



January-June 2012
Ramoth Baptist Church
Awana Handbook



I pledge allegiance to the Awana flag,
which stands for the Awana Clubs,
whose goal is to **reach** boys and girls
with the gospel of Christ,
and **train** them to serve Him

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Commander Welcome

Dear Awana Parents,

Welcome to the Ramoth Baptist Church Awana Club! We are excited about having you and your child participate in this dynamic ministry! The Awana ministry has been around for over 60 years, and provides a combined program of both evangelism and discipleship for kids through scripture memorization and practical application.

My wife Shannon and I have 4 children. Our 3 teenagers will be serving as LITs (Leaders In Training) and our youngest will be a Puggle! Our family has been involved with Awana since 2003. As an active duty military family, we have often sought out churches that had an established Awana ministry to provide some stability for our kids as we relocated. Awana is such a positive ministry. I personally credit Awana for my own salvation. It was through my work with both Sparks and the Awana games that I learned of God's salvation plan and accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior. I am passionate about how this program can influence and change the lives of not only the children, but their parents as well.

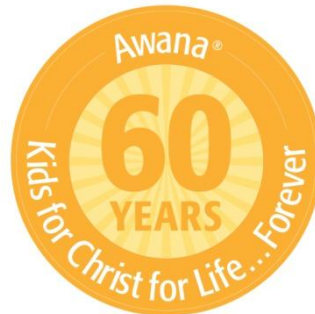
This handbook provides basic information about our Awana Club. If you have questions or need more information, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the Awana leaders. Our Awana staff is composed of volunteers from the church fellowship who care greatly about the spiritual and social development of our children. Your child is very special to God and to us!

Parents, your participation and assistance are very important. Please encourage your child to attend each meeting, help them to memorize Scripture, and show them your excitement over their achievements. Your help and encouragement are critical. If your child has special needs, please communicate with us. One of our goals is to partner with parents to make a positive and eternal impact in the life of your child. You are always welcome to observe what is going on in any area of this ministry, especially during our evening closing ceremonies where we will be recognizing our clubbers achievements!

Again, thank you for entrusting us with your child and we look forward to getting to know you this year. May God richly bless you and your family!

In Christ,

Chris Gallagher, (540) 659-9589
Awana Commander
Ramoth Baptist Church



Awana Meeting Time

WHEN:







Sunday evenings from 5:30 to 7:30 PM
 Registration begins at 5:15PM

WHERE:

Ramoth Baptist Church
 478 Ramoth Church Road
 Stafford, VA 22554
 540-659-4588
 ramothbaptistchurch.org



Our Awana Clubs

	<p>Toddlers love having their very own Awana club just like their older siblings! Puggles partners with parents to teach biblical precepts.</p>	<p>2-3 Year Olds Puggles is provided for the children of Awana Volunteers ONLY</p>
	<p>Cubbies celebrates the spiritual potential of preschoolers by helping them develop respect for God, His Son and His Word.</p>	<p>3-4 Year Olds Must be 3 by September 30th</p>
	<p>Sparks ignites the curiosity of early elementary-age kids to learn about the people and events of the Bible, building a foundation of wisdom for knowing Christ.</p>	<p>K-2 Grades Must be 5 by September 30th</p>
	<p>T&T engages kids by answering their questions about God and the Bible, guiding them through this pivotal life stage to grow in Christ's grace.</p>	<p>3-5 Grades</p>
	<p>Trek challenges middle-school students to consider their destiny in Christ and pursue it through life application of God's Word.</p>	<p>6-8 Grade</p>
	<p>Journey, features an energetic look, biblically based content, life application and an emphasis on Scripture memory.</p>	<p>High School</p>

Awana Calendar



January

- 8 First Awana Club Meeting!
- 15 Furry Friend Night - Bring your favorite stuffed animal!
- 22 Regular Club Night
- 29 Celebrate Sports - Wear your favorite Team Jersey!

February

- 5 NO CLUB
- 12 B.A.R.F. Night - Be A Real Friend and bring a friend to club!
- 19 Regular Club Night
- 26 Parents Night – Bring your parent to club and have them participate with you!

