

The Cirkling

Summer
Service
Edition

The Official Publication of the New Jersey District



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Remembering DCON 2017



During March 17th to the 19th, one of the largest annual New Jersey Circle K events: DCON, took place. DCON, which stands for district convention, is an event that is more focused on the Circle K tenant of leadership rather than service and fellowship. During the event, Circle K members, Kiwanis members, Key clubbers, and other members of the extensive K-family came together from across the state to reunite with their friends from across the district, to bid farewell to the departing district board, and to vote in the new district board for New Jersey Circle K!

Hosted at the Edison hotel in Edison, NJ, New Jersey DCON 2017 was truly an event to remember! Although the surrounding area was snowed in with almost a foot of snow, the fun filled, wholesome fellowship between New Jersey Circle K members warmed everyone's spirits. While bonding in their hotel rooms, former board members, current board chairs, club e-board members, and regular Circle K members alike were tested for their character, leadership skills, and stamina by giving many speeches and participating in several caucuses in a race to acquire positions on the district board.

However, these ambitious Circle Kers were not the only members who have attended this outstanding event! Numerous other Circle Kers from various clubs across the state, such as Circle K members from Atlantic Cape Community College, Rowan University, Rutgers University, and Stockton University have [Continued on page 2]

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CKI
Circle K
International

WORLD'S
LARGEST
>>> STUDENT-LED <<<
COLLEGIATE
SERVICE ORGANIZATION

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supported the event by attending informative workshops pertaining to service, public speaking, and college majors. In addition to this, Circle K members across the district have demonstrated their commitment to service and helping others during DCON by creating baskets for the Ronald McDonald house.

Members of the host club for New Jersey DCON at the time, Stockton Circle K, were especially supportive of the event as they have worked diligently to make sure that the event ran smoothly.

The incredible displays of leadership by each and every candidate during DCON was nothing short of memorable, but the unforgettable moments during DCON

included the fun that was had during the Governor's Banquet and the talent show. During these times, former ACCC Circle K president Anthony "Poncho" Patrizi performed stand-up comedy, current Garden Division Lieutenant Governor Ryan Hastings sang "Hallelujah" by Rufus Wainwright, and a duet was sang by Key Club members. These amazing performances showed that it's important to have fun while also serving your community, something that's at the heart of what Circle K is all about!

Numerous other Circle Kers from various clubs across the state...have supported the event by attending informative workshops pertaining to service, public speaking, and college majors.



- Gabriel Colley, District Editor

A Note from the Editor: Summer Service Tips!

Hello everyone, my name is Gabriel Colley and I'm the New Jersey Circle K District Editor for the 2017-2018 service year! This past service year was truly a blast, but now that the service year is over, you may be wondering if there are ways that you can serve your community away from your usual service locations. Well do not fear! I've compiled a list of 3 service tips to help all of you make it over the summer!

- **Tip 1: Don't be afraid to look for and try new things!**

While looking for service opportunities over the summer, I've looked into various service ones that I've never tried before. VolunteerMatch.org is one of my favorites, but talking to other K-family members is also a good way to find service opportunities.

- **Tip 2: Find creative ways to serve**

As the motto of New Jersey Circle K goes: "live to serve, love to serve", you can try to find ways to incorporate service into your daily life. For instance, if your hobby includes playing chess, try to search for opportunities where you can teach kids to play chess at a local library.

- **Tip 3: Try and tell other Circle Kers about the service opportunity**

It's always good to tell other Circle K members the location of service projects to maximize service. Another important thing to do in terms of service is to document your service in the MRF!

- Gabriel



Focus-On Service: Rutgers Circle K Global Brigades

During the week of May 21st, 15 Rutgers Circle K members and 4 current e-board members of Rutgers Circle K embarked on a service trip to Panama through a partnership with Global Brigades. According to Rutgers Circle K editor Kavya Aggarwal, the trip was “a pretty life changing experience where not only were we able to assist villages in Panama, but also where we were able to bond as a group and collaborate to do our best work possible. Each person contributed in a different way and was able to make an impact”. During the trip, Rutgers students collectively completed a whopping 1290 service hours and were able to participate in multiple service projects while gaining a new perspective on the world around them.

