Dr. Seuss’ Birthday Celebrated by Reading Aloud to Children

By Jerry McCormick, Kiwanis Club of Elm Grove, Golden K

The 13th Annual Elm Grove Golden K Dr. Seuss’ Birthday Read Aloud event was held March 2, 2016. Volunteers read to preschool children and provided books for local families to read aloud to their children. The events were sponsored throughout the month of March. Reading aloud to children at an early age greatly improves their ability to learn.

With this in mind, Greater Waukesha Literacy – an award-winning non-profit which provides volunteer one-on-one tutoring in reading, writing, speaking, math and English language learning – partnered with the Elm Grove Golden K Kiwanis “Read Around the World” project and the Waukesha Family Practice Centers “Reach Out and Read” program to provide appropriate books to low-income families for reading aloud to their preschool children.

This same partnership sponsors county-wide reading events for preschool children. Volunteers read to preschoolers in groups of 10 to 12 from Dr. Seuss books. They dress the part, they read aloud with animation, have fun and laugh a lot. This partnership conducted approximately 40 events reading aloud to as many as 1,200 children.

The Elm Grove Golden K Kiwanis Club includes more than 75 senior members committed to improving the world one child and one community at a time. The Dr. Seuss read aloud program fulfills this mission.
Here we are, halfway through the Kiwanis year. Circle K and Key Club have just finished their District Conventions (DCONs). Hats off to the two Boards as well as administrators Janet DeGroot and Kathy Gillis and their assistants for another successful year. At their DCONs, both groups elected their new boards who will begin April 1st working with Kiwanis Governor-elect John Collins. It was truly an honor and privilege to have worked with both boards for the past year. Their enthusiasm, friendship, leadership skills and service performed are inspiring.

Key Club and Circle K, along with Key Leader, K-Kids, Builders Club and Aktion Club are among the greatest things with which a Kiwanis Club can be associated. These Service Leadership Programs (SLPs) give Kiwanians the opportunity to improve their local community through structured, Kiwanis International supported programs. If your club does not sponsor any of the SLPs, you should look into doing so. It will be rewarding for you as well as them and benefit your local community.

We have a District goal to end the year with a net gain in membership. We have averaged a net loss of 200 members per year over the past 10 years. We have been adding about 150 new members a year but losing 350. We need to add 350 new members in anticipation of the normal attrition in September. Areas we can work on are: Retention of existing members and helping clubs below charter strength (15). We need more Club Counselors for this. We need to open new clubs. We need more Club Openers to assist Formula Chair, Dale Vannes, in this. Each club needs to have a net increase in membership. This is something we can all work on. It is one of those situations where Anyone can do it, but if Everyone thinks it is Someone else’s job, Nobody will end up doing it. Every club should work on increasing membership. May is typically the month for membership drives. Kiwanis.org has webinars to assist in conducting one.

May is the month when clubs need to hold elections for officers to take over October 1st. These elections need to be done in a timely manner so the Club Secretary can get the results reported to International and District. When reporting the officers, please include the Membership Chair for your club, so Dale Vannes has a contact point to discuss membership.

To date, the Governor’s Project for an extended golf cart to transport mobility challenged campers at Camp Wawbeek has raised just over $4,000 of the $12,000 needed. Please consider donating something for this project. Thanks again those who have already given.

As we gear up for the International Convention in Toronto in June and the WI-UM District Convention in Oconomowoc in August, let’s all work to make the second half of this year really great.

Wisconsin-Upper Michigan Kiwanis District Event Calendar

By Mark Finger, WI-UM Kiwanis District Executive Director

**Richland Center Midyear Conference** . April 9, 2016
UW-Richland Center, Richland Center, WI

**District Board Meeting** . April 9, 2016
Following the Midyear Conference, Richland Center, WI

**Circle K Spring Fling** . April 22-24, 2016
Camp Wawbeek, Wisconsin Dells, WI

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

**WI-UM District Convention** . August 12-14, 2016
Olympia Resort, Oconomowoc, WI

**Key Leader** . September 16-18, 2016
Camp Wawbeek, Wisconsin Dells, WI

**Kiwani International Convention** . July 13-16, 2017
Paris, France

**WI-UM District Convention** . Aug. 18-20, 2017
Holiday Inn, Fond du Lac, WI
The following items were discussed and or approved at the February board meeting:

- The minutes of the October 24, 2015 board meeting were approved
- The December 30, 2015 financial report was presented by Executive Director Mark Finger and was accepted.

Officers Reports
(Please note that any report that is noted as being on file can be found at the Lt. Governor Box.net Board Meeting file at https://app.box.com/shared/agbac23866/1/5056684025)

- Governor Jim Burmeister provided a written report and reviewed it with the board.
- Governor-elect John Collins provided a written report and reviewed it with the board.
- Immediate Past Governor Anna Bruhn provided a written report and reviewed it with the board.
- The Lt. Governors (Divisions 2, 3, 6, 8, 11) provided written reports and reviewed them with the board. Divisions 2 and 6 had their Lt. Governor’s elections at the Midyear just prior to the board meeting. William Martens was elected as the 2016-17 Division 2 Lt. Governor and Ken Irwin was elected as the 2016-17 Division 6 Lt. Governor.

- Executive Director Mark Finger reported that the Kiwanis International Board of Trustees has recommended that Kiwanis International dues are waived for new clubs formed between January 1 to September 30 for the next fiscal year. Kiwanis International asked if the District would do the same. After discussion the board agreed to waive the dues as well as the District Convention fee as long as Kiwanis International approves the dues waiver.

Reports
- Finance Committee chair Bruce Hoehne reported that the Finance committee reviewed the 2014-15 District 990 and the Audit Review. The committee recommended approval of both reports and the board agreed.
- Formula Chair Dale Vannes provided a written report and reviewed it with the board.
- District Foundation Executive Secretary/Treasurer Mark Finger reported to the board. Club donations are coming in as expected for this time of the year.
- Circle K Assistant Administrator Justin Hahn reported to the board. Justin reviewed the policy changes approved at this year’s Circle K Convention. The board approved the Circle K policy changes.
- Key Club Governor Joshua Dvorak was not in attendance but provided a written report for the board.
- Key Leader Coordinator Justin Hahn provided a written report and reviewed it with the board.
- International Convention Chair Mark Finger reported to the board. The District Caucus at the Toronto convention will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday June 23rd. After discussion the board decided to pass on a District dinner. There are many restaurants in the area of the District hotel where people can go on their own prior to the opening session of the convention.
- Autism Chair Lynn Messer reported to the board.
- Past Lt. Governor’s Council, Services, Fund Raising and Human and Spiritual Values Chair Ron Soellner provide a written report and reviewed it with the board.
- Aktion Club Administrator Charles Zarnoth provided a written report to the board.
- Builders Club Administrator Fay Burmeister provided a written report and reviewed it with the board.

Old Business
- The board ratified the Executive Committee’s approval of the KC/CK Graduate Program policy.

New Business
- Governor Jim reviewed the process of putting together the District I-Plan. A copy has been provided to the board for their review. The board will review and consider approval of the final version at the April board meeting.

Announcements
- The next board meeting is April 16, 2016 in Oshkosh.
The Kiwanis Autism Project is still going strong and many clubs are working to provide iPads to children on the autism spectrum. Teachers and therapists that have been a part of this project and are aware of what Kiwanis is doing have huge amounts of praise for what we are doing.

There are still clubs that are not aware of what the Autism Project is. My wife, Merita, and I are eager to visit clubs to explain the project and help them get on board.

We are receiving grant applications every week, which is great. When clubs make an iPad presentation in their community and publicize it, they promote what Kiwanis is doing in their community. This generates interest in Kiwanis and, I guarantee, encourages more grant requests. This is also a great resource for prospective new members, which can help strengthen our Kiwanis organization.

Lynn Messer can be reached at 920-946-0652 or by email at lmmsr001@fmail.com.

Join the Kiwanis International Foundation Loyalty Society

The generosity of organizations like ours makes it possible for our Kiwanis International Foundation to reach children through grants, scholarship opportunities and Kiwanis youth programs.

Children count on Kiwanis and our ongoing support. The Kiwanis Loyalty Society was created to honor the dedication of members and clubs who support the International Foundation’s work in consecutive years. It’s a way of celebrating clubs who continue to extend their impact to children near and far.

One impact in our Wisconsin-Uppper Michigan Kiwanis District is a grant from the Kiwanis International Foundation to our District in the amount of $1,336 (for the 2014-15 Kiwanis year) which will be used for scholarships to our District’s Key Leader program.

Hopefully, in this coming year, we can exceed that and receive $1,400 in grant money. If your club has not donated in the past year, I ask that you encourage your board of directors to approve a donation this year. If your club made a donation last year, I ask that you increase that donation by 5%.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me. I am willing to present a program to your club.

Thank you for your commitment to the Kiwanis International Foundation.

Fred Dietze can be reached at 715-381-0038 or by email at fred@freddietze.com.

Support the District Foundation with a Case Van Kleef Fellowship

Please consider honoring a deserving club member with a Case Van Kleef Fellowship award.

Case Van Kleef served as the WI-UM Kiwanis District Foundation (KDF) President, was WI-UM Kiwanis District Governor in 1995-96 and served as Kiwanis International President in 2004-05.

The $1,000 donation to the KDF from a club or an individual will strengthen Kiwanis. Honor a club member, strengthen your District Foundation and provide more service through our district at the club level by honoring someone with a Van Kleef. If a minimum of 25 Van Kleef Fellowships are reserved before the district convention in August, 2016, Case Van Kleef will be at our convention to present the awards. Contact the KDF to reserve yours today.

Mark Finger can be reached at 920-361-9954 or by email at mfinger@wiumkiwanis.org.
The Bill Solberg Distinguished Service Medal is to be presented on behalf of the Past Governors of the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan District of Kiwanis International.

Eligibility for this medal is as follows but the Past Governors may change the criteria for this award at any time they deem appropriate.

• The recipient must have actively served in Kiwanis for a period of not less than ten years.
• The recipient must have served in the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan Kiwanis District at least as a Lt. Governor or District Chairperson.
• The recipient must have actively participated outside of Kiwanis in other worthy community, lodge or civic endeavors.
• The recipient must be nominated by a Kiwanis Club’s Board of Directors, which is currently in good standing with the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan District and Kiwanis International.
• The nominee’s club must submit evidential material in support of their recommendation.
• The nominee may be living or deceased.

The nominee’s biographic information, together with supporting materials, must be submitted by the nominators to the Past Governors Committee in care of the District office by May 15th of the Kiwanis year that the award will be considered. The award, if any, will be presented at the District Convention of that Kiwanis year.

The Past Governors selection committee, at its discretion, may honor more than one individual each Kiwanis year, but is not bound to select any nominee to receive an award.

Hilmar L."Bill” Solberg Distinguished Service Medal Nomination Form

Name ______________________________________________ Club ______________________________
Address ____________________________________________ Telephone No. ______________________________
City ________________________________________________ Zip Code of Sponsoring Club __________________
Years of Service in Club______________________________ Date Joined______________________________
Kiwanis Positions held __________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
Kiwanis Awards __________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
Other Civic Positions / Activities (attach pages if necessary) __________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
Biographical Information of Nominee _______________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________
Deadline is May 15. Mail nomination form to:
Past Governors Committee, WI-UM Kiwanis District Office, 571 Center St., Berlin, WI 54923.
Have you heard about the Key Club/Circle K (KC/CK) Graduate Program? The program is designed to help transition former Key Club and Circle K Club members into Kiwanis. This might not happen immediately after they graduate, but the program will maintain contact with them up until the time that they are able to join a Kiwanis club.

A little over a year ago I was asked to look at a program being run by the Rocky Mountain District of Kiwanis International that was trying to address the problem of how to get former Key Club and Circle K members to eventually join Kiwanis. Circle K Administrator Janet Degroot, Key Club Administrator Kathy Gillis, Anna Bruhn and I modified the program to meet our District's needs. Once the initial program draft was accepted, the hard work really began. The concept, which was presented at the SLP workshops during the District's 2015 Midyear Conferences, was received with encouragement and suggestions. The committee then completed a proposal with recommendations to the WI-UM District Board.

With the help of WIUM Key Club Board members, a slide show was developed. It was presented at the West Bend Midyear Conference in February and during workshops at both the Circle K and Key Club District Conventions held in March.

The results are encouraging. At the Circle K District Convention, eight graduating seniors registered for the program and at the Key Club District Convention, seven graduating seniors signed up. You might think that those numbers are low. I look at them as absolutely great. That is 15 young adults whom we now know want to eventually join Kiwanis.

What do we need from you? We need Kiwanis Clubs that sponsor Key Clubs and Circle K Clubs to encourage graduating seniors to sign up for the program. Sponsoring Kiwanis Clubs become Key Club/Circle K Graduate Program Home Clubs. We also need any Kiwanis Club that thinks they might eventually get a former Key Club or Circle K member to live in their community to become a Host Club. At the West Bend Midyear Conference, we had four clubs sign up to be home or host clubs or both.

In the future, we will develop a web site for the program and be able to receive registrations on line.

This program will not solve our declining membership numbers overnight, but hopefully sometime in the future we will start seeing former Key Club and Circle K members joining our Kiwanis Clubs.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Fred Dietze can be reached at 715-381-0038 or by email at fred@freddietze.com.
Key Club District Convention Follows the Yellow Brick Road

By Kathy Gillis, WI-UM Kiwanis District Key Club Administrator

The Key Club District Leadership Conference (DCON), was held March 11-13, 2016 in Green Bay, Wisconsin. The students on the District Board did an amazing job planning and carrying out the conference. District Board members, along with club members, decorated the entire hotel, held four general sessions, 15 workshop sessions, two caucus sessions, and elected the new District Board for the 2016-17 year.

I am so very proud of what the Key Club District Governor Joshua Dvorak, Wausau West High School Key Club and the student board members accomplished this year. I look forward to seeing what next year’s Key Club board can accomplish under the guidance of newly-elected District Governor Taylor Hurst, Kimberly High School Key Club.

The DCON focus was “Lions and Tigers and Service, Oh My”, a play on the Wizard of Oz theme of “There’s No Place like DCON”. Kiwanis Governor Jim and First Lady Fay Burmeister went all out dressing as their assigned characters of the Tin Man and Scarecrow. And, Governor-elect John Collins’ (WHAT DA YA WANT!) performance as the Emerald City Door Watcher could not be topped.

Thank you to our adult committee members for the 2015-16 Key Club year – Sarah Nolan, Mark Finger, Marcia Nolan, Erin Idler, Monica Wang, Fred Dietze, Mike Beaudry, Hede Horne and Roger Woods – a very dedicated group of Kiwanians and Circle K members who each believe in the students on the Key Club District Board and in all Key Club members.

A huge shout out to the Kiwanis clubs in the District who helped their Key Club with registration and hotel costs to attend DCON. As you can see by the pictures, there was much fun and year-end celebration happening between convention sessions.

My sincere thank you for your service in the name of Key Club.

Kathy Gillis can be reached at 920-475-0500 or by email at wium.admin@gmail.com.
Key Leader Youth Leadership Retreat Registration is Open

By Justin Hahn, Key Leader Coordinator

Key Leader is a weekend experiential leadership program for today’s young leaders. This life-changing event focuses on service leadership as the first, most meaningful leadership-development experience. A Key Leader will learn the most important lesson of leadership – it comes from helping others succeed.

Participants begin by attending a Key Leader conference, which is a weekend retreat. Large and small group workshops, discussions and team-building activities take place over the course of the weekend. Students have opportunities to learn leadership skills that will help them to change their schools, communities, and world for the better. While exploring leadership in a whole new way, participants will make amazing new friends and have experiences they will never forget. Positive, ongoing interaction with other Key Leader graduates offers continuing reinforcement, encouragement and growth of leadership skills.

Wisconsin-Upper Michigan Key Leader is entering year two of piloting a new Key Leader program in which the District assumes responsibility in planning the event. Last year, WI-UM Key Leader was the most successful pilot program in existence.

What is the pilot? Well, it means that the WI-UM Kiwanis District is responsible for all facets of the event, from taking financial responsibility to planning every detail. We are well underway for this year’s weekend leadership opportunity and registration is now open!

Key Leader will be held September 16-18 at Camp Wawbeek in Wisconsin Dells. The cost of the weekend will be $250 which aligns with the Kiwanis International registration cost. In order for Key Leader to be financially successful, we have to enroll at least 60 students. I urge you to talk with your local schools and/or Key Clubs and help recruit students to attend this amazing life experience. Maybe your club would even be interested in sponsoring a student to attend. Whatever the case, WI-UM Kiwanis needs your help to fund/kill this event. Students who wish to register can do so at https://wiiumkeyleader.org by clicking “register” at the top of the page. Students who are members of the Kiwanis Family are eligible for a $25 discount, which is automatically applied when identified as a member of the Kiwanis Family.

Aside from recruiting and registering students, how can you help support the program? WI-UM Key Leader needs financial support in order to be successful. With all financial responsibility on the District, we need your help in funding the following:

- Meals: $600 per meal (5 total)
- T-Shirts/Souvenirs: $700
- Registration Site Costs: $750
- Student Facilitator Fee: $250 per facilitator (10 total)
- Adult Chaperone Fee: $250 per adult (15 total)

If you are interested in helping to fund any of these needs, please send a check payable to the Kiwanis District Foundation with a note that it is for Key Leader and contact me with a heads up.

We are also giving out Key Leader T-shirts for a $25 contribution to the Key Leader Scholarship Fund, which is used towards scholarships to attend Key Leader. I would be thrilled to come speak to your club about the Key Leader program and the need for outreach and recruiting students. Together Everyone Achieves More, so let’s combine our efforts as a TEAM and have the most successful Key Leader event we have ever seen in our District.

Justin Hahn can be reached at 715-381-0038 or by email at justinhahn1128@gmail.com.
Whitewater Kiwanians Fight Hunger Through Donations

By John Newhouse, Whitewater Breakfast Kiwanis Club

The Whitewater Breakfast Kiwanis Club invited Morgan Radaj and Art Hughes to a recent meeting as a joint program to emphasize the Kiwanis devotion to helping children worldwide.

Morgan Radaj represents “Feed My Starving Children,” a hands-on project scheduled for April 2 at the high school in which volunteers will package hundreds of meals to be donated to needy sites in poor countries to help with childhood nutrition. The Whitewater Breakfast Kiwanis Club made a contribution of $1,000 to the program. Morgan is also encouraging all volunteers to bring three non-perishable food items on Saturday, April 2 to be donated to the local food pantry. All money donated will remain in Whitewater.

Kiwanians have signed up for time slots on April 2 to assist in the preparation of the food packets and other interested community members were encouraged by Morgan to volunteer to help.

Art Hughes, the new food pantry coordinator, accepted a $500 donation from the Kiwanis Club, which was earmarked for purchase of baby food and supplies, items which are not often donated by the public. The donation fits well with the Kiwanis Young Children: Priority One effort.

‘Ton of Food’ Food Pantry Collection Effort Succeeds in Sheboygan Falls

By Karen Oliver-Kreft, Kiwanis Club of Sheboygan Falls

The Kiwanis Club and Girl Scouts of Sheboygan Falls recently wrapped up their fifth annual “Ton of Food” community food drive. The Kiwanis Club, Girl Scouts, and Blattner’s Piggly Wiggly partnered to collect food for the local food pantry during its leanest time of the year. Bags were dropped off at residences on March 12th and then picked up for the drive on March 19th.

The results were outstanding, which is a testament to the generosity of the Sheboygan Falls Community. “This couldn’t have been possible without the help of more than 100 volunteers and numerous businesses and organizations,” said event organizer and Kiwanis member, Tim Gumm. “We are very appreciative of our partners and donors: Blattner’s Piggly Wiggly for providing the collection bags and promoting the event, The Gathering Place for adding labels and inserts to all of the bags, and Evans, Subway, Dairy Queen, Lakeside Pepsi, Wells Fargo, Sheboygan Falls Aquatic Center and Technical Assistance Co. for generous donations.”

In the past five years, the Sheboygan Falls community has responded with donations in excess of 20,000 lbs. The response from the community was overwhelming and Kiwanis Club members look forward to continued success and growth in the future.
**A Capella Group Will Perform in Wild Rose on April 10**

*By Joan Laabs, Wild Rose Kiwanis Club*

Wild Rose Kiwanis Club is setting the stage, pulling back the curtains and turning up the lights for their 10th Annual Spring Concert, *UW Redefined a Capella*, to be held in the Wild Rose High School Auditorium on Sunday, April 10, 2016 at 2 p.m.

The premier University of Wisconsin-Madison co-ed *a cappella* group bubbles with talent, personality and incredible voices. Their performance is inventive, their sound is unique and transforming.

Redefined was formed in October of 2001. Their first large theater concert was a smash hit, selling out the University of Wisconsin student union. The group has continued to raise the standard for co-ed *a cappella* performance. Redefined is notorious on the internet for their Nintendo Medley and members are recording their eighth studio album this semester.

The group performs and conducts vocal music workshops throughout Wisconsin and the Midwest. Redefined members will be leading an educational workshop for choral students in Wild Rose High School and Middle School. The students will then highlight the April 10 concert with a special guest performance on stage with Redefined.

All concert proceeds will be used for student scholarships and other community programs. Tickets are available at Patterson Memorial Library in Wild Rose, Waushara Argus in Wauma and Office Outfitters in Waupaca. Concert tickets can also be purchased by telephone at 920-622-3088 and online at [www.BrownPapertTickets.com](http://www.BrownPapertTickets.com) (keyword Wild Rose).

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**Wauwatosa Kiwanis Club to Celebrate 90 Years on May 12**

The Kiwanis Club of Wauwatosa invites you to celebrate the club’s 90th anniversary on Thursday, May 12, 2016. The event will be held at the Radisson Hotel, 2303 N. Mayfair Rd., Wauwatosa. A cash bar will be available at 5:30 p.m. with dinner to follow at 6:30 p.m.

Following fellowship and dinner there will be remarks by Wisconsin-Upper Michigan Kiwanis District Governor Jim Burmeister, Wauwatosa Mayor Kathleen Ehley, Supervisor Jim “Lugi” Schmidt and other dignitaries. Afterwards, participants will be informatively entertained by historian and renowned speaker John Gurda.

Reservations and payment ($35 per person) must be received no later that May 5. Please make checks payable to the Kiwanis Club of Wauwatosa and mail to Bob Reinhardt, 7300 W. Dean Rd, Apt. 1070, Milwaukee, WI 53223. For more information, please contact Bob by email at reinhb1552@aol.com or call 414-797-0201.

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**Wawbeek Winter Warm-Up Held**

*By Kim Boyer, Easter Seals Wisconsin*

For the third year, Easter Seals Camp Wawbeek invited the community to join them at the Winter Warm-Up event on March 19. The free event gave the public a chance to learn about what Camp Wawbeek offers. This year’s Winter Warm-Up took place at Spring Brook Sports Bar and Grill. There were free activities for kids as well as raffles, live music and other activities.
Kiwanis Club of Greater Hudson Donates 1,500 Books
By Nancy Dietze, Kiwanis Club of Greater Hudson

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Hudson delivered more than 1,000 books to the children at the Keshena Primary School on the Menominee Reservation near Green Bay, Wisconsin. After four months of collecting gently used children’s books, the club cleaned and labeled them. The labels read “a Book is a Window to the World – this book donated by the Kiwanis Club of Greater Hudson.”

The donation will serve more than 400 children who attend school at the Keshena Elementary School. Many of the children aren’t able to purchase books to read at home. Their school library is also limited in resources so many of the books will fill the library collection. The Greater Hudson club has donated more than 1,500 books to Keshena children this year.

Monroe Kiwanians Launch Program to Provides Books on School Buses
By James Glessner, Kiwanis Club of Monroe

In partnership with Lamers Bus Lines, the Monroe High School Key Club has started a project to put books on every school bus in the Monroe School District. Their goal is to promote literacy and provide students with the opportunity to read, while offering some entertainment for long bus rides, hopefully reducing behavior issues. Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Monroe, the club piloted the project with one crate of books on one bus. Phase two will put books on the remaining 29 buses.

Crates have been donated by Brennan’s Market and the Monroe Kiwanis Club. Hundreds of books have been donated, mostly from the district’s elementary schools. The first allotment of 10 crates, purchased by Monroe Kiwanis Club, were filled and prepared in a recent joint meeting. Monroe Kiwanis purchased 11 more crates and another combined session is planned.

Each crate has 50 to 60 books of various genres and reading levels. Each book is labeled with a logo designed by the club so that they can all be returned to any school bus. Once all of the buses have crates of books on them, the crates will rotate on a regular schedule so that it will take up to two years before every student has seen all of the books in circulation.

In December, when the project started, Key Club members volunteered to ride the bus and read books to the students both on their way to and home from school. Key Club members will continue to do this as the project continues.

La Crosse Kiwanis Dragon Float Enhances 1921 Winter Carnival
By Cedric Friesen, La Crosse Kiwanis Club

Looking north in the 400 block of South Third Street, January 27, 1921, as members of the La Crosse Kiwanis Club gather by the club’s dragon float. This prize-winning float, which was 220 feet long and required 60 Kiwanians to maneuver, took part in afternoon and evening parades that day as part of La Crosse’s 1921 Winter Carnival.

The dragon float was at its best during the night parade “when it squirmed and wriggled through the streets, mouth opening wide, fire and smoke coming from its nostrils and huge eyes blinking and glaring,” according to the January 28, 1921, La Crosse Tribune.
Dodgeville Annual Radio Auction Raises Nearly $12,000

By Sath Menon, Dodgeville Kiwanis Club

The Dodgeville Kiwanis Club held its annual radio auction on two consecutive Saturdays in early March. Businesses, organizations and individuals from Dodgeville, Iowa County and surrounding areas in Southwest Wisconsin donated a great array of products, services and gift certificates. Kiwanis members participate in a variety of ways as radio anchors, customer service representatives and bookkeepers. The total revenue derived from the 2016 Radio Auction fundraiser was $11,878. Kiwanians Ginger Jones and Deb Poad organized and coordinated the program with public relations assistance by Sath Menon. The club is grateful for the support of radio station WDMP D99.3 for donated air time, Mount Horeb Telephone Company for telephone and cabling equipment services and the Dodgeville Area Chamber of Commerce for the use of their building.

Culver’s Night Fundraisers are Fun, Easy and Successful

By Sath Menon, Dodgeville Kiwanis Club

The Kiwanis Club of Dodgeville holds a very successful fundraiser at the local Culver’s restaurant every year. This is usually organized by Sath Menon, current vice-president of the club. The club earns 10% of all Culver’s purchases when the Dodgeville Kiwanis Club is mentioned, netting approximately $300 in one night.

Culver’s and many other restaurants and fast-food establishments are excited to partner with non-profit organizations for fundraisers. It’s a great way to engage the community in your fundraising efforts. To host an event, contact the manager of the restaurant and ask for a date. Once the restaurant agrees, publicize the event in the community and to your friends and family. Encourage them to share the event with everyone they know and to go to the restaurant the day of the event.

Aging and Disability Resource Center Offers Wellness Workshops

By Sath Menon, Dodgeville Kiwanis Club

Brittany Mainwaring, Wellness Prevention Coordinator with the Southwest Wisconsin Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) spoke to an audience of interested community members at a recent Kiwanis Club meeting in Dodgeville.

The presentation was informative and enlightening, focusing partly on many exciting new health-related workshops being offered. Courses of this variety are being offered by ADRC’s across the entire state of Wisconsin. You have control over many things that can improve your health and reduce the possibility of costly, unexpected medical expenses. Attend any of the evidenced-based workshops to learn how you can manage everything from preventing falls to managing chronic conditions. Trained facilitators from the Aging and Disability Resource Center in your area lead fun, informal, interactive workshops. Topics include dealing with fatigue and pain, healthy eating, better sleep, medication management, effective communication with provider and evaluating treatment options. Call your local ADRC for more information.
Fox Cities Kiwanis Club Provides ‘Help for the Homeless’

By Jay Stephany, Appleton Fox Cities Kiwanis Club

“I don’t know what I would do if I couldn’t have a shower and clean clothes. Being homeless is one thing but trying not to look or smell homeless is everything to me. Thank you so much for your hygiene donations!”

– Fox Valley Warming Shelter Client

This story is one of many that are reported by the 79 local Wisconsin crisis programs that benefit from The Family Radio Networks 91.9/91.5 and 88.5 annual ‘Help for the Homeless’ hygiene drive. The Appleton Fox Cities Kiwanis Club once again partnered with the hygiene drive by delivering more than 250 donation boxes to 178 employers, churches and schools in the Fox Valley area. In total there are 840 Northeast and Central Wisconsin drop-off locations in 13 communities that rallied together to fill donation boxes for their local crisis programs. The goal of “Help for the Homeless” is to supply a year’s worth of products to each agency.

In addition to the support of the Appleton Fox Cities Kiwanis, the Fox Valley Aktion Club also supported the

Fabulous Fond du Lac Kiwanis Club Members Support Project Linus

By John Cooper, Kiwanis Club of Fabulous Fond du Lac

Volunteers from the Kiwanis Club of Fabulous Fond du Lac and the club's satellite, which meets biweekly at Moraine Park Technical College, met in February and made 31 blankets to be donated to the Fond du Lac County chapter of Project Linus.

The mission of Project Linus is to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans, lovingly created by volunteers and to provide a rewarding and fun service opportunity for interested individuals and groups in local communities for the benefit of children.

Volunteers of Project Linus, known as “blanketeers”, provide new, handmade, washable blankets to be given as gifts to seriously ill and traumatized children through age 18. All styles of blankets are welcome, including quilts, tied comforters, fleece blankets, crocheted or knitted afghans and receiving blankets in child-friendly colors. Donations of supplies that would be needed in making blankets, quilts and afghans are also greatly appreciated, as are financial contributions.

If you are interested in getting involved in your area, check the Project Linus Web site, www.projectlinus.org, to find your local chapter.
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Kiwanis News Schedule

Issue: April/May
Deadline: April 30

Issue: June/July
Deadline: June 15

Issue: August/September
Deadline: August 30

Submit stories to editor
Tonya Alling, 11 Stanton St., Ripon, WI 54971 or email them to tonya@allingenterprises.com.

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Fabulous Fond du Lac Kiwanis Club Donates $5,000 for Band Uniforms

By John Cooper, Kiwanis Club of Fabulous Fond du Lac

The Kiwanis Club of Fabulous Fond du Lac presented a check for $5,000 to the Fond du Lac High School Band Boosters towards the purchase of 300 uniforms. The mission of the band boosters is to encourage and maintain an enthusiastic interest in all phases of the Fond du Lac High School band program and to lend support to the general band program of Fond du Lac High School. The group provides chaperones for activities, scholarships for specialized student training, funding for uniforms and equipment, volunteers for events and assistance to the band directors as needed.

Greater Hudson Kiwanis Club Gains New Corporate Member

By Fred Dietze, Kiwanis Club of Greater Hudson

The United States Army Recruiting Center in Hudson, Wisconsin recently joined the Kiwanis Club of Greater Hudson under the Corporate Member Program. As a corporate member, any member of the organization can attend the Kiwanis Club’s functions and events, to include meetings and social events and can also participate in service projects and fund raisers.

In an induction ceremony held recently at the Army recruiting center, Kiwanian Fred Dietze, Major U.S. Army Retired, talked about the strong bonds that the Kiwanis Club builds in the Hudson community and how the military personnel stationed in the community can also help in that endeavor. Captain Jeffrey Hays, commander for the soldiers assigned to the Hudson recruiting center, commented that the Army and Kiwanis have many of the same goals. “The Army has been a vision partner with Kiwanis for several years. At Kiwanis run Key Leader workshops, soldiers serve as teamwork session facilitators,” he said. In addition, the U.S. Army’s March2Success program, a free online course, is designed to improve student performance on standardized tests. The program provides materials to help prepare students for college and a series of videos to simplify processes.

Kiwanis Club of Greater Hudson president David Grambow emphasized at the induction ceremony that Kiwanis has a commitment to improving the world, one community and one child at a time.

Mark Your Calendar
Ishpeming Golf Scramble June 14

By Eric Luttinen, Ishpeming Kiwanis Club

The Ishpeming Kiwanis Club hopes the date for this year’s golf outing will bring out pinseekers even more. It’s set for Flag Day – June 14, 2016.

The 20th annual four-person scramble event, held at Wawonowin Country Club in Ishpeming, Michigan, attracts a wide variety of local teams. The club’s hope is to attract more Kiwanis teams this year. Besides a fun day of golf at one of the Upper Peninsula’s best courses, there’s a 50-50 raffle, hole prizes and a silent auction. Proceeds from the event go to youth-related activities in the Ishpeming area.

The fee is $60 per player, which includes lunch and dinner and greens fees, or $240 per team. Players wishing to rent carts will pay $30. For more information or to enter a team, contact Eric Luttinen at (906) 204-0003.