March

- 4 M&M Month! How many M&Ms are in the jar? Pass sections to earn guesses!
- 11 Crazy Hair Night – How goofy can you make your hair?
- 18 “Measles Night” Put one dot sticker on your leader for every verse correctly recited! This is also the last night to earn guesses for the M&M Jar! Prize given out next week!
- 25 Double Dollar Night – Earn twice the Awana Bucks for verses recited.
End of Quarter Awards

April

- 1 Backward’s Night – Do everything backwards! (i.e., Wear your clothes and walk backwards!)
- 8 NO CLUB
- 15 Popcorn with the Pastor night – come prepared to ask your Pastor some tough questions!
- 22 B.A.R.F. Night - Be A Real Friend and bring a friend to club!
- 29 Uniform Inspection Night!

May

- 6 Penny Drive Month – Clubs compete to raise the most money for our Awana Missionary
- 13 NO CLUB
- 20 Shine a Light Night – Bring a flashlight and do all activities in the dark!
- 27 Last Night for Penny Drive! Winning Club will be announced at end of night and that club will earn an ice cream party for next week!

June

- 3 Service Night/AWANA Store – Clubbers help by doing a service project around the church and get an opportunity to use up the rest of their Awana Bucks!
- 10 Last Awana club night. Parents encouraged to attend! End of year awards will be given, then we will have PIE IN THE EYE! Every Clubbers favorite activity!!! Be sure to wear clothes that you can get messy! Clubbers will be able to put a pie in the eye of their favorite leader!!

Nightly Schedule

Puggles	5:15-5:30 Check-In	5:30-5:45 Opening Ceremony	5:45-6:00 Game Time in Classroom	6:00-6:20 Snacks in Classroom	6:20-7:15 Activities in Classroom			7:15-7:30 Closing Ceremony
Cubbies			5:45-6:05 Snack	6:05-6:25 Game Time	6:25-7:15 Activities in Classroom			
Sparks			5:45-6:05 Handbook Time	6:05-6:25 Snack	6:25-6:50 Game Time	6:50-7:15 Council Time		
T & T			5:45-6:10 Council Time	6:10-6:30 Handbook Time	6:30-6:50 Snack	6:50-7:15 Game Time		

Trek	5:15-5:30 Check-In	5:30-6:30 Optional Youth Games for all Trek and any non-LIT Journey Students	6:30-7:30 Trek meets for Awana in Youth Room
Journey		5:30-6:30 Leaders in Training (LITs) assist where assigned in younger clubs.	6:30-7:30 Journey meets for Awana in Youth Room



Schedule Definitions

Check-in: Parents must escort children into the building and check them in with a secretary. Once checked in, children may be brought to the sanctuary to sit with their leaders. Check-in begins promptly at 5:15PM. Early check-in is not allowed since leaders will need time to prepare for the evening.

Opening Ceremony: Club night begins in the sanctuary with the singing of the Awana Song, the Pledge of Allegiance, Announcements and Prayer. Parents are welcome to join us!

Handbook Time: Bible verses and principles are presented through handbook instruction. The children are encouraged to study at home, and are given support and assistance from the club leaders.

- The average child will be adequately prepared for the weekly Awana Club meeting if they spend 10 minutes daily in their handbook. Help your child develop this habit early so they will stay on track to complete as much of their book as possible!
- In order to pass a handbook section, the following requirements must be met by all ages:
 - The clubber must pass an entire section (all verses, answers, and word definitions) **during one session with no more than two helps.**
 - Clubbers must recite the **reference and the verse.**
 - Clubbers must pass sections in order, unless otherwise noted in the handbook.
 - The answers and word definitions can be in the clubbers own words.

Council Time: Each group meets as a separate club for a time of listening to special Bible messages and time for praise and prayer.

Game Time: Each club will engage in age-appropriate games that teach sportsmanship and the value of working as a team.

Snacks: Clubbers and volunteers will enjoy a small meal each week. Please be sure to alert us of any food allergies upon registration.

TREK & Journey Optional Game Time: Middle and High School students are invited to come from 5:30-6:30 to share in fellowship and activities directed by our youth Pastor. High school students who are eligible are encouraged to use this time to mentor the younger clubbers as Leaders in Training (LITs).

