Are you going ‘On-to-Paris’ for the 2017 Kiwanis International Convention next July? Broaden your European visit with 2 trip options!
Kids Need Kiwanis is a new brand campaign that was recently launched in order to draw a connection between the Kiwanis name and our mission. This is the same mission Kiwanis had when my father joined well over 50 years ago. It was through his Kiwanis participation that he demonstrated to his children how important it is to serve one’s community and, more importantly, “serve” children. I was lucky in that both my parents set an example by performing community service, and I was able to witness the benefits of their service and the rewards.

As we begin our 100th year as a District, I am both honored and excited to be part of the leadership team of Kiwanis International and the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District!

As you know Kiwanis has members in over 80 countries, but like so many organizations we are struggling to maintain our membership... but that trend is changing. Kiwanis International has created a Strategic Plan that includes what is called The Formula, which is focused on building new clubs. As a result of The Formula’s Leadership and teamwork children around the world are benefiting in that 208 clubs were opened in the 2014-15 Kiwanis year.

Additionally this Strategic Plan has four parts (called the I-Plan), which are:

- **Inspiration** - focuses membership and member engagement
- **Impact** - focuses on meaningful service
- **Image** - focuses on branding, public relations and internal/external perceptions of Kiwanis
- **Investment** - focuses on financial viability and stewardship

If you are not aware of the Strategic Plan, or its parts, you should be soon as the Lt. Governors and then the individual Clubs are/will be working on individual plans so that our entire organization sets measurable goals and objectives. Objectives that will not only strengthen Kiwanis but more importantly serve more children since “Kids Need Kiwanis”.

(More information regarding District, Division and Club goals and objectives...)

**BUILD TO REACH THE DREAM**

**MURPHYSBORO KIWANIS USES BOCCE TO BRIDGE GAPS**  
Kiwanians host Bocce Buddy Game Day.

**PANCAKES, PEANUTS, BREAKFAST BURRITOS!**  
Metamora Kiwanis “wraps up” another successful fundraiser!

**INDEPENDENCE COMES GROWTH**  
Galena Kiwanis Partners with Local Organizations to Grow July 4th Celebration

**THIS PROJECT IS A MOUTHFUL**  
Mouth Guard Program Puts a Smile on the faces of athletes, parents...
Happy fall to everyone in the I-I District!
One more year has flown by and we have had another incredible Kiwanis year! I’m hoping everyone is getting there end of year items completed. We have many clubs (over 40%) that have not submitted their Club Election Reports online for 2016-17. There are many resource emails that club leaders will not receive over the course of the year if these are not submitted immediately. Even if your officers have not changed, you must complete the report or no officers will be listed for your club. Lt. Governors (LTG), Current 2015-16 Club Secretaries and Incoming 2016-17 Club Secretaries have recently received emails from me on the following, please be sure these items have been completed for each of your clubs:

Background checks for the Kiwanis Advisors for all Sponsored Leadership Programs need to now be complete with Kiwanis International, so please get those completed ASAP. More details found at: http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanisone/lead/risk-management/background-checks#V-V96SgrKM8

Please be sure all of your monthly reports are completed by October 31 so the Annual Report is able to automatically generate. You do not submit anything manually.

October 15 – Award submissions are due in the I-I District Office:
- Interclub Banner Patch
- District Newsletter Contest
- District Club Website Award

You will find all the needed information on the District Website Awards Page at: http://www.iikiwanis.org/Page/22750

2015-16 Distinguished Awards
Distinguished Member, provided by Kiwanis International:
The club secretary must complete BY October 15, 2016 the online only Distinguished Member Form found at: http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanisone/lead/distinguished-recognition/2015-16-distinguished-member-form#V-QcHygrKM8

Distinguished Club Award, provided by Illinois-Eastern Iowa District:
The club secretary will complete a series of questions on the October 2016 monthly report to determine if you meet the qualifications for distinguished club. You MUST answer yes to the following question on that monthly report in order to be considered for Distinguished Club: Is your club applying for 2015-16 Distinguished Club? Yes or No

Your answers will not be reviewed unless this answer is yes on the October 2016 monthly report. Each of your answers after this question will be validated to determine if your club has met the criteria. If you meet all the qualifications, then your club will be recognized at next year’s District Convention Awards Dinner in Bloomington on Friday, August 11.

Distinguished LTG’s/Divisions, provided by Illinois-Eastern Iowa District:
This will be determined by the membership report completed by Kiwanis International. If you meet all the qualifications, then you will be recognized at next year’s District Convention Awards Dinner in Bloomington on Friday, August 11.

I want to send a BIG thank you to Governor Penny Linneweh and First Chauffeur Glenn Scott for their year of service and dedication to the I-I District. A BIG welcome to Governor Rick Poulton and First Lady Bonnie Poulton for stepping up to serve us all in the coming year! ☺

ANDREA RAYCRAFT
I-I DISTRICT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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KEY CLUB

Hello I-I Kiwanians,

I hope you all are doing well and excited about this year of service!
The I-I Key Club is gearing up for an excellent school year full of leadership and service, and we are looking forward to growing alongside our Kiwanis Clubs.

Over the summer, Key Clubbers in the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District kept extremely busy. Through service projects like Car Washes, Trips to the Zoo with local Day Cares, and Toy Drives!

We also traveled to Atlanta, Georgia for Key Club International Convention! Key Clubbers representing the I-I District got to experience Key Club on a much larger scale, and see the sights of Atlanta! We learned about what Key Club and service really mean through inspirational speeches, forums and group discussions. We elected our 2016-17 International Board, and club officers received training. International Convention was a wonderful experience, Zand I want to thank every Kiwanis Club who supported Key Clubbers trip to Atlanta this summer! It was an educational, inspiring, and outrageously fun trip!!

The I-I District Board met twice over the summer, in June and August. Together, the board discussed how to better serve the clubs we represent and what the board can do it help them. We planned the Fall Leadership Rallies, that will take place the last weekend in September, and the first weekend in...
Winnie
by Sally M. Walker
Reviewed by Joyce Mesrobian, M.Ed.

Winnie-the-Pooh. The mere mention of these words brings instant smiles to children and adults (who once were children themselves). Generations of youngsters worldwide have grown up listening to the adventurous tales of Christopher Robin and his stuffed animal friends Pooh, Piglet, Eeyore and Tigger.

Winnie is the true story of the bear cub that inspired Winnie-the-Pooh stories and poems by A. A. Milne. At the beginning of World War I, a Canadian soldier (who in civilian life was a veterinarian) purchases a brown bear cub for $20 from a hunter who has just shot its mother in the forest. Naming the female cub Winnipeg (Winnie for short), the cub and master become inseparable friends. The soldier takes Winnie along with him when he is shipped on a boat to England. Winnie is incredibly gentle and loving to all the sailors on board. There is no explanation for Winnie’s amazing affectionate life among humans. Young readers may simply accept it as love.

When the war worsens, Winnie’s master, fearing for the cub’s safety, places her in a London zoo, promising Winnie he will visit her as often as he can. During the ensuing four war years, Winnie loves playing gently with all the visiting children, one of whom is a young boy named Christopher Robin, the son of a well-established author A. A. Milne. That night, Christopher Robin, renames his stuffed teddy bear Winnie-the-Pooh and listens to his father tell him a bedtime story about Pooh bear. The rest is history.

Soft, watercolor illustrations cast an almost benign aura over scenes of army war-time life as well as capture the almost humanoid expressions of an adorable and incredibly affectionate bear cub as she interacts with adults and young children. There are numerous joyous, playful scenes between owner and cub as well as a moment of deep sadness and dejection when Winnie’s master tells Winnie he must leave her at the zoo.

As a story of human-animal friendship, Winnie is an outstanding winner!

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.

CKI
Circle K International

CIRCLE K UPDATE
During the month of August many Circle K members were starting to prepare to return to campus after a great summer of service. Some clubs cleaned parks, volunteered with their local community to help with fairs/festivals and even volunteered through tutoring. Many clubs even manned a table at their campus’s involvement fairs. IIT, Blackburn and NIU hosted booths with great posters and excited members.

August also saw more promotional items for Leadership Training Retreat in October. It was revealed that this year’s theme was Lead the Beat. Blackburn College is so great for letting us stay there and use their facilities this year. The date for LTR is October 7-8. This year’s LTR theme is Lead The Beat. We hope to inspire those wanting to become leaders with different breakout sessions and bonding. The board is very excited, and we hope to get the members even more excited!

Submitted by Caitlin Pouk, Kiwanis Family Relations Chair
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.
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
I-I District On-To-Paris Chair

Andrea Raycraft
I-I District Executive Director
The Kiwanis Club of Elmhurst donates teddy bears to Elmhurst Memorial Hospital for children going into the emergency room to comfort them.

One of the children that received a bear in May, 2016 was Tommy, and he named his bear Doc.

Governor-Elect Terry Cunefare built a derby car for Morton’s Soap Box Derby. The event was held on Sunday, September 11. It was a great time for the kids involved.

Terry wants to thank everyone who helped the Morton Club, Past Governor Jim Dooley, Peoria Downtown Earlybirds member Linda Thomas and the Morton Key Club.

It was an awesome day!

Email information@peoriakiwanis.org if you would like to attend
By Stephanie Esters

MURPHYSBORO — The group was about to start a new session of the game bocce, until a handful of them realized the scoring dial had not been reset for the start of the new round.

“Start it over,” the three yell to another player at the farther end of the court, almost in unison.

The three — Bob Chambers, Armone Gaston and a young girl — one a businessman and the others two area children, are Murphysboro residents whose paths might not have crossed before this day, and if they had, not for any significant amount of time. But there they were, Saturday morning at the new bocce pavilion at the end of Commercial Road at 24th Street near the entrance to Riverside Park, learning a new game while showing competitive spirits — to win.

Bringing them and others all together was Joni Beth Bailey, an attorney who is a member of the Murphysboro Kiwanis Club, which hosted the Bocce Buddy Game Day. The event paired adults with youth, in an attempt to foster new relationships among people who might not previously know one another.

Bailey said she was encouraged to create the event after watching how some children across the street from the bocce pavilion would watch the group set up and prepare for its various bocce games and tournaments. The new bocce pavilion is across the street from four two-story housing units that are part of public housing under the Jackson County Housing Authority; the units were built in 1963.

Bailey said watching the children reminded her of her own childhood, when, growing up in the country in Clay County, she did not know things that children who lived in town did, such as how to roller-skate, play softball or tennis, swim or even dance.

In her mind, she said she wondered whether the children looking on thought that was the way those who met across the street for the frequent bocce games wanted it to be.

“I was pretty sure I knew how they felt,” she said, “Like we (bocce players) were in another world. And the worst part: I worried that they thought we wanted it that way — them on the outside, us on the inside.”

Furthermore, she said she felt it was an indictment to her that the bocce court was built atop the same city swimming pool that she’d been told was filled in because little children of color were using it “too much.”

“We were repeating the same tragic pattern,” she wrote in an email explaining the project. “Unacceptable! Completely unacceptable! This facility was promoted and built as a community resource, not a white person playground.”

That’s not the story that Joe Fry, director of the Murphysboro Park District, knows about the pool, which he said was closed in 1972 and eventually torn down around 1979. The pool had been built by privately raised funds in 1926 and came under management of the Jackson County YMCA in the 1950s.

After the pool, bathhouse and concession were torn down, the space was vacant until 2009, when talks began in earnest to create the bocce pavilion.

“My understanding is that the pool just closed due to funding,” Fry said.

Bonding over bocce

But on Saturday, those communities came together, and bonded over a game of bocce. It was a day of learning a new game, for most, and meeting adults and youth one would not likely encounter otherwise, while cementing new relationships that would help to create inclusiveness in the community. According to Bailey, she’d like to think that as participants moved through the community they might greet and speak to each other as they meet in the grocery stores of elsewhere.

A cross-section of adults and youth, 15 adults and 17 children, comprised the teams of four people each. Other adults volunteered with registration for the day’s event, or grilled hotdogs and dispensed snacks.

Bob Chambers, co-owner of one of Murphysboro’s most successful businesses, the Silkworm design and graphics shop, was the day’s Big Buddy to Armone, an 8-year-old who said he really wanted to win and cracked a smile when he and Chambers’ team did win.

Some of the participating adults were also those who brought their own children or other family members to the event.

One was Murphysboro resident Quantella Priget, who learned of the event from the Murphysboro Park District, which hosted summer programming. Her own child was away on another trip, but she brought three of her nieces and nephews to the Bocce Game Day. She applauded the group for hosting the event.

“It gives the kids something to do,” she said. “I think it’s a good answer to the violence going on,” she said, referring to national events.

Bailey said the event was not in reaction to some of the tension erupting between certain ethnic communities and law enforcement.

BOCCE continued on page 12
Pancakes, Peanuts, BREAKFAST BURRITOS!

By Scott Leas

A full complement of Metamora Kiwanians again converged on the town square July 9 at the Farmer’s Market to offer their goods... Breakfast Burritos.

Dozens of eggs, buckets of vegetables, pounds of sausage, buckets of cheese, and hundreds of tortillas where flying into the hands of hungry patrons, many of whom had been eagerly awaiting the annual return of the ‘World’s Best Breakfast Burritos in Metamora’.

“This is our third year of bringing the Burritos to the Farmer’s Market,” said club member Scott Leas. “And each year we have people asking us to come more often. It seems they really do love these breakfast burritos and look forward to our coming out here to serve them.”

Club members started setting up for the sale at 7:00 a.m. and were sold out before 11:00 a.m.

“We could hardly make them fast enough,” said Club President Dr. Shawn Buhr. “And we had just enough supplies to finish the job before the market was closed. Yet people were still stopping by asking if we had any left as we were tearing down the tents. People just love them.”

The club made more than $500, which helps to fund the Metamora Kiwanis Charitable Foundation, a 501c3 dedicated to raising money for Key Club scholarships and supporting local, regional and national Kiwanis charities.

Sinnissippi Riverfront Children’s Exploration Station

KIWANIS CLUB OF ROCKFORD’S 100th ANNIVERSARY SIGNATURE PROJECT

The Sinnissippi Riverfront and walking/bike path will become even more family friendly in the coming months thanks to an agreement between the Kiwanis Club of Rockford and Rockford Park District to build the Tot Area of the Children’s Exploration Station on the river front.

“We are excited that, on our club’s 100th anniversary, we can make one more lasting, positive impact in our community by creating a place where children’s imaginations can thrive and grow,” said Jane Austin, club president, “Our priority is kids – and will always be.”

TOT continued on page 10
Kiwanis Helps St. Jude Runners with Rest Stop and Lunch

Metamora Kiwanians again gathered to support the annual St. Jude Metamora to Peoria Run Saturday, July 30.

For the past several years, the Kiwanis Club of Metamora hosted a rest station and lunch for the runners involved with the St. Jude Run. More than 70 runners, family members, run staff and support crew were given a place to cool off and rest while enjoying a light lunch at the Metamora Township High School before they started their journey to Peoria.

Many runners had already accumulated more than 15 miles on their journey.

“Thank you so much for taking care of us,” said Jennifer Wood, a runner for St. Jude. “We always look forward to seeing you! Especially after being on the road for 18 miles. You are all wonderful.”

Another runner, Di Cox, had high praises for the club. “We love the Metamora Kiwanis Club. Thank you so much for feeding us every year. What a great group of people. Can’t say thank you enough.”

“We’re very happy to do this,” said past president and event coordinator Sean O’Laughlin. “St. Jude is a great charity to support, and it perfectly falls in line with what our club and Kiwanis are all about… helping the children of the world.”

Local businesses helped by donating some of the food. The Metamora Kiwanis Club provided additional food and beverages, as well as set up of the lunch, welcoming and serving runners, then clean up.

St. Jude Runs is one of the country’s foremost charity running events. Participants raise funds for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and run relay-style from their respective cities to the St. Jude Midwest Affiliate in Peoria, IL. Runners from Metamora were responsible for raising more than $60,000 for St. Jude. This year’s St. Jude Peoria Run telethon raised more than $9 million.

TOT continued from page 9

The Children’s Exploration Station will feature unique and non-traditional play spaces and educational opportunities for Nicholas Conservatory & Gardens visitors and recreation path users.

The concept plan for the exploration station includes: a unique playground for children two to five years old.

The club’s donation of $125,000 will allow the construction of the Tot Area to begin in the Fall of 2016 and will be completed by early summer, weather permitting. The project will spur further river front development, which will include exciting children and family areas.

“The Rock River is our community’s most prominent natural resource, an excellent recreational asset, and popular year round community gathering places for children,” said Rockford Park District Executive Director Tim Dimke, “The donation from the Kiwanis Club of Rockford will help us with our additional needs to increase fun areas for kids and their families along the Sinnissippi Riverfront.”

Rockford Park District staff and Kiwanis Club of Rockford members gather to celebrate the approval of the Sinnissippi Riverfront Tot Exploration Station Area agreement.
Galena is a small town in northwest Illinois. It has a long history of riverboats, trade, lead mining and connections to the civil war and General Grant. It is now a tourist destination with numerous shops, restaurants, B and Bs and over a million visitors a year.

The Kiwanis Club of Galena is 29 years old. It has had larger numbers of members in the past, and although it has fallen below charter strength (15 members) several times, it has always managed to come back.

Every year for the past 22 years the club has sponsored the annual July 4 parade and fireworks. Even with membership as low as 8 members at one time, the club always sponsored the July 4th celebration.

The celebration is a jointly funded event sponsored by the city and local businesses. The city of Galena donates about a third of the cost and local businesses fund the rest. Kiwanis collects the donations and coordinates the event.

Through the years it has been a goal to improve the event. In the beginning it was just a parade and fireworks. The club sold pizza and pop to raise funds during the event. Later a local band was added to play between the parade and fireworks.

Due to the low manpower of the Kiwanis club, help was needed to expand the event. The first club to help out was the local bicycle club, GOATS (Go Out And Tour Somewhere) greatly expanding the food sales greatly. The Elks also joined the food sales, selling French fries and cheese curds.

Three years ago—to expand the event into a day long activity—the Galena ARC (Art and Recreation Center) added a 5K run, grass volleyball tournament, three-point shooting contest, and a softball game featuring the Galena Fire Department. This year also saw the addition of a second band. The first band plays starting at 2:00 p.m. until the parade begins at 6:00 p.m. The second band starts after the parade and plays until the fireworks start.

It is now a great day-long event for the community, taking four organizations coming together to make it happen. Come and enjoy the community and the events next year.

In Dependence Comes Growth
Galena Kiwanis Partners with Local Organizations to Grow July 4th Celebration

help was needed to expand the event... taking four organizations coming together to make it happen
Mt. Vernon Kiwanis Celebrates 75 Years

The Kiwanis Club of Mt. Vernon, Illinois was chartered April 4, 1941 with 36 charter members. Attached are six photos from the 75th anniversary celebration on July 28, 2016.

Several guests were in attendance, including Mt. Vernon Mayor Mary Jane Chesley and former member Larry Carrico and wife Sharon. The Carricos are founders of Great Expectations Foundation, which makes donations and grants to help children in midwest communities that may otherwise not receive funds they need.

Upper left: Secretary Jim Shurtz presents the club’s longest active member, Dr. Nick Osborne, with a 40-year Legion of Honor award.

Upper right: Jim Shurtz presents a $500 donation to Katie Yost of the United Way to use to buy school supplies for the kids of Jefferson County in their Stuff the Bus School Supplies Project.

Lower left: Among the guests in attendance were Past Governors Gary and Pattie Heath.

Lower right: The club joined with the Great Expectations Foundation to donate $2,500 to the Angels Cove Maternity Center in Mt. Vernon for the club’s Young Child: Priority One project.

BOCCE continued from page 8

Kiwanis’ bocce game day seen as model

The event also attracted volunteers like Roy Sumner, who thought other municipalities could borrow from the Murphysboro Kiwanis Club on ways to be more inclusive. He pointed to Carbondale’s newly opened Splash Park as a recreational outlet that was creating opportunities for inclusiveness.

Sumner is not a member of the Kiwanis Club, but said he contacted Bailey, whom he knew, about volunteering.

Another visitor there with her young children said she grew up remembering playing bocce on her front lawn with her grandmother and was happy her children got the chance to experience the game again.

Saturday’s turnout was encouraging to the park district’s Fry, who said this might not be the last time area youth are invited to the pavilion.

“This was a great event that kind of gave us an idea (of whether) the community was interested in bocce ball, and it seem (that they could be),” Fry said. “We’re going to explore the option of creating a youth league to help us offer something for youth in the summertime.”

Heartfelt Thanks

from a Children’s Hospital Parent

Our son Will was born December 28, 2006. Until that day we didn’t know anything was wrong. He had Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome. Basically, half a heart. It is every parent’s worst nightmare to hear your child is suffering from a condition you’ve never even heard of. You scramble to get every piece of information you can. Our Will is a true fighter. At just 4 days old he had his first open heart surgery at Children’s Hospital of Illinois. A second surgery at 5 months, a third at 6 months and the last one at 3 years. He’s had many other surgeries and will continue to do so until he requires a heart transplant in the future.

I know without a shadow of a doubt that Will is still with us here today because of the incredible, life-saving medical team we have been blessed with at Children’s Hospital of Illinois. His pediatric heart surgeons, pediatric cardiology team, intensivists, nursing staff and managers of the pediatric care unit all helped our son become the miracle child he is today. They truly give us a home away from home when we are here.

Not many parents get to say they were part of the medical team planning and making decisions for their child. My husband and I get to. Children’s Hospital of Illinois is dedicated to providing patient and family centered care. This innovative approach allows patients, families and health care providers to be part of the planning, delivery and evaluation of health care. It is based on communication, partnership and respect. We have been blessed over and over by this staff.

Andrea Raycraft, Will’s Mother

The most recent Children’s Hospital of Illinois magazine featured this article below written by our own Illinois-Eastern Iowa District Executive Director, Andrea Raycraft.

If your club is looking for a new or different child-focused organization to support, consider your local Children’s Hospital—perhaps a fundraiser for the Children’s Miracle Network Telethon!
Go-Baby-Go Adaptive Vehicle Build

As a Kiwanian, is there anything more satisfying than having a huge, positive impact in a child’s life? Even better, when it’s a hands-on project and relatively low cost.

On the morning of July 30, nine Kiwanis clubs and a Key Club came together to modify kids’ ride-on electric toy cars for a dozen kids born with spina bifida. The 12 toddlers lived in and around Chicago as well as from downstate communities of Washington, Belvidere, Plano and Tampico. The lead organizing club was the three-year-old River Forest & Oak Park Kiwanis Club. The other participating clubs were the Kiwanis clubs of Woodstock, Southwest Chicago, Rochelle Golden K, Tri-County, DeKalb, Elgin, Eureka, and St. Charles and the Key Club of Dixon High School.

Working with physical therapists from the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, volunteers rewired and added safety padding for the kids as needed. The Illinois Spina Bifida Association had suggested the children that would receive the cars. The Go-Baby-Go build took place at the Shriner Children’s Hospital on the northwest side of Chicago.

Go-Baby-Go is the umbrella brand of the research/consulting/design group from the...
Past Lieutenant Governors Annual Meeting

Please accept our invitation to attend the Annual PLGA Meeting at Starved Rock Lodge in Utica, IL on November 12. This is a day to connect with current and past Lt. Governors, remain updated on approaches to assist clubs and just, have a great fall day with Kiwanians. For details, go to the PLGA website or a link on the District website. Registration details are available with a program summary. Plan to join us. Reservations are due by November 2.

Your 2016 officers are Sylvia Banes, President; Ruby Cunefare, Vice President; George Van Dee, Secretary; Mark Peterson, Treasurer and David Kniker, Past President. ☺

KEY CLUB continued from page 3

October. Committees met and discussed how to better the relationship of Kiwanis Family, how to build new clubs and retain our current membership, ways to inspire clubs about our International Service Partners. They also began plans on our District Convention and Leadership Conference, Key Leader, and a walk to benefit Spastic Paralysis Research Foundation.

Illinois and Eastern Iowa Key Clubbers are working hard to serve the world and their communities. If you would like to start a Key Club in your area, or begin forging better relations with your existing Key Club’s, please reach out to me. I would be happy to put you in contact with the right people, and discuss how we can grow together. Thank you for all of your support to Key Club! Your hard work and dedication to us does not go unnoticed!

Yours in Service and Always in Friendship,

ABBY MAST
2016-17 KEY CLUB GOVERNOR

University of Delaware. Their innovative adaptive designs are a departure from costly “shrink-it-and-pink-it” designs usually found for small child mobility. “Fun is key here—it unlocks brain development and exploratory drive for the child, and ignites active, engaged play from adults and peers.”

A huge thanks to all the clubs and volunteers that participated. Another Go-Baby-Go event is already being considered for next spring. So if your club didn’t get a chance to make a difference in a child’s life at this event, it’s not too early to put it in the budget for next spring.

Special Needs #KidsNeedKiwanis

GO continued from previous page

University of Delaware. Their innovative adaptive designs are a departure from costly “shrink-it-and-pink-it” designs usually found for small child mobility. “Fun is key here—it unlocks brain development and exploratory drive for the child, and ignites active, engaged play from adults and peers.”

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Special Needs #KidsNeedKiwanis

QUINN continued from previous page

develop properly. Symptoms of the condition can include leg weakness, scoliosis and hip dislocation.

Advances in treatment over the last few decades have increased the survival rate from less than 10% to well over 90%.

The St. Charles Kiwanis Club donated money for the assembly of the car, and club member Joe Cucci helped build the car in a team effort at Shriners Hospital in Chicago. The entire event underscored what Kiwanis is all about—serving the children of the world, one child at a time.
This Project is a Mouthful

MOUTH GUARD PROGRAM PUTS A SMILE ON THE FACES OF ATHLETES, PARENTS

The dentists in the Kiwanis Club of Evanston were concerned that students weren’t getting the best mouth guards, take that as not the best fit for them, and decided to approach the local high school about providing customized fit mouth guards for all student athletes that wanted them. Mouth guards can be purchased easily, but they are referred to as ‘boil and bite’, standard sizes that are not fitted for the individual student. Obviously, a hulking lineman is not going to have the same size mouth as a petite member of the cheerleading team. As health care professionals, the dentists felt this was a problem that Kiwanis could rectify. Our motto is to ‘serve the children of the world’ and for the past 95 years that’s what the organization has done from almost day one. The club distributes about $10,000 in grants to youth and children-related projects on an annual basis.

Back to the mouth guards. The high school was pleased to offer the program to their athletes. Two dentists started the effort, Dr. Stamata Blanas and Dr. Scott Hopf, both former club presidents, with Dr. Hopf continuing to work on the program with the assistance of a member who acts as secretary for the program. Contributions are accepted from parents whose children make up some of the athletes participating in contact sports and contributions from the club. Since its’ inception in 2007, the club has contributed over $12,000 worth of product.

The students are measured and fitted for the guards, then the molds are sent directly to a dental facility which makes them into the custom fitting appliance for Susie, Trevon or Danny. After the arrival of the new molds, the dentists which include Dr. Hopf and more recently, Dr Richard Pendergast, also a Kiwanis member and former club president, plus another local periodontist, make sure that the mouth guard is a good fit and the kids are on their way. The guards are further customized with an orange and blue logo (Evanston Wildkit colors). Over 400 athletes as well as a couple of coaches have participated. Female students participate at a greater rate though not overwhelmingly.

Back to the various sizes, a cheerleader who tumbled from a pyramid was, indeed, a mouth guard recipient. Football, soccer, basketball---all contact sports have responded. Chris Livatino, Director of Athletics at Evanston Township High School, which houses over 3,000 students and 1,250 contact sport athletes, said, “We’re very pleased to be able to offer our athletes a ‘premium’ experience as they compete; the mouth guards are part of that experience for our kids.”
Project Eliminate was once again in the spotlight at the 2016 Illinois Eastern Iowa District Convention held in Davenport IA. District Co-Coordinators John and Roxanne Vanderheyden announced that cash contributions have reached $1.9 million and therefore represent more than 50% of our $3.8 million goal. The District Convention grant program which provided a $250 grant towards the purchase of a Zeller resulted in 23 Zellers being issued during the convention. Many of these Zellers were purchased by Kiwanians to honor other deserving members of their club. If you know someone that is a deserving Kiwanian and you would like to honor them with a Zeller please contact your club Eliminate Coordinator or contact John and Roxanne Vanderheyden, (815)624-6365.

Rochelle Key Club ‘Smashes’ Neonatal Tetanus
On August 21, during the Rochelle Heritage festival, the Rochelle Key Club held a “Car Smash” to make a difference. Not only did they have a good time, but they brought awareness to the 60,000 newborns that die every year along with a significant number of mothers because of neonatal tetanus. Their theme was appropriately “‘Smash’ Neonatal Tetanus”.
They earned $150 in three hours from 3:00-6:00 p.m. Key Club advisor Danae White doesn’t just let it happen—she makes it happen. Fun was had by all. The Rochelle Key Club is sponsored by Rochelle Kiwanis Golden K.

Champaign-Urbana Kiwanis Holds Special Meeting, Unveils Zeller Banner
Thursday September 1 was a very special day for the Champaign-Urbana Kiwanis Club. The regular meeting doubled in size when the members brought guests from throughout the community. What was the occasion? To listen to new University of Illinois Athletic Director, Josh Whitman discuss his thoughts on bringing U of I athletics back to the prominence that it held in the past.
During the meeting, President Doug Fink unveiled the club’s new Project Eliminate Zeller Banner that recognizes the 26 members who have purchased a Zeller to date. He further challenged the other members to consider having their name added to the banner.
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contained in the 2016-17 Kiwanis International Recognition Program.

Although we have many challenges in the upcoming Kiwanis year we also have opportunities and responsibilities. We get to start the new year by having Kiwanis One Day being held on October 22. This is an outstanding opportunity to partner with other members of the Kiwanis family and to invite neighbors, coworkers, relatives, etc. so that they can experience the camaraderie of our Kiwanis members. We have partnerships with Boys & Girls Clubs, JCI, the US Army, and IHOP, all of whom may also want to help with a One Day project or be invited to a meeting or other function. We have a responsibility to conduct a club assessment to see if there are things we should be doing differently that may both retain and encourage membership growth. In some cases this will indicate that a club needs to meet at least monthly at another time or location.

We have a responsibility to either make a club pledge or fulfill a commitment to the Eliminate Project, a partnership with UNICEF that has eliminated tetanus in 20 countries and saved over 45M mothers and newborns.

We have the opportunity to continue supporting the Spastic Paralysis Research Foundation, whose research continues making life-changing discoveries that directly or indirectly affect each one of our lives.

The opportunities are great, but the rewards are great. I and others on the District Leadership Team are committed to do whatever we can to ensure that we all work together to be successful since “Kids Need Kiwanis”.

Please join me and let me know how I can help as we work to Build (Kiwanis) to Reach the Dream so every child is happy healthy, safe and loved.

RICK POULTON
2016-17 I-I DISTRICT GOVERNOR

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