Resolve to Serve — Make it a Happy New Year!

When we share our love for Kiwanis and show others how we live our mission we open the opportunities for others to serve and share in our love for service.

During October I had the opportunity to participate in a multi-club opening event led by our Formula Chair, Larry Memmer in the cities of Belleville and Westland. This was a three day event where several of our Lt. Governors and members visited community leaders and residents to get these new clubs prepared for opening. In both cities we have commitments and checks. We signed up membership for both clubs and scheduled each clubs first meeting in early November. It makes it an exciting time to be a Kiwanis member and support the opportunity to do service in communities where Kiwanis does not currently meet. If you have not had an opportunity to participate in this kind of event, plan now to join Larry and me in May and again in July when we repeat this process on the west side of the state and in the northern area of lower Michigan as well. Huge thanks to all the volunteers in this effort.

So here is my recommendation to strengthen your own clubs in your own communities:

Regardless of what holiday events you support or participate in, one “holiday” is certainly celebrated by most of us. HAPPY NEW YEAR! And what do we do when a time of renewal comes about? We resolve to make changes in our lives, in our habits, in our commitments and more. So why not help others to have the opportunity to change? Let’s schedule membership drives for January. FIRST, Invite non-members to do service with you. THEN, invite them to meetings. Speak at community venues on the opportunities for service that exists in Kiwanis. In other words – Show others how they can RESOLVE TO SERVE.

I am very interested in hearing what events you plan in your communities and if I can participate in some of the service you are inviting new members to participate in, I would be honored to be invited. I will schedule as my calendar allows.

I am excited to be a member of Kiwanis! How ’bout you? #KidsAtHeart

I want to hear from you!
E-mail at governor@mikiwanis.org
Subject line ‘Resolve to Serve’

Ryan’s life memorialized

This November 7th, our Woodhaven Kiwanis Club celebrated Ryan Sergant’s birthday, just as we have for the past 17 years. As a high school senior, Ryan was participating in his team’s cross country practice when his heart stopped, and he passed away on the street curb just blocks from home. His mother, Evelyn, still grieving from her husband’s death just eleven months earlier, found an exciting way to memorialize young Ryan’s life. Ryan, a vibrant young man, had spent the summer prior to his death volunteering in an area soup kitchen/clothes closet. With the first anniversary of his passing, and his 18th birthday approaching, his mother formed Ryan’s Friends to gather clothes to distribute to those in need. Then, as now, Woodhaven Kiwanians partner with Ryan’s Friends & the Bates School PTO to gather, sort and distribute clothes to Detroit’s disadvantaged. This year, Erving Elementary School, Patrick Henry Middle School and Porter-Clark Chiropractic served as collection points for gently used warm winter clothing and blankets. Items were collected & brought to Bates School where they were folded, sorted, & labeled for specific Clothes Closets based on their needs. Kiwanians, members of Ryan’s friends & families, appeared at Bates School to load our treasures into two busses. Old friends, as well as, new friends joined together to visit five area Clothes Closets providing the warm clothing needed for the brutal Michigan weather. This clothing was provided to Downriver Salvation Army, St. Patrick’s, All Saints, Ste. Anne’s, and Core City Neighborhood, Inc. Lillie Skinner, the Community Outreach & Deputy Director of Core, showed those attending their building at 3301 23rd Street in Detroit. She took us to their basement where all their clothing is set up just like a department store. Tuesday and Wednesdays members of the community pick up their groceries and clothing. This allows them to use their limited income for rent and utilities.

Evelyn Kosowski, Ryan’s Mother, said, “It is amazing that Ryan’s memory lives on in the community, and that so many of our neediest residents will benefit!”
Mark your calendars!

December

21-25 CHRISTMAS
District Office Closed all Week

31-1 NEW YEARS
District Office Closed

January

11 2016 Convention Planning Meeting
2:00 PM, Mason

14-17 District Secretaries Conference,
Toronto

23 Detroit No. 1 Birthday Party,

24 Kiwanis of MI Foundation Board,
9:30 AM, Mason

30 Mid-Winter District Board,
9:30 AM, Mason

Past Lt. Governor's Council,
1:00 PM, Mason

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Builder Publication Schedule

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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.
During the first part of November I was privileged to spend 5 days in Indianapolis with Jane Erickson, our International President for 2016 – 2017, and my fellow Governor’s-Elect for the 2015 -2016 Kiwanis Year. It was an amazing time of developing new friendships, and fellowship along with a lot of fun, laughter, as well as a lot of intense education and training. I returned to Michigan better prepared for the role of Governor Elect and going forward Governor of the Michigan District.

With over 48 Governor’s Elect from around the world in one classroom as well as 28 staff and support personnel, including translators, you can imagine the fun we had trying to figure out what some of them were saying, as well as what they meant. It was an interesting situation where you have such a diverse group of people all working to achieve the exact same goal. Service to the children of the world! This really helped me realize how truly global Kiwanis is. We hear it via the word “International”, but until you are in an environment like this, it is hard to grasp what that means in reality.

As I went through this training period, I kept remembering what Stephen Covey said “Begin with the End in Mind.” With that thought I kept thinking where can I take this, what can the Michigan District do with this, and where will all of this take our District?

We had a chance in our breaks and off time to discuss the upcoming holidays as well as some traditions from around the world. The words Merry Christmas, Mele Kalikimaka, Feliz Navidad, Buon Natale, Wesolych Wiat Bozego Narodzenia, Froehliche Weihnachten, Joyeux Noel, Maligayang Pasko as well as so many more ways to say Merry Christmas, here and around the world, all mean the same thing.

As we celebrate the Holiday Season with our families and friends, we will see fellow Kiwanians who give so much of their time, effort and talents to help and provide for others during this very special time of the year. There are so many ways we get involved with helping the communities and kids that I have often thought that the word “Generosity” could be defined in two words – A Kiwanian.

Our Kiwanis year 2014 – 2015 has been a year full of fun, excitement, changes, trepidation, failures, setbacks, positive new ideas and initiatives. We have just begun to actively begin full force on programs like the Formula Club Opening event we had in October, and the International “I PLAN” pattern to mention a couple. The Michigan District has taken to heart, and developed these programs and ideas. We have just begun to actively begin full force on programs like the Formula Club Opening event we had in October, and the International “I PLAN” pattern to mention a couple.

The Michigan District has taken to heart, and developed these programs for our District, Divisions and many of our individual clubs. Change is taking place and it’s all positive and exciting. Michigan is one of the leading Districts within Kiwanis International on being innovative, accepting of new programs and ideas. With a new appreciation of different languages, and holiday traditions, I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and New Year no matter what language we use. Let’s all look forward to a new Kiwanis year of growth, success and change that makes our district the best that we can be.

I want to hear from you!
You can reach me at governor-elect@mikiwanis.org.

Gratitude, Appreciation, Highlight Veteran’s Day Dinner

By Gabriella Ring

DEARBORN HEIGHTS--- After the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Gary Tanner, already a U.S. Army veteran, went to his local recruitment office wanting to do whatever he could to help serve his country again. They turned him away and gave him a sticker. When the Army raised the maximum age, he went back to the recruitment office with the same goal. While not serving on the front lines this time as he did in Grenada and Lebanon, Tanner became involved in veteran assistance and enrichment projects that continue to thrive in the state of Michigan today.

On the evening of November 5, Tanner was the featured guest speaker at the Kiwanis Club of Dearborn Heights’ 10th Annual Veteran’s Day Appreciation Dinner at the Stitt American Legion Post in Dearborn Heights. Through his role as the Reconnect Committee Chairman of the American Legion Department of Michigan, Tanner’s main talking points not only included the impressive work he has been able to accomplish by giving back to veterans in need, but also a lesson in life to the several high school groups in attendance.

“All it takes is one idea,” said Tanner, “to make a change in someone else’s life.” This, he stressed, along with having the courage of one to pursue an idea like he had, makes what he does so special. He directed guests to the Michigan Wounded and Returning Warrior Retreat Program’s Mackinac Island Retreat Testimonials packet as just a small example of the hundreds of thank you letters he receives. The Mackinac Island Retreat provides the opportunity for veterans and their families to take all-expenses paid trip—greatly aiding in the transitioning process from military to civilian life.

After the conclusion of the Pledge of Allegiance, students surrounded Tanner and the veterans in the audience to engage with them and learn of their experiences and stories. Mark Slater, a long-time Kiwanian and past president of the Dearborn Heights club, said that for some of the students, they might never have even been face to face with a veteran ever.

While Tanner was the featured speaker, the true stars and honorees of the night were all of the veterans in attendance. All Dearborn Heights veterans in attendance enjoyed a free meal. Additionally, a 50/50 raffle collected donations to Rose Slowak on behalf of the John D. Dingell VA Medical Center in Detroit.

Tanner repeatedly thanked the Kiwanis Club for the opportunity to present to the sold-out crowd and his fellow veterans who so bravely sacrifice to serve our country. It was an evening of thanks—thanks to be able to come together and enjoy a warm meal, thanks to the Kiwanis Club for putting on such a well-attended and appreciated event, and the ultimate thank you to our veterans for whom this dinner is dedicated to year after year.

Gabriella Ring is a recent grad of the University of Michigan and currently lives in Ann Arbor.
Throughout the years I have been in Kiwanis, I’ve heard many people say things like, “Why don’t more people know what Kiwanis is?” “How come they don’t know all the good things we do?” “Why don’t we have billboards and ads like Rotary?”

And, you know, they are right. Many people may have heard the word Kiwanis but don’t know what it means or what we do. To address that, effective today a marketing plan for the Michigan District will be put in place. Some of the elements of that marketing plan include:

1. Members wearing their Kiwanis name badge to meetings
2. Kiwanis banners visible at all club meetings regardless of the location
3. Members wearing something that shows Kiwanis no matter where they go. It can be a pin, button, logo shirt, sweater, tie, jacket, other articles of clothing or something on their car.
4. When asked what they do, members say they belong to Kiwanis in addition to where they work or hobbies, etc.
5. Members look for opportunities to speak to groups, businesses or other organizations about Kiwanis
6. Active discussion, excitement and sharing with everyone about all the great service projects your club is doing
7. Clubs take advantage of sending out Press Releases as described on page 33 of the new purple District Directory

The personal ask and relationship is still the number one way members are added to Kiwanis. It’s local, it’s personal and you don’t have to wait for someone else to do something in order to let your community know who Kiwanis is.

The Formula is a member-led, multi-year initiative that focuses on Kiwanis members, investing in the Kiwanis experience and ultimately strengthening membership. It’s an opportunity for Kiwanians like you to shape the future of their clubs and the service that impacts their communities.

The Formula is based on a simple premise: When you love something, you want to share it. When something really matters, you want other people to love it with you. You want it to be more than something you “do” you want it to be part of your life.

If you would like to part of this very exciting team, here is some information on what is involved in the various aspects of the Formula.

CLUB OPENER

As a club opener, you’ll be at the forefront of renewing our culture inspiring and embracing the effort to share what we love about Kiwanis. You lead the process of opening new clubs in your division. Working with the club counselors and lieutenant governor in your division, you’ll identify potential sites, develop strategies and create a timetable for opening new clubs.

CLUB COUNSELOR

Club counselors are mentors, coaches, visionaries. They’re advisors, but they’re also listeners. Instead of bringing a cookie-cutter approach, your club’s counselor:

- Takes time to learn your club’s specific goals and concerns
- Provides guidance
- Links you to resources
- Supports your work as you plan and strategize

“Strengthening existing clubs by focusing on all of the reasons we love our club. And service, is the most important manner of strengthening Kiwanis.”

For more information or to be part of the team, contact Larry Memmer at theformula@mikiwanis.org or 517-376-6813.

CLUB OPENING EVENT- EAST

We just completed a very successful club opening event in Westland and Belleville. With team on the ground for 3 days, we were able to accomplish a foundation to form two new Kiwanis clubs. This was the first event, on the district level, of its kind done in Kiwanis. I want to thank all the Kiwanis that helped to make this possible. “Like” and “Share” the Facebook Pages for both new Kiwanis Clubs:

- Kiwanis Club of Westland Page
- Kiwanis Club of Belleville Page

Watch for two more events that will be done on the Westside on May 10-12, 2016 and North on July 26-28, 2016.

Mark your calendar and be part of this great experience of opening new clubs in Michigan.
It’s here – the start of the new Kiwanis year.

If your leadership wasn’t able to attend July’s Club Leadership Education (CLE) or attend the makeup sessions at convention, your club officers are still able to take their training sessions online. In addition to Club president and Club secretary there are additional resources available for Club treasurer, Club board member, Club committee chair, Club membership chair.

If you have any questions about trainings or education sessions you would like to see in the future, please contact: Chandra Howard, Education Chair – education@mikiwanis.org

Marketing & Public Relations FLE Training Recap

The Michigan District Marketing Committee recently wrapped up training at the Fall Leadership Education (FLE). Three workshops were offered to the attendees of the Marketing education track: Talk to the Press, Market Me, and Dot Com World.

The highlight of the education training track was clearly the Dot Com World workshop. Attendees were highly engaged in discussing how to utilize online resources such as having a club website and the various Social Media platforms available today to promote your club and events.

While this workshop took a broad look at many of the available platforms, The Michigan District of Kiwanis current goal is to get every club in the District to have its own Facebook Page by the end of the year. To help achieve this goal, the District Marketing Committee is willing to travel to your Division to provide a workshop specifically on Facebook.

If you are interested in having the District Marketing Committee provide this training in your Division, please reach out to your Lieutenant Governor. Your Lieutenant Governor will need to coordinate the location, date, and time, plus check in with the Marketing Committee Chair to secure a team member’s availability to provide the training.

District News

K Family Fun Night Planned for the District Convention

Gather up your team of three for “K Family Quizbusters” on Friday evening August 26, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Prepare by reading up on your Kiwanis district and international history! Two teams (of three members each) from K-kids, Builders Club, Key Club, Circle K, Aktion Clubs, and Kiwanis Clubs will compete on the Friday evening of the district convention at the Kellogg Center Hotel and Conference Center auditorium. Only two teams from each family group will compete, so get your request in to districtconvention@mikiwanis.org. Following at 8:00 p.m., The Patchords, a four part harmony and comedy group will perform. And it’s all free for Kiwanians, your family and friends.

This training will include (but is not limited to):
1. How to create a Facebook Page.
2. What information to include in the Page profile.
3. How to add additional Administrators and/or Editors to the Page.
4. What to post.
5. Best times to post.
Kiwanians listed below have made a contribution to the Program to wish you and your family happy holidays and to ensure a better holiday season for hospitalized children around our Michigan District.

Preston & Carol Abadie
J. Douglas Alexander
Kathy Alexander
Larry Alexander
Dick & Pat Allen
John Allen
Richard D. Aurand
Past Governor David & Fran Babbage
Gerald J. Baetz
Marjory Ann Ballheim
Tim Barry
Lt. Gov. Bonnie Bartlett
Gordon Beeman
Wally Bieber
Paul D. Blanks
John Bost
Claire Boucher
Tim Braun
Tim Bringard
Carl Brothers
George & Joan Brown
Randy & Marge Burritt
Michael & Linda Cahalan
Bill & Helen Chynoweth
Judy Cock
Bill & Debbie Consiglio
Dr. Peter Costantino
Al & Angie Cotto
Brian Crabtree
Rosana Crawford
Bryan L. Crenshaw
Doug & Luanne Dancer
Don Darling
Linton Davidson
George Detwiler
Burt Di Bartolomeo
Division 3 Kiwanis
Division 4 Kiwanis
Division 14 Key Club
Joyce Dixon
Jim Doman
David J. Drake
Dennis Dudley

