

KOT State Chapter Meeting

Hill Country Bible Church/Zoom

November 12, 2022

Attendees were: Ray Sims, Chairman; Scott Baker, V-Chairman; Kyan Kirby, Secretary; Bob Crane, Treasurer; Steve Newton, Financial Secretary; Julie Cole, Roger Harbert, Susan Mannas, and John Osborne International Committee Reps; Robert Kimmell, Board of Directors; Driskoll Tubbs, Continuing Ministry, Michelle Edwards, KO Sub-Committee Chairman; Marcia Wiseman, New Starts; Scott Van Pelt, Music; Amanda Anderson, Agape; David Ross, Bill Johnson, David Burris, Steve Whatley, Audrey Duke, Marjorie Whitner, Dusty Meil, Brian Gibson, Lisa Taylor, Andrew Miller, Marla Badillo, Judy Taylor, Kimberlina Miscilile , Linda Thomas, Yasmri, Mackey, Paul Draper, Anita Brantley, Ladean Smith, Mike Sondergaard, Bob Bunch, Leslie Whatley, John Kennon, David Higgins, Nancy Higgins, Usry, Dawn Jonas, Ashley Land, Don and Dawnya Wineinger.

Units represented were: Allred, Bridgeport, Briscoe, Clements, Connally, Daniel, Ellis, Estelle, Ferguson, Hightower, Hutchins, KO Abilene, KO Amarillo, KO Central, KO Corpus Christi, KO East Texas, KO Ft. Worth, KO Houston, KO Lubbock, KO Midland, KO North TX, KO San Antonio, KO Wichita Falls, Lynaugh, McConnell, Memorial, Mountain View, Murray, Torch Giddings, Torres, Vance, Wainwright, Wallace, and Wynne.

Scott Van Pelt **opened the meeting with music.**

The meeting was **called to order** by Chairman Ray Sims.

Pastor Lisa Harbert, our new Spiritual Director, had the **opening prayer and devotion** about the first Thanksgiving and giving thanks to God. The first Thanksgiving was in 1621 with the next in Washington in 1777. President Roosevelt declared Thanksgiving as a National Holiday in 1942 during WWII. God should be the cornerstone of our lives - Psalm 75. She also gave us a challenge to 1. Remember and be thankful for who God is; 2. Prepare for maturity by remembering the love gifts from God; and 3. Remember all that surrounds us.

Kyan Kirby did the roll call and asked for the **approval of the minutes** from the August 13 meeting. Driskoll Tubbs made the motion to approve the minutes and John Osborne 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Steve Newton introduced Senior Warden Linda Thomas from the Bridgeport Correctional Center as our guest speaker. She said the offenders know Kairos. They feel love and caring from Kairos and have hope. Once they attend Kairos, they have an attitude change. Kairos changes the way people think. They walk a different walk. She told us to call her Linda. She is thankful for all the prayers sent to her and her Center. "Kairos is overwhelming." Kairos continues with follow up Prayer & Share that is so important. She told us to keep doing what we are doing "Thank you all from the bottom of my heart!"

Ray thanked Linda for allowing us into her prison and the impact she has on the inmates.

Ray showed us his Kairos Torch cross and let us know how proud he was to be part of Giddings Torch #1. It was wonderful. They had 10 young men. Lives were touched with those youth and children. During "open mike" the team could tell that seeds had been planted. "Choices" is the last talk in Torch unlike "Choices" is the first talk for Kairos Inside. In Torch, the "Choices" talk takes you to the next step in life.

Ray gave us the **status of the Weekends** in Texas prisons to date: 59 Kairos Inside, 18 Kairos Outside, and 2 Torch. Scheduled for the rest of the year are 12 KI's and one Torch. Total of all Weekends is 82, which is much better than 2021 with Covid. Willacy #1 is scheduled for November 19 weekend. Ray told us what a pleasure and honor it has been to serve as our State Chairman the last 4 years. This year we have had 82 Weekends, typically we have 102 but it has been a good year. Wainwright has had some bumps along the way- shut down due to an escape, so Kairos was canceled. In the Fall, there was a security issue Kairos was cancelled two days before the Weekend. So, Wainwright did not have a Kairos Weekend for 3 years. Ray also said to be sure and keep people engaged through Continuing Ministry, delivering hygiene, etc. keep the volunteers moving. We do understand there is a shortage of staff across the state.