The first of these perspective-altering experiences that these Circle-Kers received was when they traveled to a remote location in Panama in an air conditioned van, but a location where air conditioning was considered a luxury. Upon arriving at their location, the Circle Kers have had an experience that the Rutgers Circle K Vice president, Akshay Kamath would only describe as the “ultimate culture shock”, because “Understanding the inconsistency of running water, sitting in the unbearable heat, and sleeping aside bugs showed me what the other side of the world lives with on a daily basis”.

The Circle Kers served in rural Panamanian care centers by taking vitals and performing other services related to healthcare. They have also completed miscellaneous acts of service to help the village that they went to, such as mixing cement. However, the service was very different from the typical service that these Circle Kers were used to, and mainly due to how they could immediately see the effects of their service on the Panamians’ emotional states. As stated by Rutgers Circle K secretary Chaithanya Annaluru, the service was unique in that “You could see people’s immediate response. There’s two types of services, one that you can see a response from and one that you can’t. However, during this type of service you could see the kids smile back at you and it was very welcoming.”

While doing their service, the Circle Kers did not hesitate to bond with the population that they were serving, other students on their trip, and each other. Rutgers Circle K president Dimpie Shah recounted that “We bonded during reflections during the night. We all discussed how the trip was really eye opening and living in similar conditions with no running water or A/C really brought us together. We played a lot of games because there was no wifi or any source of entertainment, and got to know each other on the bus rides and 10 hour flights.”

After their service trip was complete, each of Rutgers Circle K members left with a redefined notion of what it meant to serve, and have started to see the world in a different way. In the words of Rutgers President Dimpie Shah, “No matter what you do, any act of kindness, big or small, can mean much more to someone else.”

Family Facts: The Big K-Family!

You might have heard of Key Club from your high school, or of the Kiwanis Clubs that supervise Circle K clubs. However, did you know that Circle K is not only affiliated with Key club or Kiwanis, but is part of an extensive Kiwanis family? The Kiwanis Family also includes Kiwanis International for adults, Key Club International for high school students, Builder's Club for middle school students, K-Kids for elementary school students, and Aktion Club for adults with disabilities.

A GREAT way to learn more about the Circle K family, to get more involved in your community, or to just have a great time is to go to the K-family picnic on July 16th, 2017!

Also, another great person to contact is our K-family Relations Chair, Taylor McKay, at mckayt1@go.stockton.edu



KIWANIS FAMILY PICNIC
100 GREEN ISLAND RD, TOM'S RIVER, NJ 08573

Join the K-Family for a day of community service and beach fun!

- July 16th
- 10:30am-4:00pm
- \$10 admission
- Meet other members of Key Club, Circle K, and Kiwanis!

Club Building

One of the most exciting events in the world of Circle K is the formation (or reinstatement) of a Circle K club! During this service year, many ambitious students have reached out in the interest of forming a Circle K at their University. One of these students is Ricky Thompson, president of the newly revived club of Montclair State University Circle K!

Between the years 2010 and 2012, Montclair Circle K became inactive. However, by taking initiative and finding over 45 students out of the 20,000 currently enrolled in Montclair State University who were interested in starting a club at their school, Ricky, with some help from Kiwanis members and Michael Vitti, the LTG over Montclair State University, was able to set the club on the path to reinstatement.

The process of forming a Circle K at a college or university is both a challenging and rewarding experience. In the words of Ricky Thompson, don't be afraid to utilize social media and to contact your respective LTG on the district board if you're interested in forming a club!

Another Circle K club in the district, Middlesex County College Circle K, is even closer towards formation, and is about to be formed at a college where there has never been a Circle K before! Stay tuned for more updates!

