

Winter/Spring  
2005



# Awana Newsletter

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The ***Awana Family Connection***, the family resource website, is almost ready to re-open and we are very excited about it. After extensive work on the site, it will shortly open with a new logo, name and look. In addition to a targeted product line, Awana will also be providing visitors with some helpful hints and biblical encouragement concerning their responsibilities as parents. In the near future, Awana will be shipping each commander a large AFC promotional poster and information about the site to share with their Awana leaders. Shortly after the site goes live, they will be sending out in church orders, packets of special AFC bookmarks to share with their clubbers!

## Ministry Update

We have driven over 10,000 miles for the Awana ministry since arriving in Kansas in mid-August! We sincerely appreciate all of you who pray for our travel safety. It is vital to our ministry.

Since our November Fall Newsletter, we have participated in 4 basic trainings, 16 club visits, 1 Grand Prix, 1 Bible Quiz (Central Kansas), laid 2 game floors, visited 33 pastors, commanders, and/or children's ministry directors, and Mike has given messages during 7 Sunday services. Mike was also able to attend the Rorheim Vision Conference in Irving, Texas, January 20-22. The week following the conference, Mike had the wonderful opportunity of doing a three-day trip throughout Southwestern Kansas and Northwest Oklahoma. He had the opportunity to visit with 14 pastors and 5 commanders during this trip. Of course, the highlight for Mike each week is getting to meet and speak to all the Awana kids during club visits (we love receiving clubber letters and emails, too!)

## Rorheim Institute

Have you checked out the ***Rorheim Institute*** yet? Are your workers and parents fully equipped to reach and disciple kids of all ages for Christ? Find out how the Institute can provide your Awana leaders, other children's ministry workers and parents with training, encouragement and support. More than just curriculum and courses, the Institute's complete training system embodies Awana's commitment to scriptural truth, the gospel, leadership training and the shepherding and discipleship of children. For

Our whole family could attest to the fact that the biggest blessing about our ministry is all of the wonderful, genuine people we have had the privilege of meeting. We thank you! We also thank all of you who have been so gracious to support us either financially or prayerfully. We were amazed at the generosity shown to us at Christmas. Our kids did not know what to even say when gift cards or money arrived for them in the mail. You all are very special people and the children and youth in Central/Western Kansas and Northwest Oklahoma are blessed to have leaders with servants' hearts.

### March

- 2—Parkview Mennonite, Hillsboro
- 6—Metro East Baptist, Wichita
- 9—First Baptist, Salina
- 13—Rose Hill Bible, Rose Hill
- 15—FCA Event, Canton Galva
- 16—First Baptist, Pratt
- 18-19—**Teen Day, Kansas City**

more information on the Rorheim Institute go to [www.rorheiminstitute.org](http://www.rorheiminstitute.org) or contact us by email or by phone.

**Rorheim Ambassadors:** We are seeking people God will raise up to be an ambassador from each church in our territory. Please see the enclosed brochure for information about the role of this key person in your church or give us a call. If identified, please provide this person's name on the enclosed card you will be returning to us.

## *We Need your Help!*



We have spent a lot of time updating our computer with email addresses for churches, pastors, commanders, etc., only to discover that many are no longer good addresses. Also, we have quite a few of our Awana churches with no email addresses. It would be GREATLY appreciated if you would fill out the enclosed card and provide the requested information. If a person or church does not have an email address, please indicate that as well.

The most efficient way for us to communicate important or time-sensitive information is through email whenever possible. If your church, pastor or commander does not have email capabilities, is there someone in your

Awana club who would be willing to serve as our messenger? If so, please provide that address on the enclosed card. We will not use these addresses for anything other than our ministry purposes.

Also, we would like each church to designate one person to be the official Central/Western Kansas and NW Oklahoma “**Web Watcher**”. This person would be willing to check our website on a weekly basis for any alerts, date changes, event changes or other special notices ([www.wksawana.org](http://www.wksawana.org)). Please indicate the name and email of your church’s “Web Watcher” on the enclosed card.

