

# The Burlington Flats Baptist Church Awana Program

2009 Parent Handbook

Given to the family of:

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## Welcome to Awana

Thank you for allowing us to minister to your children. We count it a privilege to work with the children of our church and community. We want to provide an exciting opportunity for children to spend their time learning about God and His Word and what it means in their day-to-day lives.

AWANA stands for II Timothy 2:15 “Approved Workman Are Not Ashamed.” This is a nationally recognized program that meets on Monday evenings from 6 pm until 8 pm from September until May. The Burlington Flats Awana Program engages children from ages 3 years old until 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Awana offers several opportunities for your child to grow spiritually through Scripture memorization and a basic understanding of Biblical principals and doctrines. It also provides an opportunity for children to learn to compete as a team and not just as individuals. They will learn to win and lose with a proper attitude of fair play and sportsmanship.

We ask for your support in encouraging your child to complete their handbook material prior to each club week. Also materials are available upon request through the Home Based Awana Series so that you may also study with your child.

All Awana leaders have been screened and trained in children’s ministries by our church leadership. They have been specifically trained in our child protection policies to maintain a safe church environment. Again, we thank you for the opportunity to work with and minister to your child. We consider this a serious responsibility that we do not take lightly.

Heidi Slentz  
Commander  
Burlington Flats Awana Program

AWANA Clubs International  
Burlington Flats Baptist Church AWANA Program

The individual clubs are broken up into the following:

Cubbies - preschool age 3 and 4 years - a non-competitive class where a simple Bible truth is presented along with memorization of one or two words per short Bible verses. The children advance in their books as a group and earn awards for their vest as a group. They then participate in game time with the Sparks club.

Sparks - grades Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades - a three book series based on “Sparkie” a fire fly. Bible memorization are completed in these books to earn patches and jewels for their vest. A Bible story is presented with a corresponding craft and then the group participates in a game time with the Cubbies.

Truth and Training - grades 3, 4, 5 & 6 - a four book series based on space characters. Bible memorization are completed along with activities-service projects to earn awards for the badge that is worn on the T & T tee shirt. The group attends council time with a Biblical sermon and a competitive game time.

Trek Club - grades 7 & 8 - a two book series that stresses life situations in junior high school. Bible memorization is lengthy along with optional projects to complete. A unit lesson is presented at least monthly with the group. Trek clubbers have their own game time as well as assists as line leaders with the Cubbies and Sparks game time. This group also is responsible to pass out the prizes to the winning team at the end of the night and participate in the keeping of the nightly score.

Journey Club - 9<sup>th</sup> grade and up - a choice of the tradition book series or a daily Bible study journal. On Monday nights these young adults work in the other clubs as leaders in training for two period of the night. Then they work on their own study.

## **The Star Program (Awana Store)**

Every week each child has the opportunity to earn stars. The club leader will keep track of each child's stars when they do attendance/handbook time paperwork.

Stars are awarded for the following:

1. Earn a star for wearing your uniform
  2. Earn a star for bringing your book
  3. Earn a star for knowing your section prior to coming to club - up to 3 sections
- This is for a total of a possible 5 stars. If you have attended both church and Sunday School the day before - your stars will double (for a maximum of 10 stars). There is a poster in the Awana office that children cash in their stars for to "purchase" fun Awana items. They can cash in whenever they have enough stars to do so. Stars do not carry over from one year to the next.

Due to being non-competitive, this does not apply to the Cubbies program. However, quarterly the Cubbies do receive an extra "prize" determined by their leaders.

## **Extra Team Points**

Every week each child has the opportunity to earn extra team points. For each section a child is working on, when he passes that section he earns 30 points for his color team. If he can say the section perfectly without any helps including the correct Bible reference, an extra 10 points will be awarded. If the section the child is reciting is initialed by a parent, another extra 10 points will be awarded. This is for a maximum of 50 possible points per section. There is no limit on the number of sections for the extra team points.

Also, on the yearly calendar there are identified events nights. Some of these events have extra team points assigned to them on this calendar. For example, Wear a Funny Hat Night is worth 40 points. This means if the child wears a funny hat on this night, his team will receive an extra 40 points.

Also, leaders at random may grant extra team points for positive behavior. For example, if on the game floor a team is quiet prior to the other teams, a leader may grant "red 10 points".

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## Club Discipline Guidelines

### **The 5 Count**

When a leader is going to make an announcement or needs everyone to be quiet for any reason, they will loudly count to 5 (usually putting their corresponding finger in the air). When this occurs, everyone including other leaders will be quiet. This allows for organized way to gain everyone's attention.

### **The 3 Count**

In the event discipline is needed, we have a procedure that will be used throughout the evening. If a child is disrespectful or is disruptive to others, the following procedure will occur:

A "1" will be given for the first offense and a verbal warning explaining that the behavior is unacceptable.