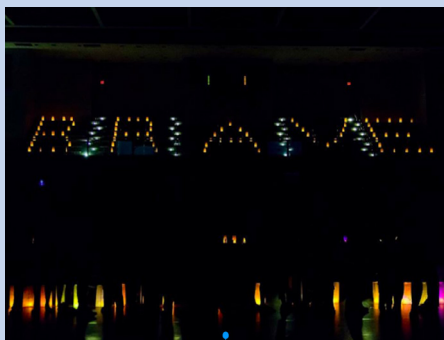
Klub Korner: Stockton Circle K

On April 21-22, 2017, Stockton Circle K, along with 500 of our closest friends (including friends from Rowan and ACCC CKI and Joey G!), made cancer walk the plank at Stockton's 5th Annual "Pirate Themed" Relay for Life! Relay for Life is an all-night walk for the American Cancer Society. During this 12 hour event, there are many activities to keep the participants occupied. These activities include themed laps (lots of free food and other goodies), laser tag, scavenger hunts, talent shows, musical islands, Zumba, yoga, and tons of other competitive activities that kept everyone's adrenaline running all night long! Circle K sponsored a lap at about 3:00 in the morning, where our members stood around the track handing out items such as hand sanitizer, decks of cards, lifesavers, tissues, hand-painted inspirational stones, toothbrushes and toothpaste, all to be collected in gift bags. These gift bags were donated to the Hope Lodge.

There are also many ceremonies and symbolic portions of the event. During the opening ceremony, we are able to hear from a few special speakers. This year we heard from Dr. Goldberg, a representative from the American Cancer Society, and an oncology specialist, as well as our survivor speaker, Natalie Pedri, a 21-year old student from Caldwell University, who has just finished treatment for Kidney Cancer. After the opening ceremony, survivors take the first lap around the track and are greeted by their caregivers with roses donated by Galloway Florist & Gifts. After the survivor and caregiver lap, participants are free to enjoy dinner, while the survivors and caregivers are lead to a special reception with dinner which was donated by The Smithville Inn, a cake donated by Simply Sweet Cupcakes, and gifts donated by Target. A little later on during the night is the Luminaria Ceremony. The Luminaria ceremony is symbolized by decorated luminary bags lit up by tealights honoring all those who have fought cancer. The fight back ceremony takes place in the early hours of the morning and is meant to pump up participants to take action.

As the host club of this event, we have a committee of dedicated individuals who work tirelessly all year round to make this event a success. There are many committee chairs and we all work together to share our ideas and responsibilities. Throughout the year we plan and attend many fundraisers, spend numerous hours each week tabling to advertise, have weekly meetings, and do everything we can to spread the mission of the American Cancer Society across our Campus. Money raised at Relay events goes towards Hope Lodges, Look Good Feel Better Programs, Road to Recovery Programs and other counseling and support programs for survivors and their caregivers. This year, Stockton Circle K was the highest fundraising team, raising over \$8,000 out of a total of \$39,000! We surely made cancer walk the plank this year and we are very proud of it! We can't wait until next year's Relay!

— Taylor McKay, Stockton Circle K President and K-Family Chair



CIRCLE K CLUB OFFICER SPOTLIGHT

For this month, the NJCKI club officer spotlight goes to a Rutgers Circle K officer that myself and many other district board members have grown to know and love: Chaithanya An-naluru! Chaithanya, also known as Chaithu, is a junior at Rutgers University who is also the current secretary for Rutgers Circle K. Ever since she joined Circle K in her sophomore year, she has easily bonded with Circle K members through the many events that she has attended, and has helped other Circle Kers like me to come out of their shell. She has showed dedication by coming to almost every Circle K meeting in the past year, and has supported her fellow Circle K members by attending DCON. She has also completed an impressive 80 service hours during the month of May by traveling to Panama with Global brigades, and has excellently completed her duties as a club secretary while doing so!

Even though Chaithanya is an officer for only Rutgers Circle K, she has demonstrated excellence across the district by going the extra mile by handing in her monthly report forms in an outstanding fashion. She has always been the first person to hand in her monthly report forms, and she often completes them many days early.

I will continue to keep an eye out for other outstanding Circle K members, club advisors, and Kiwanians. However, if you think that you know an outstanding member of the Kiwanis family that is deserving of the club officer spotlight, then don't hesitate to email me at gabrielcolley.cki@gmail.com!



Service Week

Circle K service week is a week that comes every year where all clubs support the various service partners that Circle K has. Since 2010, service week was designed to bring together Circle K's service partners as well as a week to focus on what meant most to us. It also culminates on Kiwanis One day in order to end the week alongside other members of the extended Kiwanis family. This year, Service Week will be held on October 28.

CKI Leadership Training/ Meet the New District Board!

During the months of May and June, highly motivated Circle K officers have gathered together to attend the District officer and Club officer training conferences. There were also some club officers and chairs that couldn't make it to the training conferences, and we would like to give a shoutout to them too!

The District Board!

Hello my name is Anjani Patel and I am your 2017-2018 district governor. My experience in the K family has been about a decade long now, and I couldn't be happier that I joined! Besides Circle K my hobbies include painting, going for long runs, and drinking too much coffee... Yes drinking coffee is a hobby. I also love to travel and a cross-country road trip is number one on my bucket list right now! As a past club Editor, I know all the hard work that goes into newsletters and the memorabilia they serve, so I hope you enjoy this newsletter and learn a bit more about our New Jersey District!

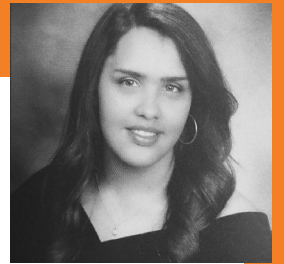


Cara Tillou is the District Treasurer for the 2017-2018 Service Year! She attends Stockton University and has been active in many of her home club's events such as Relay for Life!

"Hello Everyone!

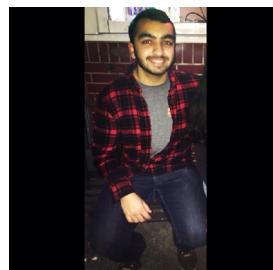
My name is

Stephania and I attend Rutgers University New Brunswick where I am a dual major in Economics and Political Science, as well as a minor in International & Global Studies. My ultimate goal is to work at the United Nations serving and working with people from all over the world. In my spare time I enjoy reading, drawing, watching documentaries about all sorts of things, hanging out with my friends, and of course engaging in various community service events/projects. I am proud to serve as your District Secretary and hope to continue to be of service for many years to come to both to our community, and the world."



Keshav Patel is the Seabreeze division LTG for the 2017-2018 service year. He attends Rutgers University, and enjoys cooking, baking, and taking excessively long naps for

no reason. He also is a champ at binge-watching shows on Netflix.



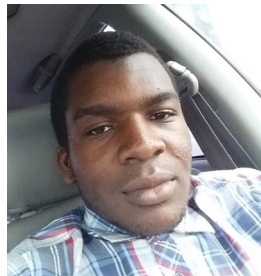
Michael Vitti is the Metro Division LTG for New Jersey Circle K, and is the first LTG for the metro division that is actually from the division in 6 years! He goes to the honors college at NJIT and loves playing tennis.



Ryan Hastings is the Garden Division LTG for New Jersey Circle K, and is possibly the nicest person on the planet. He attends Rowan University and works at Mr. D's Pizzeria.



My name is Gabriel Colley, and I am the District Editor for this service year! My hobbies include playing chess, making music, and watching Netflix when I can. I'm really looking forward to what this service year brings!



District Chairs

Taylor McKay
K-Family Relations
Chair

Meghan Harrington
Laws & Regs Chair

Asrita Vattikonda
Fundraising Chair

Krunali Patel
Service Chair

Alyssa Fazio
Con-Con Chair

Christian Zelaya
Technology Chair

A letter from the New Governor: Anjani Patel

Hello New Jersey District! My name is Anjani Patel and I have the honor to serve you as your district Governor this 2017-2018 service year. For those of you who do not know me on a personal level, here is a little bit about me: I attend Rutgers University in New Brunswick where I am doing a double major in Biological Sciences and Women's and Gender Studies. My experience in the K-Family has been a 10 year effort as of now and hopefully many more to come! I served on my Key Club board at Old Bridge High School as Secretary, on my Circle K Club board as Editor and Vice President, and on district board as Service Chair. My favorite service project has to be volunteering at the hospital in New Brunswick. We make crafts with the children and just help them brighten up their day a bit! I'm definitely a strong advocate for spreading positivity.

Other than Circle K, my hobbies include going on long runs, taking photographs, and drinking a little too much coffee. I'm fairly quick at email responses OR I'm always a phone call (even facetime!) away, so please reach out whether you have an official question, need some advice, or just want to be friends! I am here to better our district and I'll be available at the best of my ability to help however I can. This service year I hope to increase inter-clubbing and attendance at district events, along with diversifying service projects. I am excited to see what each of you will bring to NJ Circle K this year!

Yours in Caring and Service,
Anjani Patel
2017-2018 New Jersey District Circle K
Governor



A Letter from the Old Governor: Jason Dear

Hello New Jersey!

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer season! I am happy to serve as this district's On-To-International-Convention (OTIC) Chair, as well as its Immediate Past Governor! I assist Governor Anjani wherever possible and, most importantly, ensure that our members have an enjoyable experience at CKIx in San Antonio, Texas this year. By the convention's end, we hope to bring back educated members within our district board and home clubs so that New Jersey can maintain its awareness and relationship with their international community within Circle K.

As last year's governor, I emphasized the importance of camaraderie within our membership. We cannot stress how vital Fellowship is, and we are very proud to have witnessed attempts and bridges being built between our schools. Our kiwanis family relations and interclubs have remained on a constant healthy trend. Our addition of The New Jersey Institute of Technology increased our overall number of clubs by 10%; there is potential for more clubs to be built within the next year or two, as well. Lastly, I am also very proud to have taken part in the trend of what our district has been known for, which is its incredible amount and variety of service hours produced by members like you. We are, after all, a service organization that is there to help communities of all levels.

One of the best things we can do is keep in mind what is important to us as individuals and as an organization. No longer a member of the elected District Board, I only reiterate what is aforementioned to the current officers as some piece of advice: Always keep in mind what matters to New Jersey members, and continue to maintain and build your network, both locally and (inter)nationally. These are simple investments toward the future!

I wish the best of luck for this District in the 2017-2018 year but I know it won't be all that necessary!

Jason N. Dear
On-To-International-Convention Chair
Immediate Past District Governor
New Jersey District
2017-2018



FIND FRESHIE!

Our own New Jersey Circle K mascot, Freshie the Tomato, has been enjoying the heat and the summer sun! (He's already as red as a tomato!) When he read through an edition of his favorite newsletter, The Cirkling, he was surprised to see his own name in an article!...or at least the letters of his first name in order. Because Freshie is a tomato, he unfortunately doesn't have any arms to give anyone who finds his name in the newsletter a thumbs up, so instead, try and email me at Gabrielcolley.cki@gmail.com if you find the letters of Freshie's first name in order in this newsletter. The first person will get a shoutout in the next newsletter!



Freshie at the Beach

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Kakuro

Kakuro, which is often called the numerical version of a crossword puzzle, is a game that was developed in 1966, a mere 2 years after the formation of New Jersey Circle K! The game should be played so that a digit from 1 to 9 is placed in each square so that the sum in each row matches the "clue" number that is pre-written in each adjacent

Calendar

JULY 2017						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5 CKIx/ ICON	6 CKIx/ ICON	7 CKIx/ ICON	8 CKIx/ ICON	9 CKIx/ ICON
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 K-family picnic
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

calenworld.com

Contact Info

Governor Anjani Patel
anjanipatel.cki@gmail.com

Advisor Mickey Cohen
mickeyrc.cki@gmail.com

Editor Gabriel Colley
Gabrielcolley.cki@gmail.com

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Interested in Writing an Article?

Do you think there's something interesting going on around the New Jersey District that belongs in this newsletter? If so, then feel free to contact me at Gabrielcolley.cki@gmail.com with your idea! Just note that your idea should be Circle K related and it must be fresh, i.e. something that's fun, recent, and relevant to the entire district!