Closing Ceremony: We will end each club night with announcements and awards. Parents are encouraged to join us as we celebrate our clubbers' achievements.

Awana Awards

Uniforms: Uniforms can be purchased through the Awana Secretary. Once a clubber completes their entrance book, they can begin to wear their uniform.

Patches and Jewels: The following awards should be displayed and worn proudly! They represent good achievement and spiritual growth in the knowledge of God and His Word. We encourage all young people to strive for their highest potential! NOTE: Awards may only be given when a child is in uniform.

Club	For Completing:	They Earn:
Puggles	Just for participating!	Stickers and year end certificate!
Cubbies	Bear Hug Brochure	Uniform and Handbook
	Rank Test	Rank Patch
	2-3 sections	Lamb or Elephant Patch
	Club Attendance	Lion Patch
	Church Attendance	Zebra/Giraffe Patch
Sparks	3:16 Test	Uniform and Handbook
	Rank Test	Rank Patch
	Bible Drills/Activates	Red or Green Jewels
	Club Attendance	Blue Jewel
T&T	Start Zone	Uniform and Handbook
	Discovery/Challenge	Award Badge/ Seal

Attendance Awards: For Cubbies, Sparks and T&T, awards are given for Club and/or Sunday School attendance.

- Sunday School Attendance: A clubber must attend Sunday School or a church service every Sunday during the half year **without missing more than two** Sundays.
- Awana Club Attendance: The clubber must attend every Awana meeting with **no more than one** absence per quarter.
- The only excused absences are sickness, out of town with the family or a mandatory school function.

Awana Bucks: Children are awarded "AWANA bucks" which can be used to purchase items from the AWANA store. This extra reward system, along with a positive peer setting, produces enthusiasm and motivates clubbers to achieve! Given for good behavior, good sportsmanship, passing handbook sections Awana Bucks are the currency of the Awana program and can be earned by clubbers each week.

Here are just some ways clubbers can earn bucks:

- Wear uniform, bring handbook, bring Bible - earn 1 Awana buck
- Participate in winning team during game time - earn 1 Awana buck
- Complete one complete section from the handbook - earn 1 Awana buck
- Bring a first-time visitor to our Awana club - earn 5 Awana Bucks

Awana Store

The Awana store offers Awana Merchandise and other prizes that can be purchased by clubbers with their Awana bucks. The Awana store will be advertised a couple of weeks before opening so that clubbers will be prepared! Location and time to be determined.

Club Expectations

Leader Requirements: A leader must have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. They must be a member of Ramoth Baptist Church who has completed our child protection training, as well as have passed a back ground check. Leaders must have a desire to work with, and a compassion for, all children.

Leader Expectations: We expect our leaders to be on time and to lead by example by wearing their uniform each club night. All of our leaders are expected to follow club rules and to treat each child with respect. All leaders should be in prayer for our club on a regular basis. Awana is not just another program! It is a ministry of this church and a place of service to God.

Parent Expectations:

- Always encourage your child. Children will enjoy club much more when their parents show interest in their accomplishments.
- Set time aside each day to help your child study. With just 10 minutes each day, children will be prepared to pass at least two sections each week!
- Attend events! Parents are always welcome and are encouraged to opening and closing services as well as all special events. This is a wonderful way to show your support and approval for your child's accomplishments.
- Review the discipline guidelines in this handbook with your child. Awana has only a few rules, but to help all clubbers to have a good experience, they will be enforced.
- Your dues help to defray the cost of handbooks, awards, snacks and the Awana Store. If you are unable to pay dues, please seek out the Commander to discuss.
- Children are the heart of the Awana ministry. Because of this, we ask all parents to respect EVERY child while at Awana.

Promptness: Our time at Awana is valuable. We ask all volunteers to arrive by 5:00M each Sunday. Parents, please check your clubber in between 5:15-5:30 and have them in the sanctuary by 5:30. Closing ceremonies begin at 7:15. This is a great time for parents to watch their clubbers receive awards! Please pick up your clubber at 7:30PM. Children will only be released to their parents *unless* prior arrangements have been made with your child's director.

Illness: A child may not attend Awana if they have had a fever or has vomited within the last 24 hours. If a child appears ill during club they will be sent home.