Clarence Dukes
Barb & Bill Duran
Tom Duve
Lisa Earl
Paul & Louisa Elsey
Jovita R. Engalan
Mary Evans
William Fennel
Jan Ferencz
Tom Fioritti
Brenda Foltz
Linda & Larry French
Anita Frese
Jack & Pam Frucci
Danny Gallagher
Don Gavin
Anna Gubrosky
Dean M. Gettemy
Past Governor William & Regina Gohier
David B. Goodwin CPCU
Heather Grace
Robert H. Gray
Jan Green
Judy Greer
Donald Griffin
Lourdes R. Gungab
Betty Guy
Mike & Margie Gyolai
Past Governor Nels & Jan Haan
Ron & Beth Hagen
Phil & Jennie Haigh
B.J. & Esther Harmon
Jeanette Harris
Karl-Rainer Herrmann
Jim & Charlotte Heymes
Lisa Hicks-Clayton
Henry & Rita Hill
Dick & Mary Hitch
Austin & JoAnne Hoffman
Duane Holroyd
Adam & Chandra Howard
Ken Howe
Nancy Hoxie - Past First Lady
Al & Dee Hudson
Barb & Jerry Humitz
In Memory of Governor Skip & Erma Clack
In Memory of Governor Jim & Pat Dye
In Memory of Past Int’l. President Robert F. Weber
Geoff Jamieson
Past Lt. Gov. Tom Jankowski
Gene Jenkins
Jerry & Mary Jennings
Doug & Lynn Jerry
Bob & Linda Johnson
Carla Johnston
Kay & Jim Jorgensen
Michael Kane - President
Tim Kellner
Sarah Kew
Brian & Margaret Kidston
Don Killion
Charles B. & Nadine O. Kincaid
Kiwanis Club of Bronson
Kiwanis Club of Brooklyn
Kiwanis Club of Caledonia
Kiwanis Club of Clare
Kiwanis Club of Clinton Township
Kiwanis Club of Clinton Twp. Club Satellite
Kiwanis Club of Davison
Kiwanis Club of Dearborn
Kiwanis Club of Howell
Kiwanis Club of Jackson
Kiwanis Club of Mendon
Kiwanis Club of Metro Detroit Young Professionals
Kiwanis Club of Owosso
Kiwanis Club of Shorewood, St. Clair Shores
Kiwanis Club of Trenton
Kiwanis Club of Warren
Kiwanis Club of Woodhaven
Past Governor Roy & Jeannine Klay
John Knapp
Art & Clare Koester
Pat Korloch & Ron Mercer
Kathleen Kosole
Jack Kramer
Loretta Kramer
Anne Kruger
Terry & Juanita Kubasiak
Doug & Carie Kuras
David & Beth LaBelle
Felice A. Lalli
Stephen Lambert
Carl E. Lamphere
Jeffrey & Linda Lawther
John & Connie LeClair
Karen Lemerand
Arthur Lopes
Don & Bee Lutz
Circle K Governor Steven McCarty &
the first mom Rebecca
Elizabeth McCastle
Shirley McLenahen
McConnell Farm Supply
J.R. McGraw
Barb McCoy
Peter & Heidi McInnes
Karen McKenzie
Hugh & Peggy McNichol
Joseph Medrano & Carol Presley
Walter Meiers
Larry & Nancy Memmer
Michigan District of Circle K
Kyle Middleton
Don & Ruth Milbourne
Robert E. Mills, Jr.
Ann Moody
George & Donna Morehead
April Muzik
Elliott Myers
Jennifer Nash
The Neighbors Family
Stan & Geri Nelson
Thomas Neubecker
Sandra Noble
Marin O’Higgins - President
Deborah O’Leary
Mark & Janet Ott
Gene R. Overholt, Past Int’l. President
Gerard Page
Linda Paige
Roger & Lydia Palaganas
Dr. Carl and Laurie Papa
John G. Pappas
Past Governor Liz & the Dude
Past Governor Rebekah & Andy
Beth Pelkey
Darrel & Joan Penix
Matt Peterson
International President Sue Petrisin
O.L. Pfaffmann
Richard Potter
Jo Anne Prietor
Ellen Pugh
Michael Pugh
Mark Rabaut, President KIF
PLG Dick and Jan Raison
Jack Ready
Sally Reynolds
Jim & Rosemary Robbins
Rosemary Robinson
Ricky Rockwell
Rocky Roland
Dennis R. Romanowski
Ron Rozema
Phil & Donna Rutledge
Russ & Michelle Ryhuard
Gordon & Margie Schleicher
Al & Dorothy Schulz
Joyce & Jerry Schuur
Donna Segerlind
John Seibt
Maurine Sharp
Julia Sheppard
Denny Shumway
Elaine Shumway
Wally Skinner
Greg Smith
Pat Somerville
Sandra (Sandi) Stevens
Alexis Stillwell, Key Club LTG Chair
Austin Stillwell
Lori & Rowdy Stillwell
Clif & Cathy Stone
Bill & Gloria Summers
Gary & Beverly Surratt
Andy & Darlene Swift
Jane Talcott
Tom Talluto
Jeff & Brenda Theobald
Bill M. Thomen
Rob & Lauren Toth
University of Michigan Circle K
Bill & Joan Van Arsdalen
Mary VonDaggenhausen
Werner VonDaggenhausen
Terry & Nancy Wain
Charlie Walker
Cheryl Warren
Jan & Jerry Warstler
Dave Weber
Joyce & Judge Michael A. Weipert
Vince Weiss
Jerry White
Janice & Mark Wilber
Julanne Williams
Arlene Wolf
William B. Wright
Engage your Service Leadership Programs as part of the Michigan Kiwanis Family

“Thank you for supporting your district Service Leadership Programs by your club gift of $3 or $5 a member which helps cover our travel and other expenses. And do invite us to be a program for your club meeting. We love to share how K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, Circle K, Aktion Club, and Key Leader are providing service to local communities and building leadership skills.”

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: loril547@yahoