Kewanee Kiwanis “eliminates” their own in a MURDER MYSTERY FUNDRAISER

page 8
IF YOU COULD CHANGE ONE THING ABOUT YOUR CLUB... WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Over the past few months I have had the opportunity to visit all 33 divisions and many clubs throughout the district. Oftentimes I’ve gotten feedback about a club’s struggles with membership, membership participation in service projects or fundraisers, or the club’s service or fundraising projects themselves. Additionally, I’ve seen membership analysis that shows almost 30% of our membership declines are because people are too busy, they lose interest or there is too much business pressure to maintain their membership.

I’ve also been told that fewer people want to get involved in a service organization due to the demands of parenting, other family commitments or heavier workloads. It is understood that there are fewer small businesses in our neighborhoods, towns and villages from which to draw members that in past years had been a major membership “source”. However, I have attended clubs that have been operating the same way for decades. Meeting times haven’t changed. Meeting locations have only changed when the “host” business itself closed. The same meeting format continues to be followed even if the younger members have never heard of the songs or don’t care about meeting formats, etc.

SO WHAT’S THE ANSWER?

A club analysis is a good starting point so the club can better determine what is needed to keep current members engaged and to attract new members. Numerous clubs have established a new meeting location/time for those members that work outside of their community or otherwise can’t attend a noon or luncheon meeting. They have found that this change is attracting new members. Other clubs concentrate on having programs or meeting formats that are more engaging and fun. Even better, some partner with other area clubs to seek opportunities to charter a Service Leadership Program or new Kiwanis club. This by itself has proved to energize a club so that it grows.

GOVERNOR continued on last page
‘TIS THE SEASON...

The Circle K Holiday Embrace event is coming up on Saturday, January 14, 2017 at DoubleTree by Hilton, Oak Brook, IL (NEW location). Click here to register. Come help the Circle K out by joining their Funky Fresh Fellowship to benefit our Spastic Paralysis Research Foundation. See page 12 for details.

‘Tis the season of giving... Kiwanis fills numerous needs within each of our communities and that is what brings us together as Kiwanians. I challenge every one of us to step up and participate in one of your club’s several community projects over the holiday season! Whether it’s helping an agency with their holiday party, volunteering with toy distribution for Christmas or ringing a bell for The Salvation Army, get out there and get involved! Agencies and organizations in each of our towns need our help to make a child or family’s holiday season that much better. The best tool you can use to bring others into our organization of serving others is to invite them to one of these many holiday service opportunities. Someone thought enough of you to share the Kiwanis family with you. Who is someone you think a lot about that will want to make a difference, too? How better to show others what Kiwanis is truly all about and how they can get involved than a Kiwanis holiday service project?!

When you think about what each one of us do in our communities and for our individual clubs, it’s a small part of what we do globally as Kiwanians. We make a tremendous difference in the lives of children both here and afar. Our time and talents are priceless when it comes to helping others.

My family and I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and bright and prosperous New Year! 😊

ANDREA RAYCRAFT
I-I DISTRICT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AN EASY WAY TO SUPPORT I-I KEY CLUB AND CIRCLE K!

PURCHASE ADS IN THEIR ANNUAL DISTRICT CONVENTION BOOKLETS!

For as little as $25, $50 or $100, support our Kiwanis family youth AND get the word out about your business or organization... everybody wins! See pages 13-14 for details.

Sorry... WE’re T E M P O R A R I L Y C L O S E D

Due to medical leave, the District Office will be closed through January 3, 2017.

There will be no one available to take phone calls, but if needs arise, Andrea will be responding to email. Thank you for understanding.

For details, visit the I-I District website and click the Contact link.
The Three Snow Bears
by Jan Brett
Reviewed by Joyce Mesrobian, M.Ed.

The best of picture books captures the experiences of a young child’s developing understanding of reality and feelings through the interpretative, fantasy lens of his imagination. The child takes the bits and fragments of reality and imagines a world where all objects such as balls, trees or animals talk, think, and feel just like him. That is why in time-honored nursery tales and rhymes, it’s perfectly okay to the young child that a cow jumps over the moon, a wolf chats with a little girl in a red hooded cape, or a family of bears dress in clothes, eat food from bowls, and sleep in beds just like people do.

The Three Snow Bears is the retelling of the traditional “Goldilocks and the Three Bears” story with several new twists. A little Inuit girl named Aloo-ki, during a search for her lost sled dogs, comes upon a large igloo.

Drawn by her curiosity and delicious smell of food, Aloo-ki goes inside the igloo which, unknown to her, is owned by a family of polar bears who are presently out for a morning walk. She makes herself right at home by trying their soup, boots, and beds before falling asleep under the smallest furry blanket. In the meantime, the family of polar bears rescues the sled dogs adrift on an Arctic ice float and brings them safely home to their igloo. A startled, awakened Aloo-ki runs out of the igloo, hops aboard her dog sled and waves a thank you to the three smiling bears calling out “bye, bye” to her as she races away.

Jan Brett’s amazing illustrations celebrate the exquisitely detailed designs resulting from her careful research of the Inuit culture. The elaborate clothing of animal skins and fur even appear on the polar bears dressed in traditional coats and boots.

As in all her many other published picture books, The Three Snow Bears is an exquisitely illustrated, read-aloud book for young children. ☺

ABOUT JOYCE MESROBIAN
Joyce Mesrobian was a preschool teacher for 30 years and an adjunct faculty member for eight years at a local college. Also, for 20 years, she wrote a children’s book review column for a major early childhood organization, the Chicago Metro Association for the Education of Young Children. Mesrobian is a member of the Lindenhurst Kiwanis Club.

IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR CLUB SECRETARIES!

DEADLINE TO FILE FORM 990

02.15.17
The nice fall season gave us more time to enjoy the outdoors and put our gardens to bed a little later than usual. It also gave Chicago Cub fans—yes, I am!—a chance to enjoy October and November like no other time in our lives. (Sorry, Cardinal fans!)

Now with the holiday season upon us, we are putting up our lights, looking up our favorite recipes and getting the house in order for family and friends to visit. It is also time to be planning on a trip to Paris next July for the Kiwanis International Convention!

The I-I District currently has two river cruises planned—one from Prague to Paris on the Rhine and portions of the Danube from July 2-13, and the other a family trip from Basel, Switzerland to Amsterdam on the Rhine from July 3-11. What a fantastic opportunity to view the European countries and cities along these rivers! Please visit iikiwanis.org for travel information and reservations. Since we will be in Paris on July 14, Bastille Day, we will be able to enjoy festivities from day into evening. How exciting it will be to enjoy the Military Parade on the Champs Elysees, fireworks from the Eiffel Tower and dancing through the night!

You may also be interested in other trips that Kiwanis International has put together (see http://iikiwanis.org/Page/22733 for details). One is a four-day trip, July 8-12 in Southern France (Aix en Provence), and a three-day trip to Normandy. I am currently working on a day trip to Normandy (two hours from Paris) on July 16 for those that may want to get back to the states sooner or move on to other places of interest. A District Dinner is also being organized for Saturday, July 15.

If you are planning on a trip to Paris, I urge you to make a reservation and send in a security deposit. I hope to see many of you next July. The weather is similar to Illinois; however it usually is no hotter than 86 degrees and has NO humidity. That sure sounds good to me!

On To PARIS!

STEPH FORSBERG
I-I DISTRICT ‘ON TO PARIS’ CHAIRPERSON

Online convention registration opens soon!
Watch for updates from International and register before April 15 to receive early bird pricing
The I-I District is offering 2 different trips to choose from and enjoy prior to the International Convention in Paris. We encourage you to browse both trips to find your interest. Space is limited on each of them, so contacts should be made ASAP.

**CENTRAL EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE**

**WESTBOUND JULY 2-13, 2017**

**12 DAY RIVER CRUISE FROM PRAGUE TO PARIS**

This splendid Central Europe river cruise introduces you to the magnificent Main, Rhine, and Moselle Rivers, as well as to the fascinating Main Danube Canal. Your vacation begins with two overnights, guided sightseeing, and a visit of the Hradcany Castle grounds in the “Golden City” of Prague. Also enjoy guided sightseeing in Bamberg, Würzburg, and Trier. Visit the Bishop’s Residenz in Würzburg, Siegfried’s Mechanical Musical Instrument Museum in pretty Rüdesheim, and enjoy a tasting of Moselle wines in Bernkastel. Other highlights: cruise through the dramatic Rhine Gorge, and travel by high-speed train to Paris. Your vacation ends in Paris with two overnights and guided sightseeing of the major sights. For more information, click here

Join Governor Poulton and the First Lady for this cruise in which rates are discounted $1,000 per passenger and receive up to $500 airline credit per passenger while cabins remain available!
Dear I-I Kiwanians,

Please join the Forsberg’s and Raycraft Family as we embark on this seven-night, multi-generational adventure from Basel, Switzerland to Amsterdam. Unpack once on the new MS Amadeus Silver III, designed specifically for river cruising, and have more time and freedom to soak up the sights of Europe’s great Rhine River cities. This is a fantastic opportunity for our extended families to join us with the special youth pricing! This tour has inclusive excursions, includes tipping of guides and drivers, all meals, plus wine with lunch and dinner!

Two youth directors will be an integral part of our Rhine River journey, helping to ensure that this adventure is fun, enlightening and relaxing for the entire family. Younger travelers will enjoy onboard games and activities while the ship is cruising, as well as specially designed family-oriented excursions.

We’ll spend time in four countries: Switzerland, France, Germany and the Netherlands. Throughout the journey, we’ll enjoy many highlights such as Amsterdam’s quaint canals; Cologne’s stunning Gothic cathedral; and the lovely Rhine Gorge. There is also optional land extensions in Interlaken, Switzerland and Amsterdam.

Enjoy an intimate view of European history as we glide along this ancient trading route, and lose yourself in an old-world river lifestyle studded with medieval sites. Space is limited, so we encourage you to make your reservation today! For more information click here

Best Regards,

Stephanie Forsberg  Andrea Raycraft
I-I District On-To-Paris Chair  I-I District Executive Director
On Saturday, November 19 the Kiwanis Club of Kewanee put their theatrical abilities to the test by presenting a murder mystery fundraiser event entitled *Murder at the Dunmore* at the Kewanee Dunes. The unfortunate detail of this evening was that even though the play consisted of ten professionals they were not professional actors and actresses—each and every member of the cast was a Kiwanis member.

This fundraising opportunity was performed in order to raise funds for Kiwanis International’s worldwide service initiative, The Eliminate Project. On a local level the Kewanee Kiwanis decided to become an Eliminate model club by pledging to raise $57,750 over a five-year period. Only into their third year of that pledge, they are more than well on their way, having already raised $46,000!

Local attorney and Kiwanis member Justin Raver and club Eliminate Chairperson Angie Burford directed and produced a flawless evening. *Murder at the Dunmore* opens with 36 inches of snow having fallen in the last 24 hours and two avalanches wiping out all access bridges. The only sign of civilization is the historic Dunmore Lodge. One by one, the stranded motorists begin arriving at the Dunmore, unaware that they are trapped with a murderer!

The performers included Patrick Kelley, Melodee Yaklich, Rev. Dr. Dale Dykstra, Willie Burford, Lori Christiansen, Lance Dorieslager, Andrew Christman, Samantha Rux, Gary Bradley and Justin Raver. Back stage crew consisted of Julie Landwehr, John Sayers, Jolene Barnes and Dee Raver. Event sponsors were by Rux Funeral Home, Save-a-Lot and State Bank of Toulon.

The murder mystery was such a success that an encore performance was held December 4 at the Kewanee High School Petersen Auditorium with KHS Key Club assisting with stage duties.

*Interested in being an Eliminate Project Model Club?*

Contact District Eliminate Co-Chairs John and Roxanne Vanderheyden at (815) 624-6365.
ONE DAY, ONE FARM, MANY TASKS

Collinsville Sunrise Kiwanis Club proudly participated in Kiwanis One Day 2016 with a volunteer project at Willoughby Heritage Farm & Reserve in Collinsville.

This specific location has special meaning to the club... it was the homestead and family farm of one of its charter members, Carl Schultze. The 1940s working farm is located in the heart of Collinsville very near the downtown business district, offering city folk the opportunity to experience a taste of farm life. The facility is part of Collinsville Area Recreation District and home to a variety of farm animals—chickens, goats, pigs, cows, sheep and even a miniature horse.

The grounds occupy approximately 30 acres and is maintained by a small staff and a large group of volunteers. There are vegetable and flower gardens, walking trails and a big old barn where dances and gatherings are held, and there’s even a 1930s Sears Catalog farmhouse.

Like every farm, there is always something that needs to be done... replacing fence posts, splitting firewood, weeding flower beds, mucking the barns, gathering walnuts, and raking the farm yard. It was a very busy day at the farm, and numerous improvements to the property were made due to the time and efforts of Collinsville Kiwanis volunteers.

Clockwise from upper left:
The group briefly pauses for a photo at the pavilion. Beautifying the entrance with freshly planted mums. Splitting wood might give some a splitting headache, but not these guys! It’s great when multiple generations work together for a great cause! Rocky Lane and Dottie Kennedy at the pavilion with a few children.

PLGA Holds Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Past Lieutenant Governors Association was held on Saturday, November 12 at the Starved Rock State Park. It is the one time of year all current and past Lt. Governors are invited to attend a day of learning and fellowship with other Kiwanis leaders from around the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District.

Governor Rick Poulton opened the session by sharing his emphasis for the 2016-17 year. This annual presentation is essential to keep members informed of the direction for Kiwanis in the I-I District.

During the business meeting, the following members were elected into 2016-17 PLGA leadership: Ruby Cunefare, President; George Van Dee, Vice President; Deb Rochford, Secretary; Mark Petersen, Treasurer; and Sylvia Banes, Past President.

The next meeting of the PLGA will be held at the Mid-Year Conference in Bloomington, IL on February 25, 2017.

Serving is Normal!

Bloomington Golden K’s Roger Stevenson (center) recently teamed up with Anne Bliss and Rich Clemmons from the Kiwanis Club of Normal to ring bells for the Salvation Army. Club members working the following shift were treated to Mrs. Fields cookies from a thoughtful couple. Kettles AND bells were filled!
We’ve come to the most important part of The Eliminate Project: fulfillment. If you made a pledge, it’s time to make your gift ... and your impact. Help protect 55 million lives from maternal and neonatal tetanus.

Finish the fight.
Fulfill your pledge.

TheEliminateProject.org/give
Midyear Conference Schedule *

7:30 AM - 9:30 AM  Spastic Paralysis Research Foundation Board Meeting

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM  I-I District Board Meeting

12:15 PM – 1:15 PM  Buffet Lunch

1:30 PM – 4 PM  Club Strengthening Summit

*Tentative

Please go to the registration website by clicking here or complete this form and mail. Must be received by February 17, 2017

Please mail this registration form with payment to: I-I District Office Midyear Conference 2416 E. Washington St, Suite B-2 Bloomington, IL 61704-4893
What is Key Leader®?

Key Leader® is a leadership program for high school students that helps the participants understand what they can do to change the world around them, and the curriculum and presenter is from Kiwanis International. Many former students and past event attendees have found it to be a huge benefit to them, helping them to grow as leaders and as community servants.

I-I District Key Club has set a goal of $12,000 to make this event available to 60 future leaders. Will your club accept the challenge of sponsoring a promising high school student to attend?

If your club chooses not to select students to send but would still like to contribute, an Outreach Fund has been established to provide scholarships to students without a sponsor. If your club cannot commit to a full sponsorship, donations of any amount will be appreciated.

Make checks payable to I-I Kiwanis (memo line “Key Leader”). Mail to I-I District of Kiwanis, 2416 E. Washington St, Suite B-2, Bloomington, IL 61704.

Questions? Contact Key Club Adult Committee Member Jennifer Stauffer at (618) 792-3546 or jstauffer@bths201.org.

HELP DEVELOP TOMORROW’S SERVANT LEADERS TODAY

2017 Illinois-Eastern Iowa

WHEN
March 31–April 2

WHERE
Great Oaks Camp,
1380 Co. Rd. 900 N
Lacon, IL 61540

WHO
All high school students

COST
$250 per student
($25 discount for Key Club members)
$175 per facilitator
(must have attended Key Leader before)
$100 per chaperone

2017 I-I Circle K
Holiday Embrace & Winter Escape

WHEN
January 13–14

WHERE
DoubleTree, Oak Brook, IL
(20 minutes from downtown Chicago)

COST
$50 plus hotel ($105/room)
($25 discount for Key Club members)

DEADLINES
Registration: January 2
Hotel Booking: December 30

CLICK HERE to register online!
The Illinois-Eastern Iowa District is proud to offer advertisements in the Key Club Convention programs. Do not pass up this wonderful opportunity to give someone a shout out, promote your business or thank a club, division or individual for a job well done. Purchasing a program ad helps us to continue to offer an affordable convention to all members in the district. You can personalize your page with a message or advertisement of your choice. **Submissions due February 1, 2017.**

**Examples:**

- Thank you ______ for doing an excellent job this year!
- (Name of business) – Supporting the Leaders of Tomorrow in Key Club!
- Attend ______ (college) and join the best CKI Club in the I-I!
- Thank you so much _____ (Key Club) for a great year!
- Good luck ____ (senior member) wherever your life takes you!

You may use any of these messages or create your own! Each attendee of the 67th Annual District Convention in Oak Brook, Illinois will receive a program. The following sizes are available in the program:

- Quarter Page - $25.00 – 2” H X 4.75” W
- Half Page - $50.00 – 3.75” H X 4.75” W
- Full Page - $100.00 - 7.75” H X 4.75” W

**Submission:** Please submit complete ads ready for publication in PDF, MS Word or JPEG format to dant1102@yahoo.com. Please title the email-subject line with the same advertiser name as listed in the payment form below. I-I District Key Club will not perform graphic design or layouts of ads. However, text only ads can be laid out by our printer at your request. Ads will be printed in grayscale.

Advertiser: __________________________________________________ ____________________________________

Contact Name: __________________________________________________________________________________

E-Mail: ___________________________________________________________________________________________

Phone: ___________________________________________________________________________________________

Address: _________________________________________________________________________________________

Please make checks payable to **I-I District Key Club Convention Fund**, and mail the check and completed form to:

I-I District Key Club Convention  
c/o Kiwanis I-I District Office  
2416 E. Washington St. Suite B2  
Bloomington IL, 61704
The Illinois-Eastern Iowa District is proud to offer Advertisements in the CKI Convention program. Do not pass up this wonderful opportunity to give someone a shout out, promote your business or thank a club, officer or individual for a job well done. Purchasing a program ad helps us to continue to offer an affordable convention to all members in the district. You can personalize your page with a message or advertisement of your choice. **Submissions due February 1, 2017.**

**Examples:**

- Thank you ______ for doing an excellent job this year!
- (Name of business) – Supporting the Leaders of Tomorrow in Key Club!
- Join ______________ Kiwanis Club after you graduate!
- Thank you so much _____________ for a great year!
- Good luck __________ (senior member) wherever your life takes you!

You may use any of these messages or create your own! Each attendee of Annual District Convention in Oak Brook, Illinois will receive a program. The following sizes are available in the program:

- Quarter Page - $25.00 – 2” H X 4.75” W
- Half Page - $50.00 – 3.75” H X 4.75” W
- Full Page - $100.00 - 7.75” H X 4.75” W

**Submission:** Please submit complete ads ready for publication in PDF, MS Word or JPEG format to secretary@iicirclek.org. Please title the email-subject line with the same advertiser name as listed in the payment form below. I-I District CKI will not perform graphic design or layouts of ads. However, text only ads can be laid out by our printer at your request. Ads will be printed in grayscale.

Advertiser: _______________________________________________________________________________________

Contact Name: ___________________________________________________________________________________

E-Mail: _________________________________________________________________

Please make checks payable to I-I District Key Club Convention Fund, and mail the check and completed form to:

I-I District Key Club Convention  
c/o Kiwanis I-I District Office  
2416 E. Washington St. Suite B2  
Bloomington IL, 61704
Beginning of a Beautiful Friendship Partnership?

Hello. My name is Geoff Vanderlin. A 25-year member of the Kiwanis Club of Dixon, Past President and past Lieutenant Governor, I have recently been appointed by Governor Rick Poulton to the newly created position of Partnership Coordinator for the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District. My job, as Partnership Coordinator, like that of my counterparts in every District, is to help you access the benefits available through Kiwanis partnerships with various organizations and businesses. Let me explain.

Through the iPlan process in the District, clubs are asked to identify their “Signature Project.” Many of you have these, often longstanding, but others are just beginning to start one or identify them. Partnerships can help you while offering benefits such as free materials, discounted supplies for service projects or direct access to outside organizations. In identifying worthwhile partnerships, Kiwanis has identified six key groups. Each has a role in helping us to strengthen our identities and offer assistance. The first of these include those organizations who directly pay a fee to Kiwanis in exchange for marketing rights. These include the US Army, Nickelodeon, Rustic Pathways, and Landscape Structures, Inc. in the future, I hope to further identify all these great organizations but a great example of partnership involves our own Kiwanis Club of Ottawa. Winner of last year’s Landscape Structures playground contest, the Ottawa Kiwanis club recently unveiled Phase One of their accessible playground for children with disabilities.

The second group of partners includes Scholastic, Inc. and the Up with People organization. These Promotional Partners market programs specifically aimed at Kiwanis clubs and can help you with fundraisers and help with elevating our brand.

Preferred Charities include those organizations which can provide Kiwanis with service project opportunities. These include the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, the Boy Scouts of America, Children’s Miracle Network, the March of Dimes, and our partner in the Eliminate Project, UNICEF.

Community Partners are organizations that can help us improve our impact in our communities by working with us on projects that elevate both organizations visibility, and include JCI (formerly the Jaycees) and Sister Cities International.

Next there are our Cause Marketing Partners, IHOP and Children’s Miracle Network who, together, provide a one-day effort offering free pancakes in exchange for donations to children’s hospitals. If you have an IHOP in your community, you should be talking to them about how you can work together and raise money and visibility for both your club and CMN hospitals.

Email Geoff to learn more about Kiwanis partnerships with other organizations and how they could benefit your club.

Finally, currently three Vendor Partners offer preferred pricing and benefits to Kiwanis clubs and members. If your club does any large scale activity, like a book bag giveaway or other project, you might want to look into the Kiwanis Warehouse, powered by Dollar Days, offering sizeable discounts on wholesale goods. Kiwanis Travel, powered by AHI offers discounted educational travel opportunities to Kiwanians and their families, including a couple surrounding the Paris International Convention next year. And Atlas Flags offers your club fundraising opportunities through the sale of flag subscriptions and more.

This article provides but a glimpse of the many opportunities afforded by Kiwanis partnerships. To learn more, or to be put in touch with representatives of these organizations, feel free to contact me at (815) 876-7726 or (preferred) email me at gvanderlin@gmail.com.

GEOFF VANDERLIN POULTON
I-I DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP COORDINATOR
as well. Although no one change or effort will apply to every club, every club could benefit from an analysis.

For additional Club strengthening support the I-I District has club counselors that will help you with a Club evaluation to increase membership, community service and better serve the children of your community. If you are not aware of a counselor in your area contact your Lt. Governor, who can provide you this information.

In closing, my wish for the district as we approach the holidays is to look at your club and see what you might do to make your club more inviting to nonmembers. Consider adding another meeting time or location, identify another service project, plan a membership “drive” for early in the new year, reflect on why you joined Kiwanis and determine how to instill that passion for service and care for children in others.

Please keep in mind that we can change the world now, we can make a difference—but only if we all work together to “Build to Reach the Dream” that every child has the opportunity to grow up happy, healthy, safe and loved.

Happy Holidays, safe travels, cherish your family and friends, and may you have the chance to spend quality time with those you love and hold dear.

RICK POULTON
I-I DISTRICT GOVERNOR

SUBMISSION DEADLINE
FOR THE JANUARY-FEBRUARY ILLEIOWAN IS
January 15

Send stories and photos to cre8.denamcdonald@gmail.com