

Fall
2006

Central/Western Kansas
& the Oklahoma Panhandle

Mike and Kris Reed

Awana Newsletter

Have you visited our Website?

We have a website that we have created to better serve clubs in our territory. If you haven't checked it out, we encourage you to mark it as a "Favorites" and check it regularly to stay current on important information about Awana right here in our state! The website includes:

- 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, Sparks-a-Rama, Quizzing, Grand Prix and much more!

www.wksawana.org

Opportunities for your Club to Support our Ministry!

Commanders are often looking for meaningful projects for their Awana clubbers at different times throughout the year. We would like to suggest two ways that would greatly help our Awana ministry financially.

See the back of this newsletter for more information!

Praise and Prayer

We praise Him for....

...**travel safety** so far this year as we have driven many miles to visit clubs, attend events and participate in various conferences. 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 many pastors, club leaders and clubbers!

...for the **new Awana basic training materials** that were introduced this year. We were able to conduct basic training at seven individual churches and at five regional basic training sites across our territory. This represents **over 400 leaders** who have received the new Awana Orientation and club skills training so far this year!

...We also laid down seven game floors, made **26 club visits**, attended two Grand Prix events, two AwanaGames, three Bible Quiz events and gave Awana presentations at 14 churches. Mike also had the privilege to give messages during nine Sunday services.

...the **10 new clubs** starting this fall and at least one more club planning to start at the beginning of 2007!

...for the fall leadership conference in Newton in August. We had **approximately 450** people attend the conference. We also praise Him for the fall leadership conference held in Garden City in September. This is the first conference held in the western part of our territory for several years and we plan to make this an annual event. We appreciate all the leaders who volunteered their time and talents to teach at

both conferences this year!

...the wonderful group of **volunteers on our ministry team**.

...the many individuals and churches who **faithfully give financially** to our ministry.

We ask prayer for...

...planning for the **upcoming events** season in early 2007. Pray for those coordinating each event (Quizzing, AwanaGames and Sparks-a-Rama) and that **many unsaved** parents will attend and **hear the gospel**.

...**struggling clubs** in our territory. Especially those which are having trouble recruiting committed leaders (this is the number one reason churches drop Awana).

...the **eleven out of 122 churches** in our territory that are currently **without a pastor**.

...planning that is underway to offer a **Bible Quiz** event in the **northwest** part of our territory.

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

...That we will reach 100% of our needed monthly support. Our **support level is at 88% or \$950 short** each month. Please pray that **God will bring us more individuals and churches** to partner with us, both prayerfully and financially.

...the **blessing** we recently received by participating in a **missionary conference** at Calvary Baptist Church, Derby.

But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever".

- Hebrews 1:8a

Visit us on the web at www.wksawana.org!

2007 Events Calendar

Jan 23	Coaches Training for AwanaGames and Sparks-a-Rama, Wichita (location TBD)	Mar 9-10	Midwest Regional Youth Day (for Trek and Journey students), Olathe South High School, Olathe, KS
Jan 26	Coaches Training for AwanaGames and Sparks-a-Rama , Hutchinson (location TBD)	Mar 23	Line Judge Training for AwanaGames and Sparks-a-Rama, Hutchinson (location TBD)
Jan 27	Coaches Training for AwanaGames and Sparks-a-Rama , Faith Bible Baptist Church, Valley Center.	Mar 24	Line Judge Training for AwanaGames and Sparks-a-Rama Faith Bible Baptist, Valley Center
Feb 3	Bible Quiz Calvary Baptist Church, Derby	Mar 26	Line Judge Training for AwanaGames and Sparks-a-Rama , Wichita (location TBD)
Feb 10	Bible Quiz First Baptist Church, Salina	Mar 31	Central Kansas AwanaGames and Sparks-a-Rama Valley Center High School, Valley Center
Feb 17	Bible Quiz Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Hoxie	Mar 31-Apr 3	Summit 06 Chicago, IL
Mar 3	Western Kansas AwanaGames, Sparks-a-Rama and Bible Quiz Cimarron High School, Cimarron, KS	Aug 25	Fall Leadership Conference Grace Community Church, Newton

Check the events calendar at www.wksawana.org regularly for updates on events and training throughout the territory

This and That.....

- ◆ Leadership updates for this club year are due by **the end of 2006**. Churches should begin receiving printed leadership forms around the middle of October. Updates can be returned by mail or on-line at www5.awana.org/leadership.
- ◆ We will be offering a **leadership conference in western Kansas again in 2007**. Please check our website for updates on this important event as they become available.
- ◆ **The planned update to the Sparks** program has been postponed until 2008/09. We will **keep you informed** as we hear more details.
- ◆ If your club is planning to participate in **Quizzing, AwanaGames** or **Sparks-a-Rama** in 2007, make sure you check out the important information, including **registration deadlines**, at www.wksawana.org.
- ◆ **T&T trading cards** are here! These cards--an additional incentive beyond the T&T award system and Truth-Trackers-- are now available to order for your club. You can **read more** about the T&T trading cards at www.awana.org/ttcards.
- ◆ **Central Kansas AwanaGames and Sparks-a-Rama Update:** Beginning this year, only **Division Two and Three** team categories will be used. Also for 2007, all coaches and line judges **must attend** one of the regional training sessions (see calendar). Moving forward, line judges must attend training **every other year** to be eligible to participate in either event.
- ◆ The **Grand Prix track** in the Ministry Guide on page 134 has had a price increase. The **vendor raised the price** to \$735.00 because of the price of aluminum. There is a shipping fee of \$85.00 when the vendor ships out the item.
- ◆ **Role Book Correction.** In the T&T leader role book, page 37 under "What is My Role During Handbook Time?" first bullet, the reference to Luke 21:41-42 is incorrect. **It should read Luke 22:41-42.**
- ◆ A **new PowerUp CD** is now available to help kids with their Scripture memory. It is item #71731 and costs \$3.95. It can be purchased online at both the **MGO and Awana Store sites**.

visit us on the web at www.wksawana.org!

