

## ◆◆◆ What is Aktion Club?

Aktion Club is a community service group for adults, aged 18 and above, who live with a developmental or intellectual disability. The mission of an Aktion Club is to provide members with an opportunity to develop initiative and leadership skill; to serve their community; to be integrated into society and to demonstrate the dignity and value of citizens living with disabilities.

The first Aktion Club was formed in Putnam County Florida by George D. "Jake" Swartout in 1987. It became a sponsored organization of Kiwanis on October 1, 2000. Today there are 500 clubs with 12,000 members in 10 nations. These clubs perform well in excess of 150,000 community service hours annually.

Aktion Club is a sponsored organization of Kiwanis International. With headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana, the purpose and mission of the organization reads "Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world, one child and one community at a time." Kiwanis was founded in Detroit, Michigan and the first club was chartered on January 21, 1915. A club organizer named Allen Browne brought in the first member of that club. That members name was Joseph Prance. From that day, Kiwanis has grown to be one of the three largest community service organizations in the world.

In 1927, the first Key Club, Kiwanis' high school service club was formed in Sacramento, California. Today, there are over 300,000 students on over 5,500 high school campuses, primarily in the United States and Canada. It has grown internationally in many Caribbean nations, Central and South America and recently to Asia and Australia.

In more recent years, Kiwanis has also formed thousands of Circle K Cubs, a college level service club, Builders Clubs, an organization for Junior High School students and K-Kids Clubs for children in elementary schools. In total, there are over 700,000 members in the Kiwanis family of clubs, all helping to make a better community.

## ◆◆◆ What is the Service Initiative?

Beginning in 2016, the International service project for Aktion Club is to provide stuffed animals to children. The Shelbyville VC Aktion Club has partnered with the Shelbyville Kiwanis Club and initiated a new project called the "Comfort Cart" for the Emergency Department of Major Hospital in Shelbyville. The comfort cart will provide a series of emergency items such as lotion, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, etc. The Aktion Club will provide stuffed animals and fleece blankets. These items will be given, as needed, to families that must come to the hospital in an emergency and need these types of items.

## ◆◆◆ How are Aktion Clubs Formed?

Aktion Clubs are co-sponsored by a local Kiwanis Club and a community service agency serving adults with disabilities, such as an adult day program, work program or other similar organization. Our Aktion Club is co-sponsored by the Shelbyville Kiwanis Club and The Arc of Shelby County. Clubs are supported at the District level and by the Kiwanis International office in Indianapolis, which provides programs, literature and other club supplies. Annual Indiana District and International training conferences are provided to all clubs.

**Motto:** Where development has no disability.

**Vision:** To develop competent, capable, caring leaders through the vehicle of service.

**Mission:** To provide adults living with disabilities an opportunity to develop initiative, leadership skills and to serve their communities.

### **Core Values:**

**Character Building:** The ability to do the right thing, even when it might be the unpopular choice.

**Leadership:** The ability to listen, communicate, serve and guide others.

**Inclusiveness:** Accepting and welcoming differences in other people.

**Caring:** The act of being concerned about or interested in other people or situations.



Group photo at an Aktion Club Meeting

**Aktion Club is a proud member of the Kiwanis Family**

**Organized  
August 18, 2009**

**Chartered  
September 9, 2009**

## ◆◆◆ **Our Members**

Tim Blackwell	Reggie Pigg
Tammie Blake	Bobby Plymate
Samantha Burchett	Tammy Polston
Don Collins	Alicia Ann Probst
Shirley Collins	Christine Reiner
Jeff Crouch	Shane Roell
Kathy Dodd	Buddy Settles
Alex Finchum	Becky Sipes
Holly Forville	Juleann Skinner
Todd Forville	Dennis Smeltzer
Peter Gasdorf	Gary Snyder
Deanna Geisking	Kathleen Snyder
Jessica Griffey	Neil Snyder
Audrey Haehl	Cecylia Szewiecki (Chevy)
Ashley Hankins	Dustin Tucker
Calvin Hanna	Travis Tucker
Jacob Holland	Melissa VanArsdall
Kristina Johns	Linda Vaught
Karen Kukulka	Kim Webster
Ted Kukulka	Jeff Wilson
Debra Logsdon	Rhonda Wilson
Billy Marks	Angela Woollen
Beth Myspring	Rick Zecchini

## ◆◆◆ **Our Fundraisers**

### Christmas Ornaments

From late October until Christmas, the members of the Aktion Club and their staff and advisors help design, create, paint and package ceramic ornaments for sale to the public. Manufacturing these very special ornaments is done in several stages. First, the clay from which they are made is die-cut to size. They are then embossed with the Christmas message or design. Following this they are fired in a kiln for the first time. They are then painted, washed to remove excess paint, touched up to help remove flaws, painted with a glaze for shine, and fired again in the kiln. This final firing may reach a temperature of 2200 degrees. A ribbon is placed through a hole in the ornament and they are then placed in a gift box ready to sell. This project began in 2009.

## Car Washes

The members of the club also wash cars to help raise money to fund the chosen service projects of the club. The car washes take place on nice summer days from about 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. usually on Saturday. The location is provided by the Ace Hardware store on Michigan Road. Cars are washed free of charge, but a donation is requested in any amount the donor cares to make. At least a portion of the proceeds go to help fund the Shelby County Special Olympics. This fundraiser started in 2010 and has proven to be a big success.

### Indy Colts Car Parking

Pat Trefun, a member of the Kiwanis Club, has an office and parking lot near the Lucas Oil Stadium where the Indianapolis Colts play their football games. His company has generously provided the proceeds from public parking on their property to go to worthy charities. Both the Kiwanis and Aktion Club service projects have benefitted from this great fundraiser.

## ◆◆◆ **Our Service Projects**

### Projects in Service to Our Community

Headstart Children's Santa/Gift Program  
Shelby County Animal Shelter  
Shelby County Special Olympics  
Parks Department Easter Egg Hunt  
Kennedy Park Summer Clean-up Project

## Contributions to Aid our Community

Salvation Army Food Pantry  
Support of Trinity UMC - Briley Center  
Shelbyville Central Schools and Shelby Eastern schools Special Ed Classes  
The Arc of Shelby County - [SENSES](#)  
Major Hospital Comfort Cart  
Riley Hospital for Children  
Other Selected Projects

## ◆◆◆ **Our K-Family Social Events**

Family Summer Picnic  
Halloween Dress-up Dinner and  
Dance with Animal Shelter

### ◆◆◆ **Where do we meet?**

Trinity UMC – Briley Family Hall  
643 Fair Avenue  
Shelbyville, IN 46176

### ◆◆◆ **When do we meet?**

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.  
(Dinners may begin at 6:15 p.m.)

### ◆◆◆ **What does Aktion Club cost?**

The members that can, pay \$ .50 cents dues each meeting. Annual member dues are \$8.00 and are paid by the Shelbyville Kiwanis Club.

### For more information:

Contact: Don Collins or Holly Forville  
1202 Highpointe Boulevard  
Shelbyville, IN 46176  
Phone: 317-398-6708 or 317-370-8238



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Shelbyville, IN 46176