club yet?

There are still many churches that we have not had the opportunity to visit since arriving last fall. If you are one of them, we would love to come see you!

We can also assist your club by doing a formal club evaluation. This can provide you with valuable ideas on ways to increase the effectiveness of your club as you reach boys and girls for Christ!

To schedule a visit, please e-mail us at [miker@awana.org](mailto:miker@awana.org). Contact us soon as dates are filling up fast!

### September

- 7—Metro East Baptist, Wichita
- 14—Sharon Baptist, Wichita
- 17—Haven Baptist, Haven
- 13—Tyler Road Southern Baptist, Wichita
- 15—Immanuel Baptist, Wichita
- 16—First Baptist, Hutchinson

### October

- 2—Harlan Church, Harlan
- 5—Pleasant Home Church, Brewster
- 12—Zion Evangelical, Munden
- 16—Countryside Christian, Wichita

- 18—Messiah Baptist, Wichita
- 19—First Baptist Church of McPherson
- 21-22—Southwest WA/Olympic Peninsula Leadership Conference, Tacoma, WA
- 26—Newton Bible, Newton

### November

- 2—Evangelical Free Church, Winfield
- 5—Kidz Clinic Children's Conference, Wichita
- 6—Missionary Conference, Grace Community, Newton
- 9-13—Awana HQ
- 16—Central Christian Church, Wichita

- 19—Grand Prix at Newton Bible, Newton
- 24—Happy Thanksgiving!
- 30—Goddard United Methodist, Goddard

### December

- 7—Grace Community, Newton
- 11—McConnell AFB, Wichita
- 14—Emmanuel Baptist, Rolla
- 25—Merry Christmas!

### January

- 11—Countryside Christian, Wichita
- 14—Cornerstone Christian, Wichita
- 18—First Baptist, Washington
- 28-29—Emmanuel Mennonite Brethren, Meade