Introducing Commander College 101

In order to train new or nearly new commanders in the best practices and methods of leading an Awana club ministry in the local church setting, Awana Clubs International has created "Commander College 101."

The textbook used will be the newly published Commander Role Book, enhanced by the expertise of top-notch commanders from across the country, explaining practical tips and time-tested methods. Awana's U.S. Training team will supplement the training with a fun, interactive teaching style.

Classes will be held on-site at Awana's International Headquarters in Streamwood, Illinois. Dates (identical classes offered at each time) are January 11-14, 2007 and February 15-18, 2007. Each session begins with dinner on Thursday and ends with lunch on Sunday.

Cost per Individual is \$299 for early registrants (\$399 for late registrants). For the January session, the early cut off date is December 11. For the February session, the early cut off date is January 15. For more information and to register, go online at www.awana.org/commandercollege.

Kris' Korner

I very much welcomed the coming of summer. Our schedule towards the end of the school year was hectic at best. Ben and Emily both were involved in track. Megan took classes at a local pottery store and Katie played indoor soccer. This summer no one was involved in sports – a first for the Reed family.

We all went to the Awana Scholarship Camp in Cozad, Nebraska, on June 9-16. It was a privilege to get to work with Rick and Fairy Hattan, Awana missionaries in Nebraska. Not only did we have a wonderful time, we all came away from the week with spiritual challenges that we hope to incorporate

in our walks with the Lord.

We were home for a week and then we went to Ohio to visit family and friends. Megan and Katie went to Grandma Camp and Ben and Emily went to a church camp. Once again, God granted us uneventful travels. Although Mike's aunt died at the end of our visit, we were blessed that we were able to visit with her at the beginning of our trip.

Upon arriving back home we dove into our VBS. Mike and I also spent a lot of time working with the new basic training material with our ministry team members as well as the churches in our territory.

God answered a prayer of our hearts right before we left for Ohio. We felt led to enroll all of our children at Berean Academy, a local Christian school. However, it was likely going to be cost prohibitive. We prayed for God to open up a way for this to happen if it was His will. God provided me a job at the school working in the kitchen. Therefore, I am now on the kids' schedule. Also, with the tuition discounts and my salary, it made it financially possible to send all of them to the school. God is amazing!

I am privileged to be the Sparks director at our church this year. We have 69 Sparks registered! Even more exciting, a visitor trusted Christ as her Savior during a recent handbook time. What a praise!

Truth & Training Changes in Fall 2007!

Big news!! Awana Clubs International is making some significant changes to the first two Truth & Training handbooks in Fall 2007, with similar changes coming in late 2008 for the third and fourth books. (Note that they will also be revising the Truth & Training Leader's Guidebook product in light of the handbook changes.)

Truth & Training handbooks will now have more of a 3-level approach (similar to the 24/7 Ministries Come See, Come Follow, and Come Serve levels) to aid leaders in min-

istry to kids of different backgrounds and abilities.

The new handbooks will also include review verses so a clubber will learn a new verse and review a previously learned verse. All current T&T verses will be retained in the update. The difference is some of the verses will be shifted to different achievement levels.

Another addition to the T&T books will a parent page to encourage moms and dads to help their children learn!

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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 brings 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.**

2006/2007 Copy Machine Project

Another project idea is to do a “penny drive” to raise money for a used copier for our ministry. Making our own copies with a commercial-grade copier will save us hundreds of dollars since we will not need to use an outside vendor for larger jobs. The total amount we need to raise is \$2500.00 (this includes the price of the copier, toner and maintenance agreement over the next four years). Monies raised over and above our copier needs will be placed in our general support fund. At the end of your project, **please mail a check to Mike Reed, 504 S. Quail Ct., Newton, KS 67114. In the memo section, please write Reed #322 Copier.**

Financial Support of our Ministry

As you may know, we are 100% faith-supported through the contributions of churches and individuals. It is our responsibility to raise our support. Currently, our support level is at about 88% of our needs. We are still about \$950 short per month. 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 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!

Has Mike visited your club yet?

There are still many churches that we have not had the opportunity to visit since arriving in the fall 2004. 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. Contact us soon as dates are filling up fast!



PowerUP is following on the heels of last year's successful Great Shake UP to benefit churches and energize kids for the 2006/2007 club year. PowerUP's goal is to get God's Word deep into the hearts of kids.

You've seen the need: fewer kids are memorizing Scripture and completing handbooks. We need to encourage Scripture memory so kids can grow in the faith. PowerUP gets churches involved in helping kids memorize their verses.

Just like the Great ShakeUP last year, all the resources churches and leaders need are available online at www.awana.org/powerup. Music, memory helps, training and Council Time mes-

sages, incentives and tips for Scripture memory are available at a leader's fingertips! Plus, pacing calendars will help leaders plan their club's PowerUP.

Although it is designed to be a year-long event to motivate kids to memorize Scripture and finish handbooks, it is not too late to take advantage of this great resource. We want to encourage you to start PowerUP right away.

Plug into the source—God's Word—and PowerUP for Life!