Once you book your hotel, you will get a hotel reservation confirmation e-mail. Part of that e-mail will talk about the Disney Magical Express which is free transportation from the airport to your hotel. There will be a Michigan District Dinner on Thursday night, June 27 at Benihana’s. See the registration form in this issue of the Builder on page 9.

Benihana is across the street from Disney Springs so you can visit there after the meal for as long as you want and take the free Disney Springs bus back to your hotel at any time.

There are only 60 spots available for the meal and 54 seats on the bus. So reserve early.

Send your check payable to “Michigan District of Kiwanis” to the district office at P.O. Box 231 Mason, MI 48854.

The District Caucus will be held at 7:00am on Friday, June 28 at the Coronado Springs Convention Center Durango 1 Room.

**RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR THE DINNER IS FRIDAY, JUNE 14.**

**JUNE 26-29, 2019**
Attention: Club Presidents, Secretaries & Bulletin Editors; Lt. Governors and District Chairpersons. Submit all articles, photos and video to Thebuilder@mikiwanis.org. All photo and artwork must be sent as either jpg or bmp files. Video must be sent as mpeg files.

**Builder Publication Schedule**

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**Michigan Builder**

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**Make new Friends, but keep the Old**

**ONE IS SILVER, THE OTHER IS GOLD**

Back in the 1980’s, Nancy and I were leaders of a girl scout troop, and this song was one we sang with the girls often. It is a song that has been around a long time and is truly good advice! Kiwanis gives us an opportunity to continue to make new friends and continue to cherish the long- time Kiwanis friends.

Kiwanians in the Michigan District will have opportunities to make new friends, celebrate with long time friends and gather new ideas in the several ways in the next few months!

First, we have our Spring Divisional Meetings coming up in April and May. These celebrations are open to all club members, not just your officers. Come and enjoy a few hours of fellowship, club awards, laughter, and information gathering. You may leave with a couple of new friends, and some new ideas to share with your club.

**In June the Kiwanis International convention will be in Orlando.**

**If you have never attended an International Convention, you owe it to yourself to go!**

I have found by attending an International Convention, I get a chance to:

- Attend educational sessions to learn new things to bring back to my district and club. There will be over 100 educational workshops and training opportunities.
- Visit “World Showcase” to see exhibits of clubs, learn about fund raising ideas, visit Kiwanis partners booths.
- Attend the opening and closing sessions with well- known motivational speakers.
- Be a delegate for your club, and elect the International Board
- Most important is meeting other Kiwanians from all over, and learning about what their clubs are doing, and making new friends.

I have found that being a Kiwanian has given me the opportunity to meet new people in the Michigan District by attending club meetings, service projects and working with the District Board. What are you doing to meet new friends in the district?

- Be an active member of your Kiwanis club and participate in projects.
- Be active in your community.
- Attend District projects and events.
- Interclubbing in your division and district.
- Participating in a district position or committee.

The important part is to “keep the old” by keeping in touch. I have made many friends who will be lifelong through my Kiwanis experience. This month I have talked about the International convention and in the next Builder we will be talking about the Michigan District convention in Ann Arbor. Mark the date of August 23-25th for a great time in Ann Arbor.

Keep up the good work and remember we are “Making a Difference Together”.

---

**Larry Memmer** | 2018-19 Governor | Michigan District

Governor@mikiwanis.org
Want to make a quick buck

FOR YOUR CLUB?

Our clubs are doing a variety of fundraisers, some involving a lot of work and some involving next to none. Fundraising is not just a means of raising money, it is also a way to promote the message and the goals of Kiwanis. Through our fundraising efforts, we spread awareness of Kiwanis, our mission and the great work that we do.

So, you might be asking yourself where is this quick buck that she mentioned in her headline? Well it comes from the joint raffle put on by the Michigan District of Kiwanis and the Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation. In this situation the heavy lifting is being performed by the leaders of both organizations mentioned previously. But those are not the ONLY organizations that benefit! Right off the top one dollar of every $5 ticket sold comes right back to YOUR club! The ticket design, printing, collecting, raffle license, tracking, and prizes are all provided by the partnership efforts of the district and foundation. Your only job is to sell the ticket, and ‘BAM!’ there is your quick buck!

Once clubs receive their $1, and all prizes are paid, the remaining profit is split 50/50 between the district and foundation. As a club, you are free to use that money as you see fit in your community. The district will utilize the money for educating & training members, marketing resources for clubs, resources for strengthening existing clubs, etc. The foundation will utilize the money for providing child life services at the four children’s hospital it supports.

SOME OF THE DETAILS:

• Tickets will be mailed to each member’s home
• If you need more tickets reach out to club members who might not be participating and get theirs, or to your Lt. Governor/Foundation trustee
• Tickets are $5 each
• Winners will be drawn at our District Convention in August
• Please turn in sold tickets ASAP, do not wait until the end

Sarah Kew | 2018-19 Governor-Elect | Michigan District
Governor-elect@mikiwanis.org
Attracting & RETAINING MEMBERS

Over the 4+ years I have been the Executive Director I have visited many clubs within the District. On these visits there was a common interest in attracting new members and strengthening their existing clubs. We discussed ways to do this. However, a key element to help with the success of these efforts is the following and has been my belief for many years: You can do everything you can to attract someone to your club and club meeting, but if what they find when they attend one of your club’s events is not attractive to them, they may not want to join.

So here are some things to consider when going about presenting the best Kiwanis club you can to prospective members.

• Make sure you have a banner or some evidence of a Kiwanis meeting going on. We are not just a random group of people meeting for only social reasons.
• Make sure at least one person is assigned to greet people at the door. Ideally, many people should come up and introduce themselves.
• Change up the seating so anyone feels welcome no matter who they sit with or where they sit.
• Whenever your meeting starts, make sure a good number of people are there at least 15-30 minutes before the meeting. We don’t want a visitor to walk into a meeting with only 1-2 people there.

