

KIWANEWS

WISCONSIN-UPPER MICHIGAN KIWANIS DISTRICT

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2018



Members of the Ripon Aktion Club include, from left, Tom McGraf, Michael Rohde, Mike VandeZande, Katie Ecles, John Specht, Dylan Block-Krause, Herman Simson, Kandi VanHouten, Margie James, former President Georgia Wacholtz, Joe Chikowski, Terry Krug, current President Tom Schmidt, Dan Perry and Kyle Jahns. lan Stepleton photo

AKTION'S AWARD-WINNING SCRAPBOOK NOW NEEDS ANOTHER PAGE

Submitted by Ian Stepleton, Ripon Noon Kiwanis Club, reprinted with permission of Ripon Commonwealth Press

Last fall, Ripon's Aktion Club spent one of its lunch meetings scrapbooking. "Some members cut pictures, others picked out clip-art, some glued, etc.," said Kristy Sadlon, one of the advisors to the group. "The best part was remembering and talking about all the activities as we put the book together!"

Scrapbooking may have been its own reward for members of the Aktion Club – but it wasn't the only one. The book they put together that day? It's now been honored not once but twice by Kiwanis International. "Ripon Aktion Club received first place at the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan district level," Kristy said. "The scrapbook was then forwarded to the International level contest [which was held in Las Vegas], receiving honorable mention." Not bad for a pile of memories!

In case you need a refresher yourself, the Aktion Club is one of Kiwanis' service leadership programs aimed at individuals with special needs. In Ripon, it meets regularly at Diverse Options, which serves such individuals. Like any other club, Aktion Club holds service events throughout the community, serving Ripon in a number of ways, in addition to participating in the scrapbook contest.

"The theme for the 2016-2017 contest was 'Courage to Engage' and members were to create a scrapbook showing the events, service and fundraisers of our Aktion Club year (October 2016 through September 2017)," said Helga Ridders, another advisor to the group. Paging through their scrapbook, club members recalled some of those efforts.

...continued on page twelve

REVIEW GOALS, RECEIVE RECOGNITION AND STEP INTO LEADERSHIP

By Justin Hahn, 2017-2018 WI-UM District Governor



Justin Hahn

The month of March marks the halfway point in the Kiwanis year.

This is a really great time to evaluate and review your goals.

When we started this journey, we outlined goals for the District and I asked all of you to work on setting goals or strategic plans for your clubs. If you've worked on

planning, you've no doubt set some time lines of when you want to complete your goals. You may think you don't need to review, especially if you can see and feel your goals working. But what if you don't? And what if the deadline comes and goes, and the goal is not achieved?

Sometimes you'll notice small results – but not as much as you'd like – so you need to tweak your plans slightly to adjust the outcome. Or you'll figure out that changing your approach on one simple thing will explode your results like crazy! **Evaluation is a worthwhile activity** because it can help keep you honest about your efforts, it can reveal holes in your plans and it can inspire you to keep going when you notice even moderate results happening.

Commitment at a time when you aren't seeing results is crucial. While it may seem easier to 'put them aside and forget', this is the time when you need to have an accountability 'chat'. Discussing goals together will offer another perspective or help with ideas. Motivating yourself and your club to accomplish the goals you have set is beneficial to the longevity of any Kiwanis club. You will find updates to our District goals on page three. Please share these results with your club. Take pride in what we are accomplishing together and use the information to help your club.

The leadership team has evaluated the awards offered by the District and made some changes. The team created some new awards to better recognize and reward clubs. Find a complete list on page four. One of the awards we

have added is the Outstanding Club Fundraiser. We have aligned awards to have one of two deadlines throughout the year. Awards being presented at the District convention have a May 15 deadline and year-end goals have a November 15 deadline. **You and your clubs are doing phenomenal things and we are thrilled to offer more opportunities for recognition.**

I want to highlight available **leadership opportunities**. Every year at our District convention we hold elections for Governor-elect. This person moves on to be District Governor. As Governor-elect you support the Governor in the role as an officer of Kiwanis International. You are responsible for training incoming leaders and you prepare for the transition into becoming the District Governor. My journey as Governor-elect and Governor has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. I never thought I could take on something like this but it has been a blessing. The support I have received has been inspiring. Don't shy away from this if you think you can't do it! I would love to chat with you further if you are interested in the position.



Each year at our Midyear conferences we elect new Lieutenant Governors. This year, Divisions 2 and 6 were elected in West Bend, Divisions 3 and 4 are up for election in Wisconsin Dells and Division 10 is up for election in Kingsford.

The Lieutenant Governor is the direct link between the District and the club. This position is very rewarding – you travel throughout your division and witness firsthand the amazing things happening in our clubs. If you are interested in being a Lieutenant Governor, I would love to chat with you!

Thank you for an incredible six months. I am beyond excited to see what the rest of the Kiwanis year reveals!

2017-2018 WI-UM Kiwanis District Governor Justin Hahn can be reached by phone at 414-510-1609 or by email at justinhahn1128@gmail.com.

2017-2018 WI-UM DISTRICT GOALS

By Justin Hahn, 2017-2018 WI-UM District Governor



The Board of Directors has worked hard to set SMART goals for the 2017-2018 WI-UM Kiwanis District year. SMART goals are **S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable, **R**esults-focused and **T**ime-bound.

Progress towards our District goals as of February 13, 2018:

District Convention Attendance
75 Clubs Attend – (TBD)

Midyear Conference Attendance
210 Members Attend – (TBD)

Interclub Attendance
Perform 350 Interclubs –
72 reported (20.57% of goal)

Fundraising
Raise \$1 million – \$258,155
reported (22.41% of goal)

Club Reporting
100 Clubs Submit Monthly
Reports – 80 clubs have reported
at least once (80% of goal)

Service Hours
Perform 100,000 Hours of
Service – 22,409 hours have been
reported (22.41% of goal)

New Club Opening
Open Two New Clubs – One club
has been opened (50% of goal)

Membership Gain
Net Membership Increase of 100
– 4,133 members – a net gain of
41 members (41% of goal)



IMPORTANT KIWANIS DATES

Key Club District Leadership Conference
March 16–18, 2018
Hyatt on Main, Green Bay, Wisconsin

District Board Meeting
March 17, 2018
Hyatt on Main, Green Bay, Wisconsin

Midyear Conference
Division 3 and 4 Lieutenant Governor Elections
March 24, 2018
Easter Seals Respite Camp
Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin

Midyear Conference
Division 10 Lieutenant Governor Election
April 21, 2018
Iron Mountain, Michigan

District Board Meeting
April 26, 2018
Web Conference

Kiwanis International Convention
June 28–July 1, 2018
Paris and Bally’s Hotels, Las Vegas, Nevada

Kiwanis District Convention
August 24–26, 2018
Radisson Hotel, La Crosse, Wisconsin

WI-UM MIDYEAR CONFERENCES

March 24, 2018 Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin
Easter Seals Respite Camp, 1550 Wawbeek Rd.

April 21, 2018. Kingsford, Michigan
Kingsford High School, 431 Hamilton Ave.

\$25 Early Registration Fee (includes lunch)



WI-UM KIWANIS DISTRICT RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

- **Bill Solberg Service Medal**
(May 15 deadline)
- **Outstanding Club Fundraiser**
(May 15 deadline)
- **District Governor's Excellent Division**
(Selected by the Governor)
- **District Governor's Service Award**
(November 15 deadline)
- **Round Robin Award**
(November 15 deadline)
- **Terrific Kiwanian**
(November 15 deadline)
- **Club Signature Service Project Award**
(In Conjunction with Kiwanis International Contest)
- **Outstanding Kiwanis Support**
(In Conjunction with Key Club and Circle K Districts)
- **Membership Growth Award**
(In Conjunction with Gov's Membership Challenge)

NEW AWARDS

- **Outstanding Club Fundraiser**
Recognizes an outstanding club fundraiser for the year. Submission by the club is required.
- **Club Signature Service Project Award**
Recognizes a Club Signature Service Project submitted to Kiwanis International to represent the District.
- **Outstanding Kiwanis Support**
Recognizes outstanding sponsorship by a Kiwanis Club in conjunction with Key Club and Circle K.

AWARD CHANGES

- **District Governor's Excellent Division**
Formerly the Governor's Trophy Award, renamed to clarify its purpose.
- **District Governor's Service Award**
Deadline changed to November 15.
- **Round Robin Award**
Responsibility of reporting eligibility has been transferred to the club president or club secretary.
- **Terrific Kiwanian**
Formerly the OK Award; deadline changed to November 15.
- **Banner Patch** (for District officers)
Banner patches will only be distributed at the District officer's request.

SUSPENDED AWARDS

- **Club Bulletin Contest**
Sent to committee for revitalization of the award.

LEADERSHIP TEAM CREATES OUTSTANDING CLUB FUNDRAISER AWARD

A great fundraiser can keep a club financially responsible or provide a meaningful contribution to another cause. The Outstanding Club Fundraiser Award recognizes a Kiwanis club's dedication and effort in having produced the most outstanding fundraiser during the year.

The complete outstanding club fundraiser award form can be found on the WI-UM Kiwanis District website at www.wiumkiwanis.org/district_awards. Mail the form by May 15 to 571 Center Street, Berlin, WI 54923-0311.

Gather the following information to complete the outstanding club fundraiser award form:

Outstanding Club Fundraiser Statistics

- Fundraising project name and date of project;
- Charitable organization benefited;
- Total amount raised;
- Amount raised per paid club member;
- Number of hours spent planning and at the event;
- Attendance by members/guests/K-Family members;
- Branches of the K-Family represented at the event;
- Other Kiwanis clubs present;
- Why the fundraiser was necessary;
- What the nature of the fundraiser was;
- How the fundraiser was advertised or promoted;
- The resulting impact in your community.

INAUGURAL AKTION CLUB WEEK PLANNED FOR MARCH 5–9, 2018

Submitted by Charles Zarnoth, Aktion Club Administrator



The inaugural Aktion Club Week will occur March 5-9, 2018. It is a week designated to shine a light on Aktion Club and the

impact club members are making in their communities. More than 500 Aktion Clubs in 14 countries will have the opportunity to participate.

The 15 Aktion Clubs in the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan Kiwanis District will be celebrating. If there is an Aktion Club in your division, please send a card to congratulate them and thank them for the service they do.

The Wisconsin-Upper Michigan Aktion Clubs are:

- Beacons of Hope – Fond du Lac
- Clark County

- CLC Madison
- Curative Care Network – Milwaukee
- Escanaba
- Aktion Club of the Fox Valley
- Iron County, Michigan
- Iron Mountain-Kingsford
- Janesville
- Ozaukee County
- Ripon
- Sheboygan
- Stoughton
- Superiorland – Marquette, Michigan area
- We Care Club – Chilton, Kiel, New Holstein

For contact information or to learn more about sponsoring an Aktion Club, email Charles Zarnoth at cjzarnothapc@gmail.com or call 920-849-2658.

CRITERIA FOR THE BILL SOLBERG DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

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

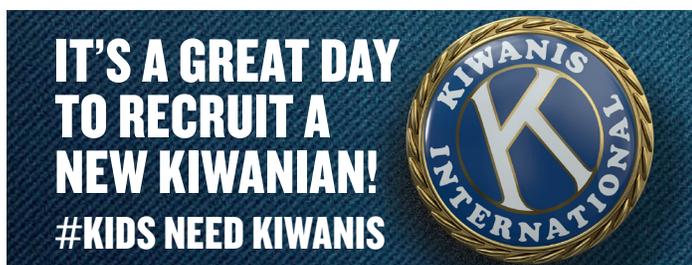
- Recipient must have actively served in Kiwanis for a period of not less than ten years.
- Must have served in the WI-UM Kiwanis District at least as a Lt. Governor or District Chairperson.
- Have actively participated outside of Kiwanis in other worthy community, lodge or civic endeavors.
- Must be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

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 15 of the Kiwanis year that the award will be considered. The award will be presented at the District Convention of that Kiwanis year.



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

The nomination form for the Bill Solberg Distinguished Service Medal can be found on the WI-UM Kiwanis District website at www.wiumkiwanis.org/district_awards.



Mail nomination form by May 15 to: Past Governor's Committee, WI-UM District Office, 571 Center Street, Berlin, WI 54923-0311.

KDF ACHIEVES 2017 SILVER SEAL OF TRANSPARENCY ON GUIDESTAR

Submitted by Mark Finger, WI-UM Kiwanis District Foundation Secretary/Treasurer



The Wisconsin-Upper Michigan Kiwanis District Foundation, Inc. was recently recognized for transparency with a Silver Seal on our GuideStar nonprofit profile.

GuideStar is the world's largest source of information on nonprofit organizations. More than 8 million visitors per year and a network of over 200 partners use GuideStar data to grow support for nonprofits.

In order to earn the Silver Seal, the WI-UM KDF shared important information with the public using our profile on www.guidestar.org. Now potential donors can find in-depth financial information about our organization.

Check out our GuideStar Nonprofit Profile and tell us what you think: www.guidestar.org/profile/39-1455222.

To learn more about the KDF, please contact Mark Finger at mfinger@wiumkiwanis.org or 920-361-9954.

IN MEMORIAM: FORMER KIWANEWS EDITOR SCOTT WITTCHOW

Submitted by Mark Finger, WI-UM Kiwanis District Administrator

Scott Wittchow, a member of the Fond du Lac Noon Kiwanis Club, passed away on February 17, 2018.

He was born in 1951 and was raised in the Rosendale, Wisconsin area. He attended school at UW-Fond du Lac where he played on a championship basketball team and then earned a degree in journalism at UW-Oshkosh.

In 2000, Scott became a bone marrow donor to a woman from Great Britain. His donation extended her life by ten years before the cancer returned and took her life.

Scott was an active member of the Fond du Lac Noon Kiwanis Club. He was club president, lieutenant governor and served as the District *Kiwanews* editor for many years. Scott served our District well and will be missed.

He is survived by his wife, Gretchen Gall, two daughters, a grandson, his mother and three siblings.

Memorials for the UW-Fond du Lac Foundation, Peace Lutheran Church in Rosendale or Big Brothers/Big Sisters, or the Kiwanis District Foundation would be appreciated.

YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING MATERIALS AND RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Submitted by Margaret Rudolph, WI-UM District Youth Protection Chair

Has your club completed youth protection training? Almost all Kiwanis clubs sponsor a Service Leadership Program club and do projects with youth. When we work with and mentor youth during projects and activities, their care and welfare are being entrusted to us. Every member must know how to protect the youth with whom we interact and protect ourselves as well.

The following resources outline Kiwanis policies related to working with youth and provide training materials to implement in your club. Access the materials online at www.kiwanis.org/clubs/member-resources/training/risk-management/youth-protection.

- Kiwanis Youth Protection Guidelines
- Youth Protection Guidelines training PowerPoint
- Kiwanis Youth Protection Guidelines training guide
- Kiwanis Youth Protection Guidelines training worksheet
- Kiwanis Youth Protection hotline
- Kiwanis Youth Protection Guidelines online training (for Kiwanis members)
- Sample medical release/permission-to-treat form
- Kiwanis Risk Management and General Liability

For more information, WI-UM Kiwanis District Youth Protection Chair Margaret Rudolph can be reached at 608-697-3390 or rudolphm@portage.k12.wi.us.

THE KIWANIS CHILDREN'S FUND IMPACTS CHILDREN GLOBALLY

Submitted by Bev Burnap, Kiwanis Children's Fund District Chair



Bev Burnap

By the time you read this article our Kiwanis year will be half over. Kids need Kiwanis. Kiwanis is looking out for the kids in every corner of the globe with more than 600,000 volunteers who serve their communities through local clubs. We are generous with our time, creative with our ideas

and passionate about making a difference.

The Kiwanis Children's Fund continues to develop resources that transform the goodwill and vision of Kiwanians into programs that serve the children of the world. In the past two years there have been 16 different grant programs utilizing \$3,992,725 to help the Kiwanis family carry out more than 170 projects.

In the last *Kiwanews* issue, I reviewed the five focus areas of the Children's Fund. Now I would like to update you on the latest news from Kiwanis International in regards to three of the five causes: disaster relief, sustaining the elimination of iodine deficiency disorders and eliminating maternal and neonatal tetanus.

Disaster Relief

The Children's Fund has awarded \$30,000 in the past few months. Grants have gone to the Texas/Oklahoma District for Hurricane Harvey relief efforts. Another grant was given to St. Johns Antiqua and to Bridgetown Barbados following Hurricanes Irma and Maria.

Sustaining Elimination of Iodine Deficiency Disorders

We continue to support efforts to prevent mental disabilities through efforts to monitor salt production advocacy and educational programs aimed at local governments. The Children's Fund has leveraged an additional \$49 million through USAID. Household use of iodized salt has increased intelligence quotient by 13%.



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CHILDREN'S FUND

The Eliminate Project

In 2017 we added three more countries who have eliminated maternal and neonatal tetanus. They are Ethiopia, Haiti and, most recently, the Philippines. The entire Western Hemisphere has now been validated from MNT. Of the 15 remaining countries, 11 have vaccination campaigns, one is in the validation assessment stage, one is doing a validation survey and two are developing or revising their plan of action.

We are winning the fight. Lets finish the fight by fulfilling our pledges. The Children's Fund will accept any amount of money Kiwanis members want to donate even though the official fundraising effort has concluded.

Kiwanis Children's Fund District Chair Bev Burnap can be reached at 715-868-5633 or bjburnap45@gmail.com.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE INTERNET LATELY?



KIDS NEED KIWANIS

PICK A PECK OF KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL VISION PARTNERSHIPS

Submitted by Lena Scheibengraber, Kiwanis Partnership Coordinator

All Kiwanis clubs partner with other organizations; perhaps your club works with your library for a service project or maybe a strong philanthropic company in your area sponsors some costly items for a fundraiser. Whatever your club may currently be doing, you should always be looking for ways to increase your impact! Kiwanis International has teamed up with some outstanding organizations to provide you, your members and your community with special services and resources.



Landscape Structures has joined Kiwanis International as a vision partner to bring play to communities across the globe. Focusing on building all-ability playgrounds, Kiwanis clubs are encouraged to work with LSI to complete playground renovation projects in their communities. LSI can customize playground pieces to fit the Kiwanis brand, ensuring that community members understand the contribution made by the Kiwanis club behind the build. LSI offers a discount for clubs who get out and get dirty by hosting a community build!

A great example of this in action is Justin Hahn's Governor's Project – building an accessible playground for Camp Wawbeek. For more information on LSI playgrounds, check out www.playlsi.com.

nick™ **Nickelodeon** is a household name and has been actively involved in the emotional, physical and cognitive development of children across the country. Kiwanis has partnered with Nickelodeon to help promote two major campaigns: Worldwide Day of Play and Get Dirty!

The Worldwide Day of Play reinforces Nickelodeon's mission to make the world a more playful place. For three hours, Nickelodeon takes programming off the air and shuts down its websites to reinforce one message: get up, get out and go play! Play events are hosted across the country at the end of September for children of all ability levels; you'll often see Key Clubs involved.

Nickelodeon's annual "Get Dirty!" Earth Day initiative is a call-to-action that supports kids and their projects to help protect the planet. "Get Dirty!" provides kids and their families with information on top-of-mind issues, offers fun ways they can improve the environment and connects them to green activities. For more information on these two initiatives, visit www.nick.com/play.



The **U.S. Army** strives to strengthen local communities through service and to build character and leadership among youth, such as Key Club members. Through the Kiwanis Speakers Bureau, U.S. Army personnel can connect with Kiwanis-family clubs at club meetings, raise awareness of what today's Army can provide and offer access to local Army support and resources. The Army also gives exceptional opportunities in higher education that can help young people throughout their lives. More information can be found at www.goarmy.com.



United
Medicare
Advisors

Kiwanis International has partnered with **United Medicare Advisors** to help Kiwanis members get information about Medicare options and rates. As a member, you can work with UMA to better understand the Medicare program and secure a top-rated Medigap plan with their complimentary quotes and consultations. Find "myth vs. reality" as they help guide you through the confusing world of health insurance and feel comfortable with the choices you make for you and your family. More information can be found online at www.unitedmedicareadvisors.com/umakiwanis1.

With all of these amazing vision partners, you can't go wrong! I hope you and your club members take the time to check out these resources and, hopefully, take advantage of some of the services they provide!

Unsure of how you can start your partnership journey? Contact Kiwanis Partnership Coordinator, Lena Scheibengraber, at scheibls@gmail.com.



Kiwaniis®

WISCONSIN-UPPER MICHIGAN DISTRICT

WHO?

Key Leader is designed to open doors for all students from 14 to 20 years of age.

WHAT?

Key Leader is a weekend Leadership Experience for today's youth and future leaders. The program focuses on Service Leadership. A Key Leader will learn the most important lesson of leadership: Leadership comes from helping others succeed.

FIVE KEY PRINCIPLES:

- Personal Integrity
- Personal Growth
- Respect
- Building Community
- Pursuit of Excellence

MISSION:

Provide a life-changing experience that inspires young people to achieve their personal best through service leadership.



WHEN?

September 14-16, 2018

WHERE?

Camp Wawbeek
Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin

COST? \$250

HEADS UP!

We are working on assembling scholarships for this event.

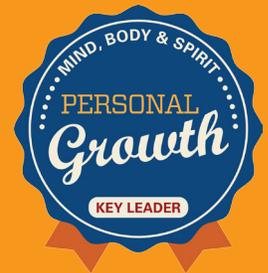


STAY TUNED



REGISTRATION OPENS:

March 1, 2018
wiumkeyleader.org/
upcoming-events



QUESTIONS?

 info@wiumkeyleader.org

This program is supported by:



Kiwaniis®
International Foundation



**Wisconsin-Upper Michigan
Kiwanis District Foundation**

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@wiumkl

2017 KEY LEADER PARTICIPANTS RECOMMEND THE LEADERSHIP EVENT

Submitted by Anna Bruhn, Past District Governor and Key Leader Coordinator

What did you like about the weekend?

- The neighborhood group work. I thought it was challenging and forced us to be creative.
- We met great people and got great resources.
- I met a lot of cool people and had a great time learning.
- I liked learning about communication and personal growth the best and also community-building.
- I liked meeting new people with a common passion.
- I liked getting to meet new people and learning more about being a leader.



Key Leader attendees participate in exercises focusing on integrity, growth, respect, community-building and the pursuit of excellence.

Do you have any other comments?

- I had lots of fun throughout the entire weekend, even though it was my third year.
- It was a lot more fun than I expected. Thank you!
- I would recommend this to other folks.
- It was an awesome weekend!

- It was a great experience.
- Key Leaders are awesome.
- I liked the low ropes courses.
- Nope. I loved it!

The Kiwanis Impact on Key Leader

- Data from the participant survey shows Kiwanis clubs just how important it is to get students to Key Leader:
Other Leadership Events Attended:
 No Other Events 18 (44%)
 1 Other Event. 7 (17%)
 2 Other Events. 5 (12%)
 3 Other Events. 1 (2%)
 4 Other Events. 3 (7%)
 More than 4 Other Events 5 (12%)
- Many of our attendees last year did not attend any other leadership event.
- Your club’s sponsorship could be setting a student on the path to service leadership!

Find a Student to Invite to Key Leader!

- At your church.
- In your Key Club.
- Check with your Builders Club advisor. This year’s eighth grade students are eligible for the 2019 event.
- At the Boys and Girls Club.
- Remember, the chess club needs leaders too!

For more information please visit wiumkeyleader.org.



STEVENS POINT KIWANIS CLUB PROVIDES NEEDED HYGIENE SUPPLIES

Submitted by Marv Van Kekerix, Stevens Point Kiwanis Club

What does Bobby, whose parents cannot afford personal hygiene products for their family do when he faces the prospect of going to school without the opportunity to bathe? Or, how can Julie address the fact that she has lice, but her family cannot afford an appropriate treatment? Or, where does Ann, a teenage mother who needs diapers for her young child, find help?

The needs described here are real and can be found in virtually every school district. Almost 50% of families with school-age children are eligible for free- or reduced-price lunches. Federal guidelines state that families whose income is between 130% and 185% of the poverty level qualify for this benefit. In the Stevens Point School District about 39% of the students are eligible and in some of our schools over 50% of the student body is considered economically disadvantaged.

The Stevens Point Kiwanis Club began looking in 2014 for another way to have a meaningful impact on youth. Discussions with school district social workers quickly identified basic hygiene products as a high-priority need. The club agreed to make hygiene products available and the social workers assumed responsibility for distribution.

The first year, the club's stock of hygiene items consisted mostly of toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, brushes, combs and soap. The items were packaged as kits that could be given to individual in-need students. Club members soon discovered that needs varied greatly and that a one-size-fits-all kit had rather limited impact. In many cases the individual did



Donated hygiene supplies are stored in a centrally located storage area which is easily accessible to school district staff who distribute the items.

not find all of the items in the kit helpful and in others the items included did not meet the wide variety of needs identified by the social workers. In addition, the nature and extent of the need varied greatly from one school to another. Thus, some schools quickly exhausted their supply of kits, while others had a surplus. It occurred to those involved that a better strategy was needed.

Fortunately, several circumstances came together to transform the project. First, the school district built a new life skills center which included centralized storage. By storing the items centrally, the social workers at each school could draw upon the items on an as-needed basis, making a larger volume of items available to all.

Next, Associated Bank's Stevens Point Service Center focused on encouraging employees to donate hygiene items. That effort resulted in the donation of more than 850 items this year.

The change in the distribution method and increased level of donations required three additional tasks which Kiwanis club members assumed: creating and maintaining an inventory of the items, sorting the various items and organizing the storage cabinets. At this point, the variety of available items expanded. The program now offers body wash, safety razors, shaving cream, feminine hygiene products and lip balm. Near the beginning of the school year, club members gathered at the storage room to sort, inventory, label and store the donations from the Service Center and the club.



Stevens Point Kiwanis Club members sort donated hygiene supplies.

THIRTEEN MADISON WEST KIWANIANS JOIN THE 'LEGION OF HONOR'

Submitted by Ron Schuler, Madison West Kiwanis Club

Thirteen Madison West Kiwanians were recognized with Legion of Honor Awards in January. Members receive the award once they reach 25 years of Kiwanis membership and every five years thereafter.



Mary Mennes and Fred Ross were presented the awards on January 26.



Receiving the Legion of Honor award were, left to right, Harold Green, Carrol Spencer, Chuck Stumpf, Marv Heiser and Ed Reisch.

The recipients (followed by years of service) are Bonnie Bruce, Arlin Brannstrom, Marv Heiser, Mary Mennes, Fred Ross, Carrol Spencer and Denis Vogel (25 years), Jim Wiederhoeft (30 years), Dave Parminter (35 years), Harold Green and Ed Reisch (40 years), Chuck Stumpf (50 years) and Bill Johnson (60 years).

Aktion's Award-Winning Scrapbook Now Needs Another Page... continued from page one

"We put together the flood buckets – remember the hurricanes?" Kristy asked. "We had cookies!" one member shouted out. "What did we do for the splash pad? We gave \$250 for the splash pad," Rikkers said, to which a member shouted out, "Woooo-eeee!"

Page after page filled the scrapbook with such moments, but the real excitement came when the group learned about their big trophy – their first trophy ever.

"I'd like to present you, as the president, [with this trophy]," Kristy said to past club president Georgia Wacholtz, "for all the hard work you've done and putting the scrapbook together."

"Thank you, guys," she said. When asked how proud she was of receiving the trophy, she chose to again thank her club members. "Everyone chipped in and helped me out, and I'm proud of you guys." "Thank you," Georgia said.

