



Parents Handbook 2008-2009
Reaching Boys and Girls
With the Gospel of Christ
And Training Them to Serve Him

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Dear Parents,

Thank you for allowing your child to come to our Awana Club. We hope that your child has a fun and profitable time participating in all of the activities that Awana has to offer.

Awana is a Bible-based program that is designed to provide children the opportunity to establish a firm Biblical foundation, grow in their relationship with God, and provide guidance for many of the challenges and difficult decisions that children are faced with today. Through team cooperation and individual achievements, Awana encourages self-esteem and good relationships with others.

Our Awana Club is for boys and girls who are between the ages of 3 years old up through the 8th Grade. We meet every Thursday evening between 6:15-8:00 p.m. in the Emmaus Bible College gym.

We would like to welcome and encourage your visits and let us know of any concerns that you may have. Thank you for your interest and support.

Brent Fessler 588-4786
Wendy Witter 590-8654
and
The Entire Awana Staff

SOME OFTEN-ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT AWANA

What is the purpose of Awana? The purpose of Awana is "to reach boys and girls with the gospel of Christ and to train them to serve Him". The Awana program has two main goals:

- ~ Evangelism - to draw boys and girls from the community into the club ministry where they may hear the gospel and accept Christ as their personal Savior
- ~ Training - to prepare clubbers to reach the lost for Christ, serve in their local church, and to develop leadership qualities

What do kids do at Awana? The club meeting is divided into three segments:

- ~ Game Time - By playing games on the unique Awana Game Circle, kids have fun, get exercise and learn good sportsmanship.
- ~ Handbook Time - Clubbers progress through age-appropriate handbooks by memorizing and demonstrating an understanding of Bible passages.
- ~ Council Time - Clubbers have a time of singing along with a practical Bible lesson.

What does the word "Awana" mean? The word "Awana" is an acronym for "Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed". It is taken from 2 Timothy 2:15, which states: "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth".

What is a section? A section is a segment of material to be memorized, usually consisting of two or three Bible verses. Some sections include brief quizzes or puzzles designed to test Bible knowledge and understanding.

All of the Awana leaders have completed an application to help, and have signed the Awana Doctrinal Statement. If you would like a copy of the Doctrinal statement, please ask at the information table.

YOUR AWANA STAFF

Commanders

Brent Fessler	cpobrent@aol.com
Wendy Witter	wwitter@emmaus.edu

Cubbies Director

Becky Kraus	bkraus@emmaus.edu
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Sparks Directors

Arthur Manning	atmanning@emmaus.edu
Lois Manning	lmanning@emmaus.edu

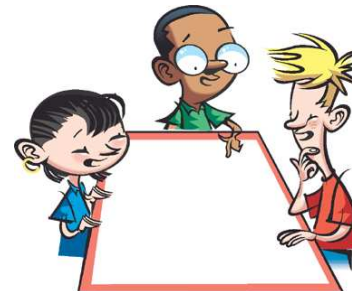
Truth & Training Director

Ellen Volgarino	revfarm@lagrant.net
Donnie Patten	dpatten@emmaus.edu

JV Director

www.awanadbq.org

This is where we will post any cancellations and will keep an updated list of announcements and special events.



ORDER OF CLUBS AND BOOKS

Cubbies

3-4 years old

Bear Hug Booklet
Hopper Book
Jumper Book



Sparks

Kindergarten - 2nd Grade

Flight 3:16
HangGlider Book
Hiker Book
Climber Book

Truth & Training

3rd Grade - 6th Grade

Start Zone Booklet
Ultimate Adventure Book 1
Ultimate Adventure Book 2
Ultimate Adventure Book 3
Ultimate Adventure Book 4

Junior Varsity - 7th-8th Grade



NORMAL NIGHTLY SCHEDULE

6:15-6:20	Opening in Gym
6:20-6:45	Handbook Time -Sparks, Game Time - T&T
6:45-6:50	Drink & Bathroom Break
6:50-7:15	Games Time-Sparks, Handbook Time - T&T
7:15-7:20	Drink & Bathroom Break
7:20-7:50	Songs and Devotions in Gym
7:50-8:00	Awards in Gym

(Cubbies meet upstairs and their schedule may vary from the above)

- ~ We ask that children do not arrive before 6:10 p.m.
- ~ Every child must have a registration form signed by a parent or legal guardian on file with the secretary.
- ~ Parents and families are invited to visit at any time, especially during the awards.
- ~ We ask that parents **come inside** to get their children at the end of the evening to avoid having them running around in the parking lot unsupervised. Cubbies will be kept upstairs until their parents come to pick them up.
- ~ We would like to keep coats and bags separate according to groups in order to avoid confusion. Cubbies can put their things upstairs, Sparks and T&T in the hallway.



AWANA EXPENSES

There is no charge for a child to attend Awana. However, we do have expenses. We would appreciate it if you could purchase these items for your child when the appropriate time arrives (we will send a note home when your child should purchase certain items). If you find that the expenses are too much for your family to pay all at once, let us know so that we can set up a payment plan.

DUES: 50 cents each week

BOOKS: \$7.00 (one per year)

UNIFORM: \$9.00 Cubbies Vest (one per 2 years)

\$10.00 Sparks Vest (one per 3 years)

\$13.00 T&T shirt (one per 4 years)

- ~ The dues are used to help pay for miscellaneous expenses such as awards, prizes, special events, etc.
- ~ Dues can be paid in advance (\$10.00 per year, which is a savings of \$3.00 a year)
- ~ Make checks payable to AWANA-6202



SPECIAL EVENTS AND INCENTIVES

One of our goals at Awana is for the clubbers to memorize Bible verses that will stay with them and help them throughout their entire life. To encourage the clubbers to memorize their sections and to pass their book we have planned some incentives.

~ **Buck Table** - A clubber receives Awana Bucks (play money) for accomplishing certain things

5 Bucks - Attending Sunday School, Wearing Uniform,
Bringing Dues and Bringing Book

10 Bucks - Each Completed Section/Discovery

20 Bucks - Each Completed Gate Test or Start Zone,
Completed Jewel, Completion of each
Discovery, or Silver or Gold Achievement

100 Bucks- For each new visitor a clubber brings.
One time amount for each new visitor

(The clubber who brought the friend and the friend each
get 100 bucks.)

The Awana bucks are used to purchase item from the
Buck Table that is usually set up once a month. (Cubbies
do not participate in this program.)



~ **Contests** - We have some contests planned to help motivate the clubbers to pass their books by the end of the year. If a clubber passes 2-3 sections a week during a contest they will receive a special treat.

~ **Special Nights** - We have special nights planned for your child. They are designed to encourage participation and fun. Some of these nights will include Family Night, Crazy Hat Night, Awana Grand Prix and Adopt-A-Club. We will be announcing and sending home information in advance.

~ **Awards Night** - April 23rd will be our last regular Awana night. On April 30th we will be having our Awards Night. It will be during our regular Awana time and we will be presenting book awards to those who have completed their books as well as having a special program for the family.

Extra Items of Interest

Replacements of Books and Awards

If a clubber misplaces his/her book or awards, (jewels for sparks, crowns, etc.) they may purchase replacements. A 10-cent fee for jewels and crowns and 25 cents each for Start Zone & Flight 3:16.

Amount of sections passed each week

To ensure the child understands what they are memorizing, clubbers will only be allowed to complete 4 sections for Sparks and 3 for TNT per week unless otherwise told.

GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Attending Awana each week will build friendships, accomplish achievements, and develop a comfortable routine. By making everyone aware of what is expected each night, our club will be able to run smoother and be more enjoyable for everyone.

1. **Come on time! Make sure you register**
 - ~ Be in your designated area no later than 6:10 p.m.
Do NOT arrive before 6:00 p.m.
 - ~ Wear your uniform
 - ~ Did you go to Sunday School/Church?
 - ~ Bring your Awana book and your Bible
 - ~ Bring a friend!
2. **Come prepared!**
 - ~ Memorize verses at home (there isn't enough time or help to adequately memorize a section during Awana)
 - ~ Be ready to pass at least 1-2 sections
(leader may give only 2 helps per section)
3. **Come ready to play!**
 - ~ Wear gym shoes (no black soles)
 - ~ To avoid injury, clubbers will not be allowed to participate in Game Time if not properly attired
4. **Come ready to participate!**
 - ~ Be quiet and listen when told
 - ~ Play games and have fun
 - ~ Stay with your group
 - ~ Use bathroom and drinking fountain only before and after club
5. **When not to come!**
 - ~ We will not have club when Dubuque Public Schools are cancelled or dismissed early because of bad weather
 - ~ We will announce, email and/or send letters home to notify parents of any changes (watch the web page!)

TIPS FOR PARENTS

Communication - If you have any questions or concerns, please let your child's director or commander know. We are here to help.

"I Can't Find My Awana Book" - Every parent has heard this at one time or another. To avoid this you may want to designate a special place for your child to keep their book and uniform. You may also want to have a specific Awana bag for your child to use to keep all of their things together at home and at club. (Awana book bags can be purchased at the registration table.)

Study - Help and encourage your child to study and memorize a verse for 10 minutes a day. Make it a habit for them and possibly yourself. If a clubber passes an average of 2-3 sections a week they will be able to pass their entire book by the end of the year and will receive either a ribbon, plaque or trophy at the end of the year.

Memorization Techniques - Your child may need some help learning how to memorize verses.

~ Have them repeat a phrase over and over, adding a word or two each time.

~ Write the verse on a piece of paper or chalkboard and erase a word each time that the verse is read.

~ A child could practice their writing skills while learning their verse by copying it onto a piece of paper a couple of times.

~ Write the reference and the first letter of each word.

If you are concerned about your child's progress, please contact their director.