Elections dates for 2023: Elections should be completed by 12/1/2022, and entered into Kairos Messenger by 12/31/2022. The 2023 Advisory Council Affiliation Agreements should be sent to Scott Baker scott@stbaker.com by 12/31/2022.

The Financial Report was given by Steve Newton. Steve thanked the ladies that transfer donor to Quick Books. 26 actual budgets were sent out. The AC's need to look at them. There will be more training sessions for the budgets. They are also online. The financial report was handed out to all. Our total income was increased by 133%, the total expenses were increased by 159%, and our net income increased by 840%. The training cost increased 130% due to the annual conference being in Texas. KPMI Affiliation Fee paid increased 33% The Weekend expenses increased 179%.

Sixteen AC's have more than \$20k in the bank, 4 had less than \$5k (2 KO's, 1KI, and 1KT). The budgets must be approved by the AC's by the end of November. Steve stated that QuickBooks has the tools to produce the data of what is being spent on the weekends. More details on the handouts. If you need a handout, please contact Kyan Kirby at kkkirbyko@centex.net .

Almost all Financial Secretaries are working on the 2023 budgets. They must be approved by the AC and sent to Steve in November.

Bob Crane gave the treasurer's report. He reminded us that the Affiliation Fees were due October 20, 2022. Six AC's did not owe anything due to no donations recorded July-September 2022, 57 owed and 49 have submitted payment. 8 remain unpaid. He also told us that **ALL bank signature cards will have to be updated** because we will have a new Chairman. If your AC has a new Chairman, Treasurer and/or Financial Secretary, this also will need to be on the updated signature card at your bank! Bob understands how annoying this can seem to be, but with all the updates that are required, it is necessary. The Secretary must update Kairos Messenger and let Julie Cole know about any changes so she can update the Master list. It is not linked to KM. Banking is a separate process that requires information not contained to KM or the KOT Master List. A **Zoom training will held in January for new and returning treasurers. An In-person training will be held at the KOT SCC meeting in February.** Be sure and turn in your Mileage Reimbursement forms before you leave the meeting.

Michelle Edwards gave an update on Kairos Outside. KO needs to be sure and follow up with the KI units assigned to them. Go to a KI team meeting if possible. Email Michelle about what you passed out at the meeting. Your talk should be about 5 minutes at closing. Encourage the men to work a KO. Build a KO relationship with the Units on your list. If at closing, you have volunteers, be sure and have contact information for them! Michelle also stated, "What an honor it is to work with KO Prison Ministry!"

Debbie Van Pelt gave the KI report reminding us to be sure that KO brochures are in the closing packets. Be aware that some units are still not open due to lack of staff, etc. Be sure and pray for the Wardens and staff on all units. If you cannot get into your unit, be sure to call and see if you can help on another Kairos. Debbie told us to remember the 3 on and 1 off rule. Be sure and check the Master list. Look into the future for new leaders. Get your AC meetings going and send in your minutes. Your EI reports should be turned in within two weeks. Have KO guest forms at Prayer and Share meetings.

Ray gave the Kairos Torch report for Dickson, stating that all 3 KT's have had a Weekend this year. Congratulations, Torch!

All nominees for State and International Reps gave a short presentation about themselves and the positions they were running for.

The KOT elections were held by the International Representatives led by John Osborne. John gave us further instructions that ballots were going to be passed out to the eligible voters, one per unit.

Scott Baker gave the Activity Report. He was excited to see so much green! The red meant not very good, and the orange was better. Please turn in your meeting minutes!! So far, we have hosted 59 Weekends, and have received 58 Leader reports. Hobby had their #38 Weekend in 2 days. Our Yard units share Chaplains and Wardens. Vance shares a Warden with different Chaplains; therefore they have one AC. Torres and Ney share a Warden and Chaplain and have one AC.