A "2" will be given for a second offense, and the child will be counseled by a leader. The leader will define the unacceptable behavior and give a moral reason why the behavior is not acceptable.

A "3" will be given if there is a third offense. The child will then be taken by the leader to the commander and pastor. The commander will assist the clubber in calling their parents and allowing them to explain to the parent why they are making the call. The commander will also talk to the parents and determine if a follow up meeting is necessary.

In very rare cases, if the disruption is of significance the commander and the pastor reserve the right to confer and possibly temporarily suspend a child if needed.

These practices have been successful for a positive club experience. They are standard Awana protocols. They are explained to the children the first night of club every September.

## Awana Weather Policy

There may be times when weather creates poor traveling conditions. We have an Awana call chain for these purposes. Since our Awana program has been running, when there was no school due to weather conditions at Edmeston Central School - there is automatically no Awana program that evening. However, there are times when the roads are clear later that evening. If this is the case and we are going to have Awana club you will be called.

Also there are more frequently times when the day was fine for travel but it snows in the early evening. It is during these days, that Awana will be cancelled for safety. When Awana is canceled you will be called. Parents make sure that we have a current phone number for your family. And if at any time you are uncomfortable coming out in bad weather, please do not do so. We believe safety is the priority.

## Awana Nightly Schedule

FLAG TIME 6:00 PM

1 <sup>ST</sup> PERIOD 6:10 PM	2 <sup>ND</sup> PERIOD 6:40 PM	3 <sup>RD</sup> PERIOD 7:20 pm
T & T Game Time	T & T Handbook Time	T & T Council Time
Sparks Council Time Cubbies Classroom	Sparks Handbook/Craft Cubbies Classroom	Sparks and Cubbies Game Time
Trek Handbook Time	Trek Game Time	Trek line leaders at Sparks Game Time
Journey Assigned LIT	Journey Assigned LIT	Journey Handbook Time

CLOSING 7:50 PM

On the next page is the yearly calendar. This follows the Edmeston Central School calendar on Monday evenings. The exception is when there is a holiday on a Monday - club will be on Tuesday that week. And if there is a school break, Awana will also take that break.

AWANA 2008 -2009 CALENDAR  
32 Awana Club Nights

DAY	DATE	Event
MONDAY	SEPTEMBER 15	Welcome Back!
MONDAY	SEPTEMBER 22	Wear a Fun Hat Night (40 pts)U
MONDAY	SEPTEMBER 29	Regular club
MONDAY	OCTOBER 6	Apple Theme Night - Bring old shirt for bobbing for apples
TUESDAY	OCTOBER 14	Remember club on Tuesday
MONDAY	OCTOBER 20	Regular club
MONDAY	OCTOBER 27	Be a Bible Character Night (40 pts)
MONDAY	NOVEMBER 3	Wear Uniform to School (100 pts) - End 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter
MONDAY	NOVEMBER 10	Attendance Awards - Bring Food Pantry Item (20 pts)
MONDAY	NOVEMBER 17	Bring Food Pantry Item (40 pts)
MONDAY	NOVEMBER 24	Bring Food Pantry Item (60 pts)
MONDAY	DECEMBER 1	Regular club
MONDAY	DECEMBER 8	Regular club
MONDAY	DECEMBER 15	Regular club
MONDAY	DECEMBER 22	Wear Red and Green (40 pts) - Christmas Snack
BREAK		
MONDAY	JANUARY 5	End 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter - Regular club
MONDAY	JANUARY 12	Wear Crazy Socks (40 pts) - Attendance/SS Awards
TUESDAY	JANUARY 20	Remember club on Tuesday
MONDAY	JANUARY 26	Regular club
MONDAY	FEBRUARY 2	Ground Hog Day
MONDAY	FEBRUARY 9	Bring a Valentine for a Leader (40 pts)
BREAK		
MONDAY	FEBRUARY 23	Regular club
MONDAY	MARCH 2	Wear Funny Glasses Night (40 pts)
MONDAY	MARCH 9	End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter - Regular club
MONDAY	MARCH 16	Attendance Awards
MONDAY	MARCH 23	Regular club
MONDAY	MARCH 30	Backwards Night (40 pts)
MONDAY	APRIL 6	Regular club
BREAK		
MONDAY	APRIL 20	Regular club
MONDAY	APRIL 26	Beach Theme (40 pts) - Ice Cream Social Night
MONDAY	MAY 4	Regular club
MONDAY	MAY 11	Patriotic Night (40 pts)
MONDAY	MAY 18	BANQUET Attendance/SS Awards
MONDAY	MAY 23	PARADE

