

K *The Kiwanis Club of Abilene* KIWANIGRAM



February 9, 2011

Volume LXI, Issue 19

NEW ZOO DIRECTOR BILL GERSONDE **Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2011, Noon, Abilene Country Club**

Bill Gersonde became the director of the Abilene Zoo on July 19, 2010.

He formerly was zoo superintendent at the Tautphaus Park Zoo in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Gersonde has served as a zoo superintendent since July 1991. During his tenure at the Tautphaus Park Zoo, Gersonde's major accomplishments included leading the facility which had never been accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) to becoming an accredited institution for three consecutive five-year periods, overseeing the renovations of exist-

ing facilities and construction of new ones, establishing a non-profit support organization, implementing a volunteer educators program as well as developing another volunteer group to assist in animal care and grounds facility maintenance and construction, and completing a 10-year zoo master plan.

In addition, Gersonde has over five combined years of experience as a keeper and supervisor at the Cheyenne Mountain Zoological Park in Colorado Springs, Colorado; an elephant and camel trainer and handler for Elephantastics, Inc. located at the Denver Zoo in



Bill Gersonde, director of the Abilene Zoo. Photo courtesy of Greg Kendall-Ball of the Abilene Reporter-News.

Denver, Colorado; and a keeper at the Lee Richardson Zoo in Garden City, Kansas.

Basketball Shootout Another Slam Dunk Success

Thank you, thank you, thank you...for making the 14th Annual – Kiwanis Club of Abilene – Basketball Shoot Out a big success.

With your help, this year's Shoot Out raised **\$5,603.80** for children in need. This is a wonderful amount. This makes the total amount we have donated in the last 14 years to the Children's Miracle Network and Hendrick Children's Hospital just over \$49,000.00.

The Change Bandits did a great job again this year in robbing people



Thanks to everyone who had a part in the Shootout, and especially to our CMN hero, Brenden Baker.

for a good cause. We really appreciate the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Boy Scout Troop #206, First Financial Bank employees and of course

the women's and men's basketball teams from McMurry and Hardin-Simmons for their efforts. Thanks especially to First Financial Bank, who was



our corporate sponsor once again this year.

We had 23 Kiwanis Club of Abilene members "man" the doors selling

Continued on page 2

Since the weather prevented us from meeting last week, this is an abbreviated Kiwanigram.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

On our prayer list

- Jarrell Young will be having some surgery
- Charles Kirkpatrick who broke his right ankle on January 20th
- Henry McGinty who fell recently and injured his knee
- Tommy Dodson husband of Faye Dodson, health issues
- Pray for H.B. Terry who is at home now and hopes to return to Kiwanis soon
- Remember Bill and Ginger Zavatson and health issues for them
- Remember Leonard Brock who is at the Oaks at Radford Hills, room 40
- Remember Clarence Presswood who would sure like to see visitors
- Pray for Zack Briley who is struggling with health issues
- Former fellow Kiwanian Fred Ewing after surgery

Calendar:

- Feb. 8: Division 35 Council Meeting, The Beehive Restaurant
- Feb. 12: Tx-Ok Mid-Winter Conference, Irving Tx
- Feb. 26: 90th Anniversary Celebration- February 26th. Governor Sam Curry will be here.
- Apr. 30: PANCAKE DAY
- July 7-10: 96th Annual Kiwanis International Convention, Geneva Switzerland
- Aug. 25-29: Tx-Ok Convention at Sea.

Upcoming programs

- Feb. 16: Melissa Luton, Hendrick Hospice
- Feb 23 No mtg. in lieu of 90th anniversary banquet

Heads Up!

Thanks to Lynda Fogerson for this week's headline on this special reminder. She wins a Kiwanis Club of Abilene Cap, of course.

You, too, can win a fabulous price if you send me a great headline for this reminder. (send to williamson@reporternews.com)

The Health Department has informed us that hat or cap will be required by all pancake flippers at the Pancake Day in 2011.