## *AwanaGames™ and Bible Quizzing Update*

The Central Kansas Bible Quizzing competition took place on Saturday, February 5, at Calvary Baptist in Derby. Check out our website for the results. We had 174 participants from 24 churches. Congratulations to all of the kids who worked so hard for this challenging event! To Tim and Cindy Janzen and members of Calvary Baptist a big thanks to you for hosting and organizing the event. The Central Kansas AwanaGames™ and Sparks-a-Rama will be held April 2 at Valley Center High School, Valley Center. Registrations are due by March 18. Check the website for more information. Thank you to Greg Schuessler and Jeff Schuessler

for coordinating and running this event.

The Western Kansas/NW Oklahoma Quiz will be held on April 9 in Ingalls, KS. Jerome and Anita Wiens are organizing this event. Thank you in advance for all of your hard work.. The Western Kansas/NW Oklahoma AwanaGames™ and Sparks-a-Rama will be also held on April 9 in Ingalls. Thank you, Robert McDowell, for coordinating this event.

*For all of these events, please check the website at [www.wksawana.org](http://www.wksawana.org) for details and registration forms.*

“Check out our website for the results. We had 174 participants from 24 churches.”

## *Scholarship Camp Right Around the Corner!*

It is hard to believe that it is almost time for Scholarship Camp. We will be joining with Rick and Fairy Hattan, High Plains Awana Missionaries, who will serve as camp directors. Scholarship camp will be held at Camp Comeca, Cozad, Nebraska, on Saturday, June 11, through Friday, June 17. **Eligibility:** First time campers complete 2

Handbooks, or 2 Manuals & Team Units or Electives and returning campers complete 1 Handbook, or 1 Manual & Team Units or Elective. Must be in 5th grade or higher.

Additional information, including applications and medical release statements, are available at [www.wksawana.org](http://www.wksawana.org).



*Great Plains Awana  
Scholarship Camp*

## *Hot Off the Press from Rorheim Institute*

Part of a Rorheim initiative is hot off the presses. It is called The Bible-BASED Leader handbook. The first book is the adult companion to the T&T Book One, Ultimate Adventure Series, using all of the same Scripture memory. The verses are printed in KJV. However, in the back of each handbook are “cut-and-paste” cards containing the same Scripture in the NKJV and the NIV. The differ-

ence from the clubber handbook is that all of the content is geared for an adult in children ministry, whether it is as a leader, a teacher, or as a parent. Eventually there will be ten handbooks available. Any adult completing all ten handbooks would then be eligible for a “Citation-type” award. These handbooks will be an excellent tool for establishing or reinforcing Biblical truths that are important for

us to convey to our youth in our local churches and homes. The Bible-BASED Leader will be available in the 2005-2006 Ministry Guides. It is presently available offline by calling Awana Customer Service and asking for Item No. 64215. The cost is currently \$6.75, plus shipping and handling.

## *Kris's Korner*

Since our last newsletter, we had the blessing of returning to Ohio for Christmas. It was a wonderful time visiting with friends and family. God was gracious in our travels. We arrived the night before the big ice and snowstorm hit central Ohio. It was wonderful to be snowed in with family. Because of power outages and road conditions, there were many days of A LOT of family. We could not have asked for a better gift! On the way back to Kansas, the roads were again clear. We arrived home on a Sunday night. On Tuesday, the big ice storm hit Kansas. Although we got a little weary of ice, God was good in the protection He provided our family.

Before I continue with what happened when we returned to Kansas, I need to digress and tell you a little bit about our family. As many of you know, we have four children. Ben and Emily attend Chris-

holm Middle School and Megan and Katie attend South Breeze Elementary in Newton. We also have a dog, Molly. Molly was supposed to be a beagle. Her mother was a beagle. It is quite apparent that her dad was NOT a beagle. Molly is now a 62 lb. hound dog who spends most of her time in our backyard.