"Seeing their face light up presenting the trophy for their accomplishments is what any advisor looks forward to," Kristy said. "I am so proud of all the club's achievements and success. They have grown so much over the years and their enthusiasm to serve our great community just warms my heart! They are a joy to work with every month and each member puts a smile on my face! They sure have a bright future and I am blessed to guide them."

The Aktion Club isn't done. Current president Tom Schmidt knows Georgia set the bar high, and he's ready to make his mark, too. "I think I'm going to step up," he said, "and tell people what we can do."



Past President Georgia Wacholtz, left, holds the Aktion Club's trophy while shaking hands with current President Tom Schmidt, as advisor Kristy Sadlon watches.

Ian Stepleton photo

GLADSTONE-RAPID RIVER KIWANIS MEMBERS CURB WEEKEND HUNGER

Submitted by Larry Kirschner, Gladstone-Rapid River Kiwanis Club

The following letter to the editor was published in the Escanaba Daily Press and is reprinted with permission.

It was approaching winter break. Most children are fidgeting restlessly awaiting the ring of the final school bell. They are anticipating the games they will play, hanging out with friends, dreaming of gifts they hope to receive and relishing two whole weeks of sleeping in.

Sitting despondently among the animated students is a scrawny girl who is dreading the echo of that bell. Worry is etched on her delicate young features. For her, winter break means hunger. Thoughts of gifts and a Christmas tree are a fruitless fantasy. Instead, waking up and falling asleep to the sound of a growling belly preoccupy her thoughts. Recollections of Thanksgiving break still fresh in her mind, rummaging through empty cupboards and a stale smelling refrigerator trying to find something, anything to appease her hollow belly.

The bell rings and the young girl files into line with the other children in the Kiwanis backpack program to receive the grocery sack of food that she believes will be the only rations provided her during the holiday break. When it is her turn she begins to cry. She tells the teacher and volunteer that she is afraid she will not have enough food for break and that most of the sack's contents will be consumed by others in the household long before school reopens.

A second grocery sack is sent with the child along with instructions to hide the bag and its contents when she gets home. The girl's face brightens and her small frame sags with the additional weight of foodstuffs as she scuttles out the door to catch the bus home.

"This is why we do this..." Larry Kirschner, food distribution coordinator of the Gladstone-Rapid River Kiwanis Club tells me. "We do it for the kids."

I'm standing in room 186 at the Gladstone High School watching volunteers assembling "backpacks". The back-



Gladstone High School Key Club members help assemble backpacks which are distributed to children to sustain them through the weekend. Inset: the contents of a typical backpack.

packs are actually plastic grocery bags filled with mostly nonperishable food purchased from Feeding America and primarily funded by the Community Foundation of Delta County. A piece of fruit and container of shelf stable milk is provided thanks to donations.

The offerings are selected based on cost, weight and ease of preparation. The bags are assembled each week on Wednesdays after school and are loaded into volunteer's vehicles and distributed to the Gladstone and Rapid River Area Schools (K-12) so that children at risk of hunger will have meals over the weekend.

I hope I have inspired you and implore you to consider this worthy cause by donating your time or sending a donation to help put food in hungry children's bellies.

For information about the backpack program and how you may get involved, contact Gladstone-Rapid River Kiwanis Club President Alan Stotz at P.O. Box 22, Gladstone, Michigan or to make a donation, send checks payable to the Community Foundation for Delta County, 2500 7th Ave. South, Ste. 103, Escanaba, Michigan 49829 and allocate the funds for the backpack program in the for memo section of the check.

Nicole Garrison
Rapid River, Michigan

ANNE VAN ESS RECEIVES GEORGE KRESS COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Submitted by Richard Satterlee, Downtown Green Bay Kiwanis Club

As part of its recent centennial anniversary dinner, the Downtown Green Bay Kiwanis Club presented member Anne Van Ess of the Volunteer Center with the George Kress Community Service Award. It is presented every five years to an extraordinary member whose hard work and leadership in the community has inspired others to perform community service and made a lasting difference in the lives of Green Bay youth.

Van Ess is the Literacy and Volunteer Manager for the Volunteer Center of Brown County. The center builds a stronger community through volunteerism based on the belief that the strength of a community is directly related to its volunteers.

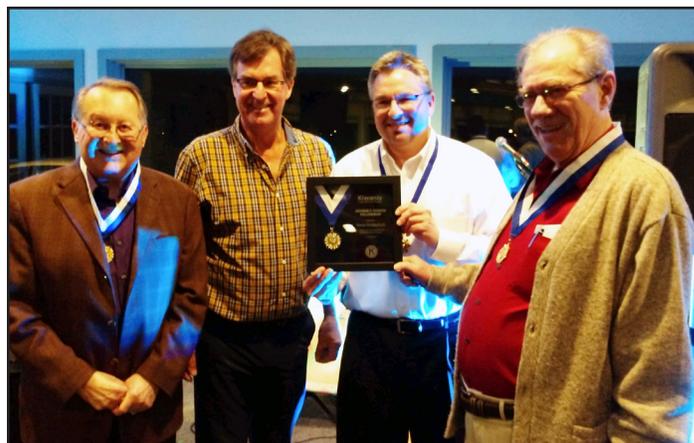


Anne Van Ess is congratulated by Green Bay Mayor Jim Schmitt.

GEORGE F. HIXSON FELLOWSHIP AWARDED TO STEVE KINDSCHUH

Submitted by Dan Weninger, Lakeside Kiwanis Club

The Fond du Lac Lakeside Kiwanis Club honored Steve 'Stu' Kindschuh with the George F. Hixson Fellowship Award in late January. Kindschuh is a past club president. He served the District as Lt. Governor and was selected by Governor Lyle Plagenz to receive the Governor's Cup. "We are very proud of Stu's accomplishments and service and happy to award him with this honor," said past president Brian Olson. Kindschuh is the 11th member of the Lakeside Kiwanis Club to receive the award.



George F. Hixson Fellows from the Fond du Lac Lakeside Kiwanis Club on hand to congratulate Stu Kindschuh (second from right) are Wayne Wallschlaeger, Ron Rademann and Jim Driscoll.



Jerry Grant, Kiwanis Whitewater Breakfast Club President, presented a check to the Library's Youth Educational Services Director, Deana Rolfsmeyer.

WHITEWATER KIWANIS CLUB SUPPORTS YOUTH LITERACY

Submitted by Marjorie Stoneman, Kiwanis Whitewater Breakfast Club

The Kiwanis Whitewater Breakfast Club recently donated \$400 to the Irvin Young Memorial Library in Whitewater for the purchase of books for the youth section. The club donates books, which club speakers sign, to the Kiwanis Section at the library. Anyone interested in finding out more about Kiwanis, or this ongoing literacy program, is welcome to contact Irene Potocki at 262-374-0826.

DISTRICT SIGNATURE PROJECT: WAUTOMA KIWANIS AWARDS 30TH IPAD

Submitted by Mary Braatz, Wautoma Kiwanis Club

The Wautoma Kiwanis Club donated their 29th and 30th iPads to local children on the autism spectrum in February. Elizabeth Steckbauer, a 6th grade student, and Anthony LeBeau, a 5th grade student, were the recipients. The Wautoma Kiwanis Club is pleased to be able to help children who qualify receive an iPad and to continue participating in the District Signature Project.

On Saturday April 7th, 2018 the Wautoma Kiwanis Club will be holding its second annual autism run/walk at Parkside Middle School in conjunction with the Blue Ribbon Kid's Day event. Club members will host a one-



Elizabeth Steckbauer, second from left, received the 29th iPad given to a student on the autism spectrum by the Wautoma Kiwanis Club.



Wautoma Kiwanis Club member Barb Struzynski, far left, awarded an iPad to middle school student Anthony LeBeau in February.

mile and a 5K event. Food and raffles will be available. All proceeds will support the purchase of iPads and app cards for children on the autism spectrum.

Anyone interested in participating in this fun event can register at www.wautomakiwanis.wixsite.com/kiwanis (click on the events page). This is a great way to have fun, meet other Kiwanis members and support the work our Kiwanis family does for the children in our communities.

Co-Chairs for the autism run/walk are Jennifer Culver, Barb Struzynski and Mary Braatz.

KIWANEWS SCHEDULE

April/May Deadline: April 15
June/July Deadline: June 15
August/September Deadline: August 15

Email stories to tonya@allingerenterprises.com or mail them to Tonya Alling, 11 Stanton St., Ripon, WI 54971.



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WHERE IN THE DISTRICT HAVE GUERNSEY AND HOLSTEIN GNOME BEEN?

By Justin Hahn, 2017-2018 WI-UM Kiwanis District Governor

Governor Justin Hahn, Guernsey and Holstein Gnome attended Kiwanis meetings and events in January and February and they would love to visit you, too! Invite them to your area, then snap a photo and submit it to the *Kiwanews*.



Guernsey and Holstein attended the Circle K convention run-through on January 26.



The gnomes helped recruit members with the Kiwanis Club of Hartland on February 15.



Meeting newly-chartered Grafton Area Kiwanis Club president Sherry Farver on February 7.



Guernsey and Holstein attended their first Club Satellite meeting in Fond du Lac on February 6.



Holstein and Guernsey were proud to hang with the enthusiastic and energetic Key Club District Board members.



Attending the Madison After Hours meeting on February 1 was a blast!



The gnomes enjoyed the Division 3 Dane County leadership meeting on February 13.



Guernsey and Holstein attended the Key Club convention run-through on January 27.