Inclement Weather: Awana will be cancelled if morning services have been cancelled or if the roads become hazardous late in the afternoon. Be sure to check our website before heading out, or feel free to contact the commander for more information.

Ramoth Baptist Church Awana Rules

1. Show respect for God's House, God's Name, and God's Word at all times.
2. Show respect for God-given authority at all times.
3. Have a loving, positive, Christ-like attitude towards other Awana clubbers and leaders at all times.
4. Respect church property and the property of others.
5. Remember that God wants you to be a leader, and that you lead by example.
6. Participate in all club activities: opening ceremony, game time, handbook time, council time, and closing ceremony.
7. No running in the building at any time except during Game Time.
8. Clubbers should wear casual clothes and **tennis shoes** to club. Dress shoes and sandals are extremely dangerous during game time.

Discipline

Discipline is the process of teaching acceptable behavior and self-control. The Ramoth Awana Club has two main methods of enforcing discipline on club nights:

The Five Count

The five count will be used at any time during a club meeting when clubbers are getting out of control or when their attention needs to be focused. The leader in charge begins to count slowly and loudly enough to be heard from 1 to 5, and other leaders will join in. Clubbers will become quiet and give their attention to the leader who is counting. Clubbers will not count along with the leader.

The Three Count

When an AWANA clubber disobeys the basic rules of Awana, the clubber is first given a warning. This is a "one," the first step of the three count. If the clubber continues to disobey leaders or cause disturbances he will be given a "two" count which results in counseling by his or her club director. If the clubber received a "three" count, he will be sent to the club commander. The commander will call the parents and ask they pick up their child. Each week everyone begins with a clean slate.

Dues and Material Costs

Dues collected help provide the funds needed for books, incentives and meals for your clubber. Awana is a non-profit organization and we appreciate your support of the ministry.

Dues

Weekly dues per person: \$1.00

Maximum weekly dues per family: \$3.00

Discounted rate for Entire Season (Jan-June 2012): \$15.00

Family discount (3 or more): \$45.00

Handbook Costs

Each clubber receives a free handbook. The cost to replace a lost handbook is \$10.00.

Uniform Costs

The Awana uniform lets others know you are a member of our club! You'll want to buy it as soon as you complete the entrance requirements for club membership so you will have a place to display your awards. The cost of each uniform listed below is the actual catalog prices. Ramoth Baptist Church makes no profit from the sale of uniforms. The secretary has sample uniforms for your clubber to try on before ordering.

Uniforms will be *awarded* during closing ceremonies after being earned and paid for.

- Puggles T-Shirt (10.00)
- Cubbies Vest (\$10.00)
- Sparkies Vest (\$10.00)
- T&T T-Shirt (\$13.00)
- TREK Shirt – OPTIONAL (\$15.00)
- Journey T-Shirt – OPTIONAL (\$15.00)



All items are available for purchase from one of our club secretaries.

CLUBBERS MUST WEAR TENNIS SHOES EACH CLUB NIGHT IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN GAME TIME!

Scholarships

We will work with parents on any of the costs if it presents a difficulty. Our goal is to have any child who wants to participate in Awana not miss out due to financial considerations. If the cost is a hardship for your family, please feel free to speak to our club secretary or commander.

Uniform Buy Back Program

We realize that by beginning club in January, your clubber may only need their current uniform for the next six months. If you will return your clubber's gently used uniform, you will receive 50% off your clubber's next uniform.

Alternately, beginning in September (our next club year) we will have a limited number of these used uniforms for sale at 50% off their original price.

Awana Leadership

Awana leaders are committed people trained to provide your children with the best club experience possible. If you have any questions, issues or concerns don't hesitate to contact your child's director or our Awana Commander.

Pastor

Pastor Brent Vickery

Ramoth Children's Director

Angie Shelton

Awana Commander

Chris Gallagher

cjgallagher@hotmail.com

(540) 659-9589 home (202) 607-5003 cell

Administration Director

Shannon Gallagher

thesixgs@gmail.com

Games Director

Scouter McKnight

Puggles Director

Susan Young

Cubbies Director

Wendy Shrum

Sparks Director

SaraBeth Stell

T&T Director

Hans Morris

TREK and Journey

Pastor Doug Stell

Notes: