



Richard N. Bills was a charter member of the Old Mission Club and the Trail Blazers Division in 1959. Richard served as the charter Secretary of the club and later served as its Distinguished President in 1989-90. As President he started several projects including an aluminum can drive to clean up the environment and raise funds for the club, a project that continues today. Over the years, Dick had served in numerous capacities on the local, division, and district level. In 1992- 94 he was the District Chair for Membership and Growth and Education. In 1995-96, Richard served as a Distinguished Lt. Governor for Division 9 where he previously was the Division's KIAR. He was also asked to be the Assistant Chair of the 1995 District Convention in Overland Park. In 1996 Richard was honored by his club with a George F. Hixson Fellowship.

In 1996-97, Richard was elected as the District Governor- Elect and Governor in 1997-98. Kiwanis had always played an important role in his life. Richard stated

that “Kiwanis is about friendship and service to the community. It is also about commitment and dedication to others.” Richard was a familiar face at many District and International Conventions. Over the years, he led several District Convention workshops. He also served as a member of the Finance committee of the Kansas Kiwanis Foundation of which he was a life member.

In 2002 Richard was appointed as the District’s Chair for the International Foundation and served in that capacity until his death in 2012. In 2005, the International Kiwanis Foundation President increased the Annual Club Iodine Deficiency Disorder Campaign for our District to \$800,000. This required the Kansas District Chairman to increase the district per capita amount to level of \$5.00/member. As an incentive to achieve this level of giving, “K” Rewards of a Blazer, Crystal and \$200 Kiwanis cash were made. The Kansas District Chairman and the District Governor have received these awards for the past six years.

Richard Bills was a native of Kansas City he worked as an architect in Kansas City for more than 50 years. He graduated from Kansas University, School of Architecture in 1953 and was a life member of the Alumni Association. He was a member of the Evans Folger Architectural firm from 1957 until 2002. He later worked as an Independent architect. He was active in several cultural and historic organizations. He was a esteemed member of the Prairie Village Sister City Committee for many years. One of his favorite accomplishments was being the Co-Chairman of the Host Committee for the 1976 Republican National Convention in Kansas City. Richard grew up in scouting, earning the rank of Eagle Scout and was awarded the God and Country Medal. He served as a former merit badge counselor. Richard also served as a national officer of his college fraternity, Pi Kappa Alpha.