You might as well buy a Kiwanis Club of Abilene Cap for \$6.50 and have it ready. Wear it between now and then as great exposure for our club. Six hats were purchased at the 1/19/11 meeting. Let's see those at the Basketball Shootout!

Do we know who you are?

Do you enjoy trying to guess who the Kiwanian of the Week is? Is there a week that goes by that you don't find out at least one fact about a fellow Kiwanian that you didn't know?

Come March, we will run out of Kiwanians to feature. That's when we will have used all the information provided to us.

We have at least 44 Kiwanians who haven't turned in the information questionnaire.

Get one from Keith Garner or Faye Dodson, and let's keep up the fun.

Shootout continued

tickets and passing out programs, as well as 25 members of Boy Scout Troop 206 taking up half time donations and being Change Bandits before the game also.

The ceremonial ball toss and half-time Change Bandit donations went great. Thank you coaches, players and universities for making our Miracle Kids, Carter Wood and Brenden Baker, feel extra special.

Of course, we really appreciate Melinda Blay and Megan Clifton and all the folks at Children's Miracle Network who helped with a lot of the details of putting the Shoot Out on and making it a grand success this year.

How about it...want to do a 15th Shoot Out? I already know your answer, so until then, thanks again.

Gratefully yours,

David Jones

14th Annual Shoot Out Chairman



Lynda Fogerson & Randy Williams



Ken Poynor, George Knight & Nancy Miller



Mark & Twyla Young, Roy Dent & Bill Hoogstra



Will Smith & friend volunteering

In the snap of a camera

Charles Kirkpatrick has posted extensive photo albums of our recent ramp project and the Basketball Shootout,

Find them at
<http://kiwanisclubofabilene.shutterfly.com/>



Hendrick Pledge

Goal \$50,000.00
Received to Date \$40,104.26
+ Money 1/5/10..... \$624.90
Balance Needed \$9,270.84

Keep in mind our goal is to present \$50,000.00 to Hendrick Children's Hospital at our 90th Anniversary Celebration on February 26. Contact Faye Dodson for additional details. Checks should be made payable to Kiwanis Club of Abilene Foundation.

Can you name this Kiwanian will return next week

KIWANIS CLUB OF ABILENE

Chartered: May 25, 1921
473 Cypress Street, Suite 107
Abilene, Texas 79601
Telephone/Fax: 325-673-1341
Club E-mail: Kiwanis@AbileneKiwanis.org



KIWANIS IS WHERE A NEED IS SERVED!

Interim Kiwanigram Editor: Doug Williamson
williamsond@reporternews.com

The Kiwanis Club of Abilene

cordially invites you to the

Celebrations Banquet marking the Club's 90th Anniversary

Saturday, February 26, 2011

5:30 pm

**MCM Elegante Suites
4250 Ridgemont Drive
Abilene, Texas**

**Entertainment: Barbershop Quartet, The Memory Men
Entree: Chicken Cordon Bleu**

**Honors and Awards will be bestowed.
Memories will be made.**

\$15 for Members/\$25 for guests

**Please make reservations By February 22nd
Kiwanis Club of Abilene
473 Cypress, Suite 107, Abilene, TX 79601**

**or contact President Lora Lynn Christensen 325 673 0197 or
pianist@swbell.net**

2010-2011 OFFICERS

Lora Lynn Christensen - President
Mark Young - Immediate Past President
Charles Kirkpatrick - President-Elect
Mark Hoover - Vice President
Marty Anderson - Vice President
Mac Sipe - Vice President
Ricki Brown - Treasurer
Faye Dodson - Secretary
Henry McGinty - Assistant Secretary
Kimberley Cole - Foundation Advisor

2010-2011 DIRECTORS

Two Year:
Twyla Young, Kirk Hancock, Guy Lucas,
Royce Manning, Will Smith

One Year:
Rob Allen, Roy Dent, Lew Lewis, Dick Kincaid, Don Paige