

# September Division 8 Newsletter



Hey again guys! I hope everyone had a great summer! Now that it's (unfortunately) school season again, it's time to get back into the swing of things! That in mind, be thinking about Key Club officer elections if you haven't held them already. The faster we can sort through elections, the faster we can be working together to set ourselves up for a great year with Key Club! I'm excited to start the bounce-back from COVID last year and can't wait to get to know all of you!



As always, feel free to contact me at [mtkeyclubltg8@gmail.com](mailto:mtkeyclubltg8@gmail.com) or text me at 1-406-890-9645 if you have any questions!

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## Youth Opportunity Fund:

I'm going to continue putting info about the Youth Opportunity Fund in these newsletters as it's a great resource to be aware of! The Youth Opportunity Fund (YOF) is a grant given by Kiwanis to a Club so they can do a certain project. The amount ranges from \$100-\$2000 depending on your request. To receive the grant, you have to identify a service project you'd like to do and fill out a request to send to the District Kiwanis for discussion. The applications are due by October 15th, but the sooner you have a project idea, the better! More info can be found on the Key Club website.

One thing to note, Key Club is now requiring background checks on advisors and anyone transporting non related key clubbers. These are separate from background checks done on teachers. These can be accessed on the official key club site under the membership update center in the background check section after they've signed in. The checks cost \$25 and those being checked can be reimbursed by the club after completing the check.



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## Youth Conference:

We have dates for Youth Conference (YC) officially on the calendar! It will be held November 7th (registration is at 5 pm) through the 9th at noon at the Hampton Inn in Great Falls. Our theme this year is Key Clubs and service around the world. The District board is finalizing the schedule and we have a lot of fun things planned! I hope to see you all there!

## Division Rally:

A division rally is a meet-up between all of the clubs within the division, and in our case that's Columbia Falls, Eureka, and Polson. I'm still coming up with a plan for a division rally to be held soon, but I would like to know everyone's extracurricular schedules so I can plan around other events. I'm completely open to any suggestions for a date. As for a location, I'm thinking a park in Kalispell. More details to follow!

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## Homecoming:

Due to COVID last year, over 1,000 Key Clubs went inactive, meaning they never turned in dues. This year Key Club International is having an event called Homecoming, which focuses on providing materials to clubs to help introduce new or potential members to Key Club. The idea is to boost our membership numbers and reactivate clubs so we can come into the new service year strong. More information on Homecoming to follow.

Registration fees for Key Club events such as YC (in November) and DCON (end of March) are fairly high, usually around \$100+ per person. Fundraising throughout the year will allow your club to send more people to these events, so keep an eye out for opportunities. Some of my favorite fundraising ideas are sports tournaments where you have teams pay to compete for a prize, raffles, and bake sales. Your local Kiwanis Club is also a great resource to ask for fundraising help.

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It's that time of year again folks, dues need to be collected from club members. Dues can vary based on what your club decides, but it's a minimum of \$13.50, and any extra, like the remaining \$1.50 from \$15 dues, go into your individual club's account.

One last thing! The New England and Bermuda Districts are grouped into what's called a Sistrict with our Montana District of Key Club. Their governor has set up a pen pal system so we can get to know Key Clubbers in the other Districts. It's a fun and easy google form that can be done super quickly, so give it a try! I included the link to fill out the form below.

<https://tinyurl.com/PenPalss>

