



KFADD Newsletter

Kiwans Family Against Drunk Driving

Roger Barbour - Chair, email: barbourpole@ados.net

News from around the Barbourpole



May 2006, Issue #22

Another year, another school, another prom, another Simulated Mock Crash.

This year the Mock Crash came to Rainier High School. Preceded by a Ghost-out the previous week, the students were not anticipating what awaited them this morning on the football field. At 10 AM the students filed in to the music provided by a Portland DJ from 95.5 FM. There were familiar faces on the infield including teachers and the Principal, Mr. Gilbert. They, too, were moving to the beat of the music. A wave started and suddenly the tarps were pulled back as the DJ read from the script.

Before the students were two crashed cars.

As the DJ read from the scenario, mouths began to drop. The music stopped. Moans and screams broke the silence as the “driver” of one of the cars staggered from the vehicle. Beer cans littered the scene. A young girl was lying on the hood of one car and someone was slumped in the front seat of the second vehicle.

The driver reeled several times as he realized he had been in a crash on a road he had driven many times. When he touched the girl on the hood, reality began to set in. He kicked the tires and walked around.

A call to 911 was heard, followed shortly by a dispatch call for emergency vehicles. Soon several sirens filled the air as ambulances, a command vehicle, and a fire truck approached the scene.

Two people were seen crawling from the crashed cars, collapsing on the grass.

As the emergency personnel arrived and assessed the injuries and covered the deceased, more sirens were heard. Law enforcement had arrived. The driver was seen still walking around and was stopped by one of the officers who detected the odor of alcohol on the his breath. The driver, an athlete with a promising future before the crash, soon underwent field sobriety tests, was arrested and placed in the police car where he then

was taken to the hospital to have blood drawn for evidence. His future forever was altered.

EMT's removed the body of the one fatality and placed her on a backboard, covered with a yellow tarp. Others continued to extricate the remaining passenger from the one vehicle.

Soon a scream penetrated the air as the mother of the deceased came upon the scene. Another family torn apart. The final toll for this exercise – 2 deceased, four injured- two critical, one teen driver facing life in prison. Seven families shattered.

As the actors in this re-creation left the arena, there was stunned silence. For one hour, the students had watched this melodrama. But it was not over yet.

Two speakers took the microphone to tell how their lives changed because of an alcohol-related crash. One a mother, the other a drunk driver. And finally Mr. Gilbert returned to the microphone. His intense emotion was evident as he spoke of the former student and friend of many who was killed just weeks before. He reminded the students to celebrate wisely as they attend the Prom the next evening. In silence, they returned to class.

Another year, another school, another Prom, another...

(submitted by Lynn Chiotti, with Columbia County MADD and KFADD)

PROM NIGHT AND GRADUATION

It's that time again and many school groups are planning Safe and Sober parties for upcoming graduates.

Get involved—Save a Life—Help this cause to promote good safe ideas and how to develop smart and safe habits for a lifetime.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

This news letter is going to be short and I hope you take it to heart.

1. Law enforcement has impact on youth alcohol sales - a study says.

Year-round compliance checks on alcohol sellers can help cut sales to minors - according to a new study.

Editor's Question: Why do we continue to see the same retailers being fined over and over again for this offence?

2. Study sees rise in alcohol deaths, DUI in college.

Alcohol-related injury deaths and drunk driving, both, increase among college students over the past few years - according to a new report from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

Editor's Question: This report, given a year ago in March 2005. Has anything changed?

Editor's Opinion: I'm not trying to display negative questions. I'm trying to find out from all of you:

What has changed this last year?

Are we gaining on the problem?

Let me know where positive changes have made a difference in your community or state. I want to put out some glowing reports on what is happening around the Pacific Northwest, but I need you to respond.

BUILDERS CLUBS:

What is happening in our Builders Club programs?

Studies show that children are starting to drink regularly in pre-teen years. This is an age we must develop non-drinkers before we have to help them stop.

What is your club doing?

KEY CLUBS & CIRCLE K:

Are you working to help your peers see the drastic results of drinking and driving?

Are you taking the pledge to be a part of the solution, or are you part of the problem?

---THINK ABOUT IT---

SUMMER IS HERE

As the weather improves, more of us are on the road traveling and running back and forth to the Ball Parks with our kids.

More kids are on our streets and sidewalks during the summer.

We must be overly cautious and extra observant so we know where the kids are.

Due to higher gas prices, the traffic safety people say, “Slowing down and driving under 60 miles an hour can save money on your price per gallon consumption”

Let’s think about what we are doing and don’t let distractions spoil a good time and enjoy your summer.

DON’T DRINK—THINK—SAVE A LIFE

NEWS ITEMS: (I need your help to put out an informative and interesting news letter. Please send me stories or news flashes that can be reproduced in the news letter. Your help will be greatly appreciated.)

e-mail to: barbourpole@ados.net

Thank you,
Roger Barbour, Chair
KFADD PNW District