Scott Baker gave his Planned Weekends Report stating that green has done their homework. No color equals nothing, and yellow is not complete. If you would like a copy of this report, please contact Kyan Kirby at kkkirbyko@centex.net and she

will send it to you. Scott said that we need Ezra turned in within 7 days of the Weekend, and the EI reports need to be turned in sooner than they are now being turned in. In summary, we plan to facilitate 82 Weekends this year which is not back to pre-Covid levels, but is significantly improved from 2021. Reports of new volunteers from Kairos Messenger is 488 which is great! There are 59 Weekends of our forecasted 82 that have been posted. Forty-eight of the EI reports are posted. The average number of AC Meeting minutes submitted are 4.1, versus KPMI's minimum (6) at this point of the year, or every other month. KO's results are 7.2 and KI's are 3.4. Average attendance at KOT Meetings through 2 quarters is 1.3. (If even 1 person attended KOT from an AC, they would have 2 for the year through 2 meetings.) What this says is that less than 1 representative from each AC attended KOT. We can and should do better. We should do the Leader report and the EI report as soon as possible after the Weekend while the experience is fresh and then compare the highlights of the two in an AC meeting setting to understand how we are doing based on our own analysis. Driskoll Tubbs, an EI Reviewer, noted that many people are not properly reporting the numbers for Inside Team members or for first-time volunteers. There was a significant amount of discussion on the topic and the conclusion was that the definitions are not clearly defined by KPMI and that our IC rep for EI should surface the issue. Robert Kimmell noted that the information is very important to KPMI and that we all need to understand the definition. Susan Mannas, our IC Rep for EI, agreed to take the issue to their Committee for discussion.

KO sub-committee positions were announced. Becky Terry from KONT is the new Chairman, Vice-Chair is Dusty Meil, and Dawn Terry is the Secretary. Congratulations!

International Reps gave their reports: Julie Cole has been working on policies. Their focus has been on Continuing Ministry. They have found out that one size does not fit all. John Osborne is with Recruiting and Outreach. They have a new video, and a new website in the first quarter. Now they have a final power point for all to use. Roger Harbert is working with the KI committee. His focus was with Continuing Ministry and the importance of beyond the Weekend. They are always recruiting.

New Start Report from Marcia Wiseman. Diane Crawford and Marjorie Whitner are helping with New Starts. Kyan has 9 interested in Brownwood TJD. Patricia Mara has interest in KO Beaumont with a conference call planned. Jerry Dormand with KI Lindsay Unit in Jacksboro prayerfully will start Prayer and Share in 2023. Steve Whatley is working with the Buster Cole and Moore Units in Bonham. Randy Moore has met with the Chaplain and Warden at the KI Powledge Unit. There are 6 people interested at this time.

Agape report from Amanda Anderson. She requests that all is updated and keep sending her agape.

Scott Baker stated that there is **a need to address some questions about the EI Report** to KPMI. **Susan Mannas** will take care of this.

Scott Baker ran unopposed for Chairman. Vice chairman had two running and there was a tie between Michelle Edwards and Steve Whatley. Financial Secretary, Steve Newton ran unopposed. Treasurer, Bob Crane ran unopposed, and Kyan Kirby, Secretary ran unopposed. Three were running, David Higgins, David Burris and Scott Van Pelt, for the one opening for International Representative.

Our 2023 KOT State Council is the following: State Chairman, Scott Baker; V-Chair, Michelle Edwards; Treasurer, Bob Crane; Financial Secretary, Steve Newton; Secretary, Kyan Kirby; International Reps are John Osborne, Roger Harbert, Susan Mannas and newly elected Scott Van Pelt.

Closing comments from Ray Sims our outgoing chairman. He congratulated the 2023 State Council. Once again, he thanked everyone for their continued service the last 4 years working so faithfully under his leadership. He reminded us that the first meeting in 2023 will be February 11, 2023.

Ray was thanked for his last 4 years of service as the KOT Chairman. "Well done good and faithful servant."

Ray had a closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.