



**Final Results of our 2007  
Events Season on the  
Website!**

You can view team and individual results for the 2007 Bible Quiz, Awana-Games™ and Sparks-a-Rama events at our Central/Western Kansas and the Oklahoma Panhandle website.

Also available:

- 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, Quiz-zing, Grand Prix, including final results for each event.

**Visit  
[www.wksawana.org](http://www.wksawana.org)  
today!**

**Opportunities for your  
Club to Support  
our Ministry!**

We still need over \$1700 to reach our project goal of \$2500 for a used copier for our ministry. We are so thankful for the generous gifts that we have received from churches and individuals. Please see the back of this newsletter for more information on how you can support our ministry!

***Praise and Prayer***

**We praise Him for...**

...the **10 new churches** starting Awana this year and for several churches in our territory considering Awana to reach children, youth and families for Christ!

...for the **123 churches** that we are privileged to serve in Central/Western Kansas and the Oklahoma Panhandle.

...the many stories we hear from pastors and commanders about **how kids are coming to Christ** at Awana. In fact, it is not uncommon as we travel to various Awana clubs that **fifty-percent or more** of the kids coming to Awana are **unchurched**. We are thankful for the outreach of Awana to many unsaved children!

...for the **first-ever Bible Quiz** event in NW Kansas on March 10th. We look forward to bringing this event back in 2008.

...for a wonderful 2007 **event season**. The kids and leaders had a great time, many came to cheer on their teams, and the **gospel was boldly presented** at each event!

...the recent launch of a **Ministry Care** program that will eventually extend to all clubs across our territory.

...**travel safety** 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.

...for allowing us so far this club year to make **29 club visits**, two AwanaGames, four Bible Quiz events and two **missions**

**conferences**. Mike also gave messages during five Sunday services and presented Awana to five churches.

...the **new volunteers** that have recently joined our ministry team.

...the many individuals and churches who **faithfully give** financially to our ministry and for the increase in monthly support over the past few months.

**We ask prayer for...**

...the **many counties** in our territory with no Awana presence.

...God's will to open the door for Awana to be used in the many **Spanish-speaking churches** here in Kansas. Pray specifically for potential club starts that could reach the Hispanic population in **Dodge City and Wichita**. Please pray that we could effectively provide the necessary resources to develop this ministry.

...planning for the upcoming **fall Ministry Conferences** in Newton and Garden City. Pray that **many leaders and pastors** will attend. Pray also that he will raise up people to lead workshops at both events.

...our ministry to reach 100% of our needed monthly support. Our **current support** level is at 90% of the amount needed each month. Please pray that God will bring us **more individuals and churches** to partner with us both **financially and prayerfully**.

...for **safety** as Kris and I travel to a regional missionary conference at Awana Headquarters in Chicago at the end of May.

***But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people..."***  
**- 1 Peter 2:9a**

## 2007 Events Calendar

**Aug 25**      **Fall Awana Ministry Conference**  
Grace Community Church, Newton  
Keynote Speaker: Larry Fowler, Executive  
Director of Global Training at Awana  
and author of the book Rock Solid Kids

In August, we will again be offering several **Regional Basic Training** events. Please check the events calendar at [www.wksawana.org](http://www.wksawana.org) regularly for updates on events and training throughout the territory.

**Sep 8**      **Fall Awana Ministry Conference**  
Garden Valley Church, Garden City  
Keynote Speaker: TBD

You are also encouraged to subscribe to receive automated e-mail service alerting you to important event updates and other important information. Go to [www.wksawana.org](http://www.wksawana.org) for more information.

## This and That.....

- ◆ We are excited to be offering an Awana **Ministry Conference in western Kansas again in 2007**. Dates and locations of both fall conferences are on our website (hit the "Calendar" link at the home page). Keep checking back over the summer for more information, including registration forms!
- ◆ The **Awana.org e-newsletter** keeps you in touch with the **most up-to-date features, programs, news, products, club testimonies and information** available at [www.awana.org](http://www.awana.org). This newsletter along with several **other newsletters** are available from Awana that you can choose to receive **automatically** by e-mail. Sign up at <http://www2.awana.org/subscriptions/subscribe.html>.
- ◆ **High Power Soccer** from Awana is an awesome way for kids to hear about Christ's **plan of salvation**—many for the first time. This **Monday-through-Friday, half-day soccer camp** for your summer children's ministry is a blast and you can even **use it as a vehicle to point children** to your 2007-08 Awana program! For more information, go on-line at <http://www.awana.org/highpower/>.
- ◆ **T&T Trading Cards** are a hit! One clubber shared that "the trading cards **are awesome!** They keep everyone busy and active. I really like the back information. I think they were **a good idea!**" If you are looking for a new way to encourage your kids to **complete handbooks, interact with friends and memorize Scripture**, consider using T&T Trading Cards next year! For **more information** on how you can use this great tool, go to [www.awana.org/ttcards](http://www.awana.org/ttcards).
- ◆ Did you know that we have over **30 volunteers** who give their time and talents to help us **serve the Awana clubs** across our territory? We are so grateful for these **wonderful volunteers** who all love Awana and have a **passion for helping** leaders and churches reach children and youth (and their parents!) for Christ. You can view a **current listing** of our Ministry Team members by going to [www.wksawana.org/ministry\\_team.html](http://www.wksawana.org/ministry_team.html).
- ◆ Hey parents, here's an idea that might **help your kids memorize their verses**. Each week after club have them write out the verses they plan on learning for next week's club. Arrange the verses on the **kitchen table** - with the verses for each child near the place where that child usually sits. Cover the verses with a clear, plastic tablecloth - so that **each time the child sits down** for a meal - the verses are right there, ready to be learned and reviewed!
- ◆ Here's a **great tip** shared by a Sparks director to help clubbers learn how to **remember the number of books in the Old and New Testament**: O-L-D (3 letters) T-E-S-T-A-M-E-N-T (9 letters) 39! Cool, eh? Wait, it gets better! N-E-W (3 letters) T-E-S-T-A-M-E-N-T (9 letters)  $3 \times 9 = 27!$
- ◆ **Questions** are coming in to Awana about the code in **T&T Book 3, Discovery 8:7**. If you look at the top of the page 148, the code is the alphabet starting with A across the page to Z. The code starts over again in the middle of page 149. Clubbers can look at the symbols on page 149 and find the matching one at the top of the page. Fill in the **"crack the code"** line with the correct letters. Then unscramble the letters to get the word **CONGRATULATIONS**.

## ***Commanders, how well did you get trained?***

*By Jack Eggar, CEO Awana Clubs International*

Last year, Awana conducted a focus group of Awana commanders from the Chicago area. We asked them to share their joys and frustrations. One thing we learned is that the commanders didn't get a lot of training to prepare them for their pivotal role. One commander remarked that the only training he received about his role was when the departing commander took him aside and instructed him to "show up early and unlock the door, then stay late, turn off the lights and lock the door on your way out."

How about you, Awana commander? Were you mentored into your current role, or did you "learn it on the fly?" I suspect that for the most part, Awana commanders are neither made nor born – they are picked out of a hat and thrust into a role with a minimum amount of preparation, and those who do receive some training usually are schooled in the mechanics of running an Awana club, but not so much in regard to equipping and inspir-

ing a cadre of Awana leaders to pour themselves into the lives of children in an effort to see them come to know, love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ. You were most likely forced to fill in the blanks on your own. Am I right?

It's my desire to rectify that situation, and one way we'll do it is by offering "Commander College" again later this year. We did a test in January and February with two groups of Awana commanders who came to Awana headquarters (braving bone-chilling temperatures in the process) for several days to learn how to be true children's ministry leaders and advocates within their churches. All told, more than 80 Awana commanders left the meetings energized and with a renewed vision and passion to reach kids for Christ.

The test confirmed that Commander College can meet a deep need for commanders across the U.S. The next Commander College has been set for August 2007. Visit [www.awana.org/commandercollege](http://www.awana.org/commandercollege) for more details!

## ***Kris' Korner***

I can't believe another school year and Awana club year are coming to a close. I feel like this year went by at about 100 mph! It was definitely an adjustment going back to work full-time, something I had not done in 15 years. However, every day I get to see my kids during lunch and I count it a blessing!

Ben, a sophomore, and Emily, a freshman, are involved in Forensics this spring. Emily is also involved

in track and earning some spending money babysitting. Ben is working at the local recreation center as a life guard and as a referee for youth soccer teams. Megan is finishing sixth grade and was added to the band after Christmas. She plays the flute. Katie is finishing fourth grade and is our outdoor girl. All three girls will be performing in a piano recital at the end of May.

I have had a wonderful time this year

as the Sparks' director for our church. Our highest attendance was 70 Sparkies. The best part of the year has been the many, many salvations that have taken place in our visitor room. I praise the Lord for a faithful volunteer who comes every week to share the gospel. It will be sad to see the year come to a close. However, I know I will appreciate the break.

We are looking forward to spending time with family and friends this summer and gearing up for another year of ministry.

## ***Puggles — Coming This Fall!***

In many circles, "puggle" is a common term for a baby platypus. In Awana circles, Puggles is an enriching 1-year program for your pre-Cubbies kids (usually older 2- and younger 3-year-olds) that presents basic biblical concepts:

- ◆ We are a unique creation of God
- ◆ God loves us very much

Puggles learn simple lessons through teaching cards, activities, music and more. Puggles' leaders have a leader's guidebook to help them plan and direct Puggles time and communicate the lesson. Then parents—a Puggle's first and best teacher—can step in to reinforce the lessons with take-home

cards that include ideas to point out God's Word each day. And little details like Puggles T-shirts, puzzles and coloring books make every precious child feel like part of the group.

Puggles is ideal for your Awana club time, nursery, Sunday school or ladies Bible study childcare. Puggles plants seeds of faith and teaches toddlers God's Word!

"Everything Puggles" arrives in June 2007. Be sure to check [www.awana.org/puggles](http://www.awana.org/puggles) for curriculum samples and program products. We will also be providing additional training on Puggles at both fall Awana Ministry Leadership Conference locations.

## Postage Stamp Project

Awana missionaries mail information to churches and commanders several times a year—we are no exception! At the beginning of this year, we offered a 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. Needless to say, we were overwhelmed by your response! Even the early part of the club year, stamps began arriving at our home or when Mike was out on club visits. In fact, we have received more stamps that we can begin to count! We would like to extend our deep appreciation for all of you who generously supported us in this way! As you may have heard, the USPS is increasing the First Class postage rate to 41-cents effective May 14, 2007. As a result, we will be asking clubs to also donate 2-cent stamps for the upcoming club year.

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## 2006/2007 Copy Machine Project

When this club year began, we announced a fund-raising project idea to purchase 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. To date, we have received almost \$800.00 in gifts toward the \$2500.00 needed for this project (price of copier, toner and maintenance agreement over the next four years). We are so grateful for the giving of individuals and clubs toward our copier. Is God leading you or your church to help with this need? If you would like to give, **checks should be payable to Awana Clubs International, #322 and mailed to Mike Reed, 504 S. Quail Ct., Newton, KS 67114. In the memo section, please write "Copier Project"**. Monies raised over and above our copier needs will be placed in our general support fund.

## 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 90% of our monthly need. 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 continue to lift our ministry up in your prayers as we answer the Lord's call to serve the 123 churches using Awana in our territory.

### Has Mike visited your club yet?

There are still many churches that we have not had the opportunity to visit. 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 for the 2007/08 club year, contact Mike (email [miker@awana.org](mailto:miker@awana.org) or phone 316-283-0351).



## T&T Book One and Book Two Changes for 2007/2008 Club Year

We'd like to see every child in every Awana club develop a love for the Word of God and show signs of becoming a Christ-centered person. However, studies show that if kids don't "get" and apply key spiritual concepts by age 12, they most likely never will. With this in mind, Awana is making changes to T&T Book One and Book Two for the 2007-2008 club year (and in Book Three and Book Four for 2008-2009).

Key changes — Memory sections will include only one new verse, plus one required review verse • The second memory verse currently in a section will be moved to Silver extra credit • Gold extra credit will be comprised of two out of the existing four extra-credit activities • Memory verses will be reformatted in natural,

easy-to-learn phrases on the main part of the page • Sections will include easy-to-understand instructions on how to complete the section • Each Discovery will include a new parent section to help parents encourage their kids in Scripture memory.

Churches should manage their inventory properly through the remainder of this club year as Awana is unable to accept the existing books outside of the standard 90-day return policy.

Additional details on these improvements have been posted on the T&T leader resource page of our Web site at [www.awana.org/leader\\_resources/tt](http://www.awana.org/leader_resources/tt) or e-mail Mike at [miker@awana.org](mailto:miker@awana.org).