• We are a club with a mission and a purpose. We are about having fun and doing business. Make sure both are part of the meeting. There should be a structure to the meeting including ringing the bell, an agenda and making sure the meeting moves along.
• The meetings should be fun, informational and varied. Try and schedule outside speakers and programs. The speakers can be potential new members as well.
• Make sure the comments and conversations are positive and uplifting. If too many “jokes” or comments are only things that members would understand, then guests may feel left out.
• The meeting should be about the direction the club is going and announcing major activities. Details of these events should be discussed in a committee or outside the meeting. The meeting can get too bogged down and boring for a guest. Plus, if all this goes on too long, guests may think the club is not organized.
• Everyone should be respectful and attentive when someone is speaking. Eliminate side conversations. Let the guests know you appreciate the speaker and your President who has stepped up to a leadership role in the club.

Every club in the Michigan Kiwanis District has a great mission and story to tell. Each club needs more members so we can make a greater impact in our communities. Do everything you can to help increase your chances of success in adding new members to your club.

Greg Smith | Executive Director | Michigan District
executivedirector@mikiwanis.org
Is anyone interested? Do you sometimes think that no one is interested in becoming a member of your club? They are too busy, not interested, can't afford it or give various other reasons not to join. Most of the time it is none of those reasons—it is because we do not inform them how the value of our club provides them the opportunity to make a difference in their lives and their community.

As I worked on club opening events, I realized that in every community, there ARE people who have servant hearts and want to help children and improve their community. They were not aware of Kiwanis because they didn't know any Kiwanians and no Kiwanians knew them. We must recruit outside of our circle of friends and associates. Potential members can come from many sources. Consider them all and prioritize your efforts on the best leads.

Leads can be generated from your members, from the Chamber of Commerce, from the Superintendent of Schools, the Mayor, the roster of the local Business Network International (BNI) and/or any other local networking groups. Identify groups that have a potential interest in being part of Kiwanis and our mission to serve the children and our effort to improve our communities.

All clubs want to recruit new members, but the question is how do we do this? There are many plans, templates and suggestions on the how. The challenge is for the club and its members to commit and work a recruitment plan. Your club’s approach to recruiting new members will only be as effective as the priority that it is given.

Kiwanis International’s website has great resources for membership plans and getting your club ready to receive new members. Check out the Achieving Club Excellence Tools (ACE Tools). These tools give you a group of plans ranging from improving your club to having a membership drive. You can find these tools by going to:

- www.kiwanis.org
- click on Member resources
- click Membership and Education
- click Club Strengthening (The ACE Tools along with many other useful links will be on the Club Strengthening page.)

The Michigan District has a strong membership team that is ready and willing to be a resource for you. Reach out to your Lt. Governor and inquire about district resources that are available for your club.

Before implementing a recruitment plan, carve out time to have a meeting with your members to brainstorm opportunities and strategies for recruiting. Establish what your club offers to potential members and what your club expects from a member. It is important when you recruit, that the potential member realizes how they can fit in with your club and what your club provides for them.

There is no finish line for recruiting only a starting line. You need a plan, you need deadlines and you need members assigned to each task to implement the plan, meet the deadlines and reach the goals.

There are many Kiwanians and many resources to help you strengthen your club, but if you want your club to grow—well that depends on you. You can do it. You must do it, so that your club can continue to make a difference in your community.

Start your recruiting plan today. Ready. Set. GO!

| Leads generate members |

Everyone can be there...
WHEELCHAIR & ADAPTIVE SPORTS
motivates Ginessa to compete

Ginessa Aguirre is a spunky little girl with a long brown ponytail who likes making slime, watching YouTube and cuddling with her cat, Smokey. She also likes cooking and baking with her mom, Nora.

But what Ginessa likes most is playing basketball.

“I like to steal the ball,” she said. See? Spunky.

Ginessa plays for the Junior Pacers Prep Team, one of 15 competitive teams offered by Mary Free Bed Wheelchair & Adaptive Sports for children and adults with physical disabilities.

Ginessa was just three years old when she sustained a spinal cord injury in a tragic automobile accident in December 2010 near her hometown of Hartford. She was hospitalized at Bronson Methodist Hospital for a week before being transferred to Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital for rehabilitation. She spent one month in the inpatient Pediatric Program and the next seven months receiving outpatient care.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8
“We literally lived at the Mary Free Bed Inn the entire time Ginessa was a patient,” Nora said. “We are so grateful we were able to stay there so Ginessa could get all the therapy she could.”

As she grew, so did Ginessa’s interest in sports. She played softball, basketball and bowled with a hometown program for children with basketball and bowled with a player. “The sports weren’t wheelchair-adapted, so she was discouraged and quit playing,” Nora said. “When she tried wheelchair basketball, she didn’t want to play anything else. Every player plays in a wheelchair. This is big to her, because she sees it as fair play. She is very competitive when she plays, and she likes being noticed on the court by others as an aggressive player.”

Mary Free Bed’s Wheelchair & Adaptive Sports program is one of the largest of its kind in the United States, serving more than 2,800 people annually through competitive teams, clinics, classes and events.

The Aguires — including Ginessa’s father, Gerardo, and sometimes her older siblings — travel nearly two hours from Hartford to Grand Rapids for Ginessa’s once-a-week practices with the Junior Pacers, plus tournaments across Michigan and out-of-state. The practices typically follow recreational therapy sessions in the Outpatient Rehabilitation Center at Mary Free Bed.

“Wheelchair basketball is what she looks forward to,” Nora said. “It makes her extremely happy.”

With support from her family as well as her Mary Free Bed family, Ginessa is thriving. “Our biggest hope for Ginessa is for her to grow into an independent woman who doesn’t let anything or anyone get in her way,” Nora said. “She is strong and positive, willing to try new things, and always has a smile on her beautiful face.”

Child life specialist helps Mary Free Bed’s youngest patients cope with hospitalization

Mariah Bruff always knew she wanted to become a teacher, but she didn’t expect a hospital to be her classroom and its youngest patients to be her students.

Mariah studied education at Grand Valley State University, but found teaching in front of a large group in a small classroom wasn’t for her. Her sister, a pediatric nurse, suggested Mariah would excel in a hospital setting and Mariah agreed. She enrolled at Texas State University, where she earned a master’s degree in Family and Child Studies and began working at The Children’s Hospital of San Antonio.

Mariah witnessed the fear children and families faced when coming to the hospital, and she knew she could do more to help alleviate that stress. “Kids have a lot of fear and anxiety when coming to a new place,” Mariah said. “If I can help decrease that, then they can have a more positive, comfortable stay.”

A native of Frankenmuth, Mariah returned to Michigan in August 2017 to join Mary Free Bed as a child life specialist in the hospital’s inpatient Pediatric Program.

“I love the environment and the people here,” she said. “The pediatric team is amazing.”

Mary Free Bed is the only inpatient rehabilitation hospital in the region with a unit designated exclusively for children and teens who have experienced brain injury, brain-related illnesses and concussion; cancer, neurological conditions, stroke, spinal cord injury, fractures, chronic pain conditions, surgery, burns and other debilitating illnesses and injuries.

Mariah’s primary role at Mary Free Bed is to help patients and families cope with the stress of a hospital stay. She uses therapeutic play and educational techniques to help patients adjust to the hospital setting and reduce their anxiety during medical procedures and therapies.

“I get to know the kids and work one-on-one with them,” Mariah said. “I’m like a teacher in the hospital. I educate, support and encourage the kids to help make their experience in the hospital less scary.”

To make their stay at Mary Free Bed as fun and happy as possible, Mariah is always prepared with the essentials: smiles, laughter, creativity — and syringes.

“One of the most popular activities I do with the kids is syringe painting,” she said. “The kids are having fun and enjoying squirting the paint from the syringe, but they are also learning and becoming more comfortable in the hospital environment.”

Although Mariah has been with the hospital for a short time, the impact she has made is far from small. “It’s rewarding when you hear the kids that say, ‘I thought the hospital was going to be scary, but Mary Free Bed was fun and made me happy’.”

Mariah works with children of all ages, but she also supports their parents. She recently completed certification in car seat training to teach families how to properly install a car seat to make sure their children are safe.

Mariah is always looking for new activities, events and visitors to bring smiles to the hospital. She has invited magicians, the Cosplay Crusaders superhero team, Grand Rapids Griffins hockey players and Grand Rapids Drive basketball players for visits.

“The kids get really excited to see them and interact with them,” she said. “I try to do things that will brighten their day.”

Mariah also started a new program for patients in partnership with Wish Upon a Teen. The national non-profit organization offers Design My Room, a program for teenagers facing extended hospitalization.

Mariah meets with the patient to fill out a questionnaire about his or her interests and hobbies, and sends it to the organization. Wish Upon a Teen sends clothing, accessories and decorations directly to the patient’s hospital room. Mariah says it’s a simple room makeover with an incredible impact.

“We had one room decorated for a young girl who really liked the comic book character Harley Quinn,” Mariah said. “Wish Upon a Teen sent her a ton of Harley Quinn-themed clothing and accessories, and it made her so happy.”
Michigan District Dinner

Thursday, June 27, 2019 at 6pm

We have a private dining experience beginning at 6 p.m. created by Benihana in the Hilton 1751 Hotel Plaza Drive Orlando. Dinner includes soup, salad, shrimp appetizer, Hibachi Vegetables, Hibachi Rice, Tea, Meal Choice, beverages and dessert.

Meal Choices:  *Colossal Shrimp     *Filet Mignon and Chicken Breast

Price also includes bus transportation from the Coronado Springs Hotel at 5:30pm to the restaurant.

There are limited seats available (60 for the meal) (54 for the bus), so please make your reservations soon!

All reservations must be purchased in advance – no exceptions. Reservation deadline is Friday, June 14.

Kiwanian Name: _______________________________________________________
Kiwanis Club of: _______________________________________________________
Division #: __________
Guest(s) Name(s): __________________________________________________________________________
Mailing Address: __________________________________________________________________________

Cell Phone Number: (____) _______‐__________ Email Address: __________________________________________

Total Meals  X  $59 inclusive/each = $__________

I don’t need the bus, I’ll get there on my own  X  $51/each = $__________

Payment Method: ____ Check (enclosed)  Checks should be made payable to Michigan District of Kiwanis

(no American Express)

VISA  ___  Mastercard  ___  Discover

Name on Credit Card: ___________________________________________ Expiration Date: ____/____

Card Number: ___________‐___________‐___________‐___________  3-digit Code (on back of card): __________

Cardholder Signature: __________________________________________

Return completed registration form to Michigan District Kiwanis • P.O. Box 231 Mason, Michigan 48854 or
Fax: 517-676-6600 (credit card only)
(Detroit)-Over 150 people from Kiwanis, Circle K, and Young Professional Clubs from the US & Canada, (IN, IL, OH, MI, GA, ONT, CA, NY) got together in the birthplace of Kiwanis to discuss, serve and celebrate 104 years of dedication to improving the lives of children and families around the World.

The event had three main aspects, a leadership conference which focused on membership issues and goal oriented self-improvement. Hands on service projects focused on community outreach and a Celebration at the Greektown Casino Hotel that featured a champagne toast to its 104th Birthday, as well as, entertainment and speeches focused on the importance of Kiwanis in Children’s lives.

Jim Rochford, immediate Past President and Membership Chair for Kiwanis International stated, “the importance of Detroit cannot be overstated. Here a small group of people had a philanthropic vision that they took and slowly spread throughout the World. Today Kiwanis is the third largest service organization in the world. It has virtually eliminated iodine deficiency and neonatal tetanus which has killed millions over the years. That all happened because a few people in Detroit were not afraid to share their vision of a better world.”

Frank Palazzolo, immediate Past President of the Detroit Club, The Founding Club of Kiwanis and Chair of the Founders Day Celebration Committee stated, “the Birth of Kiwanis does not just belong to Detroit, it belongs to the World, we simply feel it needs to be celebrated here in its birthplace and that its importance to the betterment of the World cannot be overlooked.” This year’s sponsors who we have had relationships with for decades recognize this and included the Children’s Hospital of Michigan Foundation, the Salvation Army and the Kids Coalition Against Hunger (our 2018 Take Time To Care Award Winner).

Larry Memmer, Governor of the Michigan District stated; “there are very few organizations that last over 100 years and keep growing but Kiwanis touches the lives of the most vulnerable and reaches out into local communities throughout the World to address their needs. I like all Kiwanians feel privileged to belong to an organization making a difference around the World, your never without a friend if you belong to Kiwanis and I wear it’s pin proudly!”
Welcoming NEW CLUBS

WELCOME TO THE KIWANIS CLUB OF ISLAND CITY
Thanks to the hard work of local Kiwanis club members, the Michigan District, and Kiwanis International, Mid-Michigan happily welcomed two new clubs into Division 16 in January. The Kiwanis Club of Island City (Eaton Rapids) and the Grand Ledge Area Kiwanis Club are structured 3-2-1 type clubs meeting once for planning, and providing 3 hours of service and 2 hours of social events within their communities each month. The members of the new clubs are from all walks of life including, police officers, postmasters, army recruiters, business owners, master chefs, and professionals within the banking and insurance industries, to name just a few. This diversity of members offers the community many different perspectives about community needs and ideas about opportunities to serve the children within their populations. They are planning and organizing community service and fundraising projects as well as their Charter Ceremonies which will be held soon.

SERVICE PROJECTS
Division 16 clubs are working together this year on several service projects within our community. In October, over 40 Kiwanians from 6 different clubs came together for a Weekend Survival Food Packing event. Food for area children is packaged and delivered to local school children to take home over the weekends to supplement their food needs. Our clubs also held a friendly Toys-For Tots Competition over the holiday season, collecting toys for the Salvation Army and Marine Corps to see which club could collect the most toys for local children. The winning club was South Lansing and they were awarded our first annual traveling trophy. The plan is to have the division hold this competition each year with the trophy moving on to the winning club! Great job by all our clubs that participated. Our new clubs are excited about this service project and vow to be the big winner this upcoming year. Our clubs continue to provide service and raise funds for their communities.
**CHARLOTTE**
The Charlotte Club raises over $10,000 each year through the sale of cheese and the local Flag Program. The funds are used to buy supplies to make Trauma Dolls for the Michigan Foundation as well as local police and fire departments. The club awards 1-3 scholarships each year to high school students and supports two Service Leadership Programs, Aktion Club and Key Club.

**DELTA TOWNSHIP**
The Delta Club raises funds to award scholarships to Waverly and Grand Ledge High School students who submit essays on community service to the club for judging each year. 4 to 6 scholarships are awarded to their local area students through this program. The club is currently evaluating funding proposals that have been submitted by nine different charitable organizations to support local projects with $2,500 raised by the club. Club members participate in food drives, food pantries and provide dinners to Haven House, a homeless shelter for area families. The club sponsors the Grand Ledge High School Key Club.

**GREATER LANSING YOUNG PROFESSIONALS**
The GLYP Club is the first club in Division 16 to adopt the 3-2-1 club structure. The club meets only once a month and then provides 3 hours of service and enjoy 2 hours of social events each month. The club participates each month at the Weekend Survival Kits Program, lend hands-on help at the Southside playground project with the Lansing Club, and volunteers at the Silver Bells in the City annual event. The members enjoy ice skating, MSU tailgating, trips to the Cider Mill, trivial pursuit nights and other gaming night activities.

**HOLT**
The Holt club holds an annual Chicken BBQ to raise funds for its projects. The Holt community is the recipient of thousands of dollars which the club uses to host both a Top Ten Dinner honoring the top Holt High School graduating students and a Golden Anniversary dinner in honor of couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversaries. The club maintains and operates the Der Happy Hallow Park which it opens up to the community for scouting and church activities, community gardens and to provide a working farm for the local food bank to raise food.

**LANSING**
The Lansing Club is building playgrounds. Two legacy projects celebrating the Club’s 100th anniversary are under construction in the Lansing area. Lansing awarded $25,000 in funding to each project. The Angel House Project will result in a new playground area for foster mothers and their babies residing at the house as they finish school, learn parenting skills and build a better future for their babies. The project includes a walking path, covered pavilion for picnic tables and toy storage and additional parking for the house. The second playground project is a handicap accessible playground in South Lansing. The Lansing club is working with the City of Lansing Parks and Recreation and the Southside Coalition to build the park with work to be completed in May. The club sponsors a K-Kids Club, Key Club, and Aktion Club.

**LANSING GOLDEN K**
The Lansing Golden K club raises money to purchase clothing for children in the local Head Start Programs and to provide dictionaries to 3 Lansing elementary schools. The funds come from peanut and candy sales during the year and quarterly dinner proceeds from a local restaurant.

**MASON**
The club owns and operates the 80 apartment units in Kiwanis Village in Mason. The project was built by Kiwanians with the Mason club over 50 years ago and has been serving the community ever since. The club supports local children through sponsoring Student-of-the-Month awards, providing Promise Scholarships to Middle School Children and college scholarships for graduating High School students. They provide books to the pre-school Ready-Set-Go program and support the Mason Historical Society.