Upon returning from Ohio, Mike went to pick up Molly from the kennel on Monday. However, Mike did not come home with just Molly. He came home with a sister for Molly. Her name is Bailey and she is truly a beagle. Mike thought Molly was lonely in the backyard all by herself. This, from the man who never felt it necessary to own one dog, let alone two! Although I questioned Mike's sanity, I was fine with our new addition and the kids were thrilled. However, do you remember the timing of the Kansas ice storm? Tuesday! The

day after the new pup arrives to our house. Therefore, for one week, I had the “blessing” of having a 62 lb. hound dog and a beagle puppy in my kitchen. The ice finally melted and the dogs resumed their backyard activities.

I am keeping busy with playing taxicab driver and driving instructor, as Ben is now 14 and in possession of an “instruction permit.” All of the kids are finishing up their Awana year, Emily just finished basketball, Ben is starting baseball practice for a competitive travel team, Katie is playing indoor soccer, and Megan is nursing a buckle fracture to her left wrist after falling off a trampoline. Never a dull moment in the Reed household!

## Central/Western Kansas & Northwest Oklahoma

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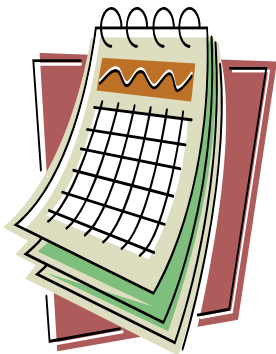
### Postage Stamp Project

March is traditionally National Awana Month and commanders are often looking for a meaningful project for their Awana clubbers during that time or for an end-of-the-year project. 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. Awana missionaries mail information to churches and commanders several times a year. 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 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). At the end of your contest, mail your postage stamps to **Mike and Kris Reed, 504 S. Quail Court, Newton, KS 67114.**

## Financial Support of our Ministry

Many of you have asked 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 in the fall, our support level was at about 20% of our needs. Currently, our support level is at about 50% of our needs. As you can see, progress is being made, but we need more whom the Lord will raise up to help meet our needs. If you are not already, will you or your church prayerfully consider partnering with our ministry financially? If the Lord's leading you or your church to support us financially, checks may be made payable to **Awana Clubs International** and sent to Awana Clubs International, One East Bode, Streamwood, IL 60107. Please designate the check clearly for the area of ministry you wish to support (Example: in the memo section, write **Mike and Kris Reed, #322**). If our account is not indicated, it will not go into our territory account. We greatly appreciate all of you who are partnering with us financially. Without you, we could not be here serving churches to help them reach boys and girls for Christ. If you would like more information or have questions regarding our financial support, please feel free to contact us.

## Ministry Calendar



*Reminder: Please check [www.wksawana.org](http://www.wksawana.org) for any updated changes to the calendar.*

***Reminder:** Did you fill out the enclosed information card in the postage-paid envelope? If not, please do so as quickly as possible as this is vital to our ability to meet your needs!*

27—Happy Easter  
30—Zoar Mennonite, Inman  
**April**  
2—C. Kansas Awana-Games and Sparks-a-Rama, Valley Center  
3—Kiowa SBC, Kiowa  
6—Grace Baptist, Wichita  
9—Western Kansas AwanaGames and Bible Quiz, Ingalls  
10—First Bible, Lyons  
11—First Baptist, Beaver  
13—Cheney Baptist, Cheney

16—First Baptist, Salina  
17—First Baptist, Wilson  
20-23—Summit, St. Louis, MO  
27—First Baptist, Dodge

**May**  
4—Grace Community, Newton  
20-26—North American Awana Missionary Conference, Lancaster, PA

### Calendar Notes:

- Central Kansas Awana-Games™/Sparks-a-Rama Line Judge Training will be on March 26 and 28. Please see our website for details.
- This year's **Fall Leadership Conference** will be on August 27, 2005 at First E. Free in Wichita. Keep watching for more details!