**MASON GOLDEN K**
The Mason Golden K club, in conjunction with the Mason Club continue to hold their bi-monthly blood drive, collecting 40-60 pints of blood for the American Red Cross. The club also feeds adult and children every other month at the Southside Community Kitchen, supports the Mason food drive, Mason Public Library and provides Santa letters to area children. They sponsor the Rural Outreach Aktion Club.

**SOUTH LANSING**
The South Lansing Club is investing its much of its time and money to the REO Elementary School where it purchases books for the library, dictionaries to third graders, and provides volunteers for a new reading program introduced at the school to improve reading skills for the school children. The club also helps with spring clean-ups. The club raises money for these activities through its annual peanut sales and flag program.

Division 16 clubs are coming together to help our communities through fundraising, service projects, and provide support for many programs in Mid-Michigan. Our members have had the Heart to Serve, the Call to Lead, and the Courage to Engage in our communities for over 100 years! #KidsNeedKiwaniS
Coldwater Kiwanians believe volunteerism spans a lifetime. Club members and the scout troop they sponsor are featured in a newly released State of Michigan report. “Volunteerism is Ageless—It Spans a Lifetime” was recently released to state officials and aging service agencies.

Terry and Deborah Tomlinson, past presidents of the Kiwanis Club of Coldwater, share their positive benefits of volunteering. Terry is also a past lieutenant governor. The Tomlinsons were the 2017 Coldwater Area Chamber of Commerce Citizens of the Year. Both participate in the Schools of Hope Reading Program - a partnership with United Way of Branch County, Great Start Collaborative, Coldwater Community Schools, and Kiwanis Club of Coldwater. The Tomlinsons are among 80 mentors who help Jefferson Elementary School third graders improve reading skills.

“You can see the progress a child can make by reading with an adult in just 30 minutes per week,” Deborah Tomlinson said. The report cover features a photo of Kiwanis sponsored Coldwater Scout Troop 433. The scouts and Kiwanians partner for a very successful Flags Across Coldwater fund raising project. They place flags in residential areas and downtown during five annual holidays. In return, the club provides financial assistance and scholarships to use at the Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico.

Denny Brieske, past president of the Kiwanis Club of Coldwater, was a report workgroup leader for the Michigan State Advisory Council on Aging (SAC). He represents Branch and St. Joseph Counties on the 40-member volunteer council.

The recruitment techniques section is led by a quote from Ali Brieske, Denny and his wife Paula’s daughter-in-law. Ali is the Senior Walk Manager for the Alzheimer’s Association Colorado Chapter. The 2018 Denver Alzheimer’s Walk raised over one million dollars for research and projects.

“This report can be a valuable tool not only for club builders, but club presidents and even committee chairs,” said Jim Voss, current Coldwater Club president. “It gives insight into the benefits of volunteering and advice on recruitment and retention. We know these are front of mind concerns for service clubs today – and the report is free!”
DISTRICT DIVISION #1 SERVICE DAY PROJECT

The Shorewood Kiwanis Club hosted the Michigan District Division #1 Service Day Project, a Baby/Toy Shower on Saturday, March 9 at the Pare Non-Profit Center in St. Clair Shores. It was a fabulous event attended by the following Clubs: Detroit #1, Roseville-Warren, Cosmopolitan Detroit, Eastpointe and Shorewood. We had a great turnout along with great speakers, games, prizes, fellowship and a delicious lunch prepared by Shorewood’s member, Carrie Wells...Thank You Carrie! And, Hats off to Division #1!

Attendees had an opportunity to bring baby items for the Gianna House (serves as a pregnancy center for all women and has 6 residents, 13-17 years of age and their infants) and the Big Family Foundation (foster children) along with hearing about the mission and how the charities impact our communities. Looking forward to next year’s event.

LOOK-OUT FOR NICHE OPPORTUNITIES

The Kiwanis Club of Grandville Hudsonville is a very new club, celebrating their second year of service in October 2018. The club has been on the look-out for niche opportunities to serve local kids, volunteering and raising funds for a variety of local non-profits. In late 2018, the club came across an after-school club called Spark put on by Rise Community Center which that year grew from 20 kids to 65 kids and from a single school to six schools.

“Often those who are struggling academically, economically, or socially struggle in silence and isolation. We are seeing hundreds of students in our community struggle in one or more of those areas. Our goal through Spark is to meet students where they are at while offering mentorship and academic support to help them excel in school and in our community.” Said Shana DeWent, founder of Spark.

As a part of Spark, staff and volunteers work to make sure each student feels seen, loved, and important – through their ‘Spark Random Acts’ initiative created by Beth Jester.

Small things can often make children feel part of the community in a big way, but the opposite is also true. Not being able to participate in school or classroom activities because of financial barriers, gives children the feeling of being “less than” or alienated from their peers. The Spark Random Acts program provides funding and items for the nominal financial costs of simple things that create a sense of belonging.

Throughout the school year, program administrators identify students who could benefit from the blessings of a Spark Random Act. These funds allow students to engage in activities where they would otherwise sit out, as well as strengthen their connection to the school community.

The Kiwanis Club of Grandville Hudsonville has partnered up with the Spark Random Acts. In March 2019, the club helped put together ‘Spring Break Boxes’ for the kids in Spark, many of which do not have the resources to head out on vacations and adventures for their spring breaks. The boxes are filled with small items like craft supplies, new books, and small sets of Legos.

“There is a sense of pride and joy when students receive a Spark Random Act like our break boxes. It communicates to them that they are valued and cared for by their community.” Said DeWent.

Michelle Fare
Executive Director – Hudsonville Area Chamber of Commerce
Marketing Coordinator & DDA Director – City of Hudsonville

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE SPARK RANDOM ACTS PROGRAM CLICK HERE
KIWANIS CLUB OF KIWASSEE-MIDLAND SELECTED TO REPRESENT DISTRICT

Congratulations to the Kiwanis Club of Kiwassee-Midland for being selected as the District’s submission for the 2019 Kiwanis International Signature project recognition program. Their work with the Longview Early Childhood center since 2013 has helped hundreds of low-income, at-risk and special needs children.

We wish them luck with the International level recognition: Ten finalists will be selected and the top three selections will be recognized as the gold, silver and bronze winners at the 2019 Kiwanis International Convention in Orlando, Florida, at a luncheon on Thursday, June 27.

Tickets for the recognition luncheon may be purchased during the International Convention registration process. Tickets for this event are $60 per person.

Here’s your chance to join fellow Kiwanis members to celebrate the success of signature projects and discover what it takes to become one of the top 10 finalists and find out who won gold, silver and bronze awards in this year’s contest!

What is your club known for in the community? Have a signature project idea? - bring it up to your club! Spotlight your club’s value and need in the community!

And remember, just because your club’s project wasn’t selected, that doesn’t mean you can’t apply next year! We hope more clubs will submit their projects so we can spotlight the great events this district offers to the community!

We also want to thank all of the Kiwanis clubs that submitted their Signature Projects for consideration this year - the committee had a tough time deciding which club to select since all of the projects are worthwhile:

- Addison
- Chelsea
- Clinton Township
- Grand Rapids
- Kiwassee-Midland
- Lansing
- Linden
- Saginaw
- Saginaw Northwest
- Traverse City

FRAN BABBAGE CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR – ELECT 2019-2020

It is with great pleasure that I announce my candidacy for Governor - Elect of the Michigan District of Kiwanis 2019-2020 with the unanimous endorsement of the Kiwanis Club of Allen Park.

I have been the newsletter editor, program coordinator, membership committee person, assistant advisor for our Key Club and President of the Allen Park Club (2015-2016) (2018-2019). I have been Distinguished Lt. Gov. of Division 5 (2014-2015) and am presently the Michigan District Advocate for the Eliminate Project. I have been a delegate to many Michigan District and International Conventions.

I have been in the field of education for many years and have always been devoted to helping children reach their highest potential. I also was elected to the Allen Park School Board and served as President of the Board.

Since retiring, I have divided my time between Kiwanis and American Legion Auxiliary. I have held various Auxiliary positions at the State (Southern Area Membership and Leadership Chairman) and at the District level- (President, Executive Board member and Secretary) I have developed many leadership and listening skills from holding these positions. As I am now completing my ALA commitments, I can now devote more of my time to the Michigan District of Kiwanis.

Those that know me realize I am a people person and love meeting the members of Kiwanis and speaking with them. I plan to visit clubs and hear about your great projects. I will work for and with our members to maintain and build our membership, follow our strategic plan and maintain and grow our youth programs. My leadership style is to encourage and support others in all their endeavors. I am just as comfortable being behind a group and letting them lead the way as I am being in front of them.

I will encourage our members to raise the funds needed to fulfill our pledge to help the 14 countries that are still working to Eliminate Neo Natal Tetanus.

I would like to encourage each club to maintain and/or develop a KIWANIS SPONSORED SERVICE PROJECT that the community realizes meets their needs.

I feel it is important that we get the word out about WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE DO AND WHY WE DO IT. I will strive for Kiwanis to be recognized in all the communities in our State as an organization that is helping all the children of the world – one child one community at a time.

It is important that we all realize that we can make a difference in the lives of children and create for them a promising future. We need to make everyone realize that KIDS NEED KIWANIS.

I hope you will support me in my bid for Governor - Elect 2019-2020.

If you have any items or ideas you would like to discuss with me feel free to contact me. I would love your input.
Kids Need Kiwanis so...Kiwanis Needs You for our Mega Blitz!

THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT IS OPENING 8 NEW CLUBS IN ONE WEEK!

PLEASE JOIN US TO BRING KIWANIS TO: MACOMB TOWNSHIP

There are a lot of great reasons to help with the Michigan District Mega Blitz:

- Make sure the kids in every community have the support of Kiwanis
- Gain valuable membership recruitment skills for your own club
- Help us grow the Michigan District to make us as strong as we once were
- Meet great people from around the state and the country to share ideas for your club
- More than 45 club opener specialists from out of the district will be here to help
- Have some good, hard fun while making the world a better place
- Grants fund your expenses so you can learn and help for free

To be a part of this great event, please contact:

Larry Memmer
Larrymemmer@gmail.com
262-227-5583

Cynthia Hungerford Padilla
Cynthia_ahp@charter.net
248-270-6114

What can you do to help?

- Help with campaign logistics
- Appointment setters
- Site survey and demographics
- Data entry
- Ambassadors in the field
- Drivers
- Help in HQ
- Supply and packet compilation
- Post-blitz follow up

...and more. There is a job for everyone, and anyone can help! We will train you to help us
Include your students in elections for their Builders Club. Empower our youth to lead meetings, take minutes, vote, plan projects, and serve while developing leadership skills, problem-solving, team building, and be the school community leader they are called to be!

Explore community partnerships with local businesses, non-profits, and local government leaders. Include the school board and school administrators in discussions and planning of projects. How can each bring something to the table? Identify community stakeholders and start the conversation.

Develop signature projects for your Builders Club, with the students, of course! Here are some sample signature projects some of our Michigan District of Kiwanis Builders Clubs organize:

- **Blessing Bags** - collect toothbrushes and tooth paste (local dentist), hats and gloves (local city hall or library set up a collection bin), bottled water, granola bars, tuna pouches, travel sized shampoos and conditioner, soap. Assemble all items into gallon zip lock bags and distribute at a homeless shelter.

- **Brown Bag Project** - partner with a local food pantry. Students assemble peanut butter sandwiches, add fruit, bottled water, granola bar or crackers. Assemble in brown lunch bag. Distribute to homeless and food insecure.

- **Dictionary Project and Back Pack Projects** - partner with area 501c3 organizations, local businesses, and school administrators. By partnering, back packs and dictionaries are donated for distribution to at risk students. Be sure to contact local, state, and federal elected officials. They love to help!

- **Community Clean Up Days** - plan a day to clean up a park, remove snow for elderly and disabled residents, and/ or rake leaves for elderly, Veterans, and disabled residents. Be sure to call your community partners- high school and middle school organizations, National Honor Societies, Key Club, etc. Contact your local municipal government for any permits or special pick up needed. Always, practice safety, including the Youth Protection Guidelines, background checks for all adult chaperones, licensed and insured transportation and parent permission- waivers.

Lastly, share your Builders Club story! Tell us and those in your community more about the Kiwanis Builders Club. Use social media, follow established guidelines. Post pictures, only with parent written permission, most schools will have these forms on file. Write a press release. Create a buzz for your Builders Club! Every day is a great day to be a Builders Club member and advisor!
Engage your Service Leadership Programs as part of the Michigan Kiwanis Family

Thank you for supporting your district Service Leadership Programs. Do invite us to be a program for your club meeting. We love to share how K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, Circle K and Aktion Club are providing service to local communities and building leadership skills.

Aktion Club Administrator
Sue Devon
517-331-6256
susandevon@gmail.com

Builders Club Administrator
Lisa Hicks-Clayton
(313) 348-9848
hicksclaytonlisa@yahoo.com

K-Kids Administrator
Mercia Foster
Phone: (989) 775-8544
Email: merciaj.foster@gmail.com

Key Club Administrator:
Bryan L. Crenshaw,
213 E. Harris St. Lansing, 48906
Cell: (517) 256-6573
Email: administrator@mikeyclub.org

Circle K Administrator:
Lori L. Stillwell (Rowdy),
47731 Meadowbrook Dr. Macomb, 48044-2756
Cell: (586) 295-7957
Email: lori2547@yahoo.com

Circle K International is the largest student-led collegiate service organization. We are an organization with so much to offer to college students across the world and in our state of Michigan. The Michigan District of Circle K has a total of 11 active clubs at universities around our state. But what does the Michigan District of Circle K actually offer its members? The tenants that make up the foundation of our organization are service, leadership and fellowship.

Starting off with service, if anyone asks a Circle K member for help, we will be there as soon as we can. School comes first, but all of our members are dedicated to the service that we do. As college students we do not necessarily have the money to donate to large campaigns, but we will donate our time to help those in need.

The next tenant is leadership, there are all levels of leadership opportunities between club, district, and international boards. Circle K International allows students to lead by example and build leadership skills that we can take with us after we graduate.

Last, but not least we have fellowship, which helps to pull the spirit of Circle K together. Being able to connect with fellow members in your home club or across the world. Members of the Michigan District of Circle K have made friendships that will last a lifetime.

Thank you to the Michigan Kiwanis Family for all of your support in the 2018-2019 Circle K year!

Kristy Godley
2018-2019
Michigan Circle K Governor
Kiwanis exists to serve the children of the world, but we take our service to the next level when we work with, and empower kids to serve others. They feel pride when their school and community recognize them as people who are dependable, capable, and willing to help.

In Michigan we have 17 active K-Kids Clubs. St. Mary’s in Alma, Weidman Elementary, and Harbor Springs Elementary are new since February of 2018. We wish them much success in their new clubs. Many Kiwanis Clubs still do not sponsor any service leadership programs (“SLPs”). I urge you to visit any of the SLP websites to learn how your club can expand its impact on your community, as well as energize your membership, by working with K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, or Aktion Club. For the clubs that already sponsor K-Kids, I would love to hear about your club’s accomplishments and activities, and I welcome photos. You can reach me at merciaj.foster@gmail.com. Also contact me if I can provide information on starting a new club. (If you visit kiwaniskids.org, and explore the site, you will find instructions on petition to charter a club and much, much more.)

February 18-22 was International K-Kids week in the Kiwanis Family. Kiwanis International held contests for K-kids last fall, (entries were due in mid-December) encouraging students to create a Poster, Essay, Speech, or Video to promote K-Kids. The winners were announced during K-Kids week. I am proud to announce that we had a winner here in MI. Sacred Heart Academy K-Kids won a $100 spending spree at Dollar Days for creating the best video entry. The best poster was in the NY District, and the best Essay and Speech both came from the same school in the AL District. Congratulations to all the K-Kids, especially our own Sacred Heart Academy. The announcement was the highlight of K-Kids week for the mid-Michigan school. For many schools in the Michigan District, there were so many snow days this year that celebrations were postponed or canceled. Next year perhaps more schools in MI will enter and win the contests. (More information about K-Kids contests for the spring can be found at kiwaniskids.org.)

KIDS NEED KIWANIS & KIWANIS NEEDS K-KIDS

Kiwanis International has awarded first place to the K-Kids group from Sacred Heart Academy for a promotional video the students produced. Each year the K-Kids department of Kiwanis International hosts several contests: poster, essay, speech, and video. This year, the SHA K-Kids studied the video criteria, made their plans, and asked a Key Club big sister to help film and edit. The result was a winning two-minute video which came with world-wide honors and $100 shopping spree at Dollar Daze.

LOCAL K-KIDS VIDEO WINS FIRST PLACE IN WORLD COMPETITION

All the clubs are sponsored by the Mt. Pleasant Kiwanis Club. “The students were excited to hear they had won first place,” said Advisor Mercia Foster. “The video shows the group’s enthusiasm for K-Kids so it will be a good promotional tool if Kiwanis International uses it online.” Along with the students and Foster, Advisor/Teacher Wendy Lemke and SHA Principal Julie George were also featured in the video, which is now available for viewing.
Change Your 2018-19 Directory

(Also make appropriate changes on pages 20-25)

BAY CITY, DIV. 10
Sec. Tori Duve,
1775 W. Barnes Rd.,
Fostoria, 48435-9751
Phone: (989) 684-8078 Ext. 109

DELTA TOWNSHIP, DIV. 16
Sec. Nicholas Nauta,
Email: nnauta@srbadvisors.com

SOUTH LANSING, DIV. 16
Pres. Melissa Cole, c/o Capital Area District Library,
3500 S. Cedar St.,
Lansing, 48910-4699
Phone: (517) 272-9840
Email: coleml@cadl.org

TAYLOR, DIV. 5
Sec. Lynne Nowicki,
30142 Hickory Dr.,
Flat Rock, 48134-1681
Phone: (734) 309-0935
Email: inowicki@shamrocks.us

CLUB MEETING PLACE/DATE CHANGES

ALMONT, IMLAY CITY, CAPAC, DIV. 9
Holly Meadow Golf Course, 4855 Capac Rd., Mussey, 1st Tues.,
6:00 PM; Roots, 107 S. Main St.,
Almont, 3rd Tues., 6:00 PM

BAY AREA, DIV. 3
Fins Restaurant,
51006 Washington St., New Baltimore, 2nd & 4th Tues., 6:30 PM

BRIGHTON, DIV. 6
Homewood Suites, 606 Chaliss Rd., 1st Thurs., 7:15 AM; Lil Chef,
101 Brookside Ln., 3rd Thurs, 6:30 PM

BURTON, DIV. 17
US Family Restaurant,
3512 S. Dort Hwy, Fri., 7:30 PM

COLONIAL PLUMOUTH, DIV. 2
Stella’s Trackside,
885 Starkweather Rd., Thurs.,
Noon

DEARBORN, DIV. 2
PLAV (Polish League of American Veteran’s) Hall,
25222 W. Warren St., Dearborn Heights, Wed., 6:15 PM

DEARBORN YOUNG PROFESSIONALS, DIV. 2
Bailey’s 22091 Michigan Ave.,
4th Thurs., 7:00 PM

DETROIT NO. 1, DIV. 1
Detroit Athletic Club,
241 Madison Ave., 1st Tues, Noon;
Ford Resource Engagement Center (FREC), 2826 Bagley, 3rd Tues., 6:00 PM

GLADWIN, DIV. 19
1st & 3rd Wed., Noon

GREATER LANSING YOUNG PROFESSIONALS, DIV. 16
1st Tues, 7:00 PM

GROSSE ILE, DIV. 5
Thurs., 7:00 PM

MORENCI, DIV. 11
Morenci Garage LLC, 136 W. Main St., Wed., Noon

MUSEKGON, DIV. 15
Sanctuary at the Oaks, 1740 Village Dr., Wed., 12:15 PM

NOVI, DIV. 6
Call club secretary for meeting information

SOUTHFIELD, DIV. 1
Southfield School Admin. Office,
24661 Lahser Dr., 2nd & 4th Wed.,
6:00 PM

SOUTH LANSING, DIV. 16
McLaren Orthopedic Hospital (north patient’s entrance), 2727 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Fri, 7:30 AM

WYANDOTTE 1000, DIV. 5
Copeland Center, 2306 4th, 1st &
3rd Tues., 6:00 PM

INFO FOR ADDITIONAL INDIVIDUALS

BYLAWS, POLICIES & RESOLUTIONS CHAIR

Elizabeth Peters,
Email: lpeters9753@gmail.com

JOHN VOGELHEIM
Rogers City

J. RICHARD ERNST
Tawas

CARLTON L. COOK
Tecumseh
In Memoriam

DUANE A. STACEY
Alma

TOM S. RITTER
Chelsea

THOMAS A. RENKERT
Eastpointe

JOHN W. LAWRENCE
Kalamazoo

C. RANDEL BURNS
DAVID L. FLORY
Owosso

ROBERT J. BOLOGNA
Riverview

JOHN VOGELHEIM
Rogers City

J. RICHARD ERNST
Tawas

CARLTON L. COOK
Tecumseh

Press

Active Clubs ............................................ 158
District Beginning Membership ............ 4129
Reporting Members Mar. 1, 2019 .......... 4314

Net Gain +185 members

Kiwanis Gram

What is a Kiwanis Gram?
A Kiwanis gram is a short, personal, positive message from any Kiwanian, family member, teacher, friend, etc. to one or more Kiwanians. All messages will be published in the Michigan Builder. A single line Kiwanis gram costs $10 per line. A line is 50 characters including spaces.

[ ] Cash Contribution Amount $____________
[ ] Check made payable to Kiwanis Children’s Fund and write “The Eliminate Project” on the memo line. Amount $____________

Please Print the information below as you would like it to appear in the Builder.
To (Person’s name and club): ________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Message:
(Line 1) To: ______________________________________________________________
(Line 2) Message: __________________________________________________________
(Line3) From: _____________________________________________________________
From (Person’s name and club):
____________________________________________________________________

Attn: Dennis Romanoski The Eliminate Project, 12101 Helen St. Southgate, Michigan, 48195

GOVERNOR’S MEMBERSHIP TROPHY

Metro Detroit YP +14
Ann Arbor +9
West Branch +8
Detroit No. 1 +7
Lansing +7
Tri Cities, Gd. Hav.-Spr. Lake +7
Brooklyn +6
Tecumseh +6
Cheboygan +5
Clarkston-Waterford +5
Garden City +5
Hillsdale +5
Woodhaven +5

Net gain is from 10-1-18 thru 2-28-19 and includes clubs only with at least a net gain of +5 based on official membership numbers supplied by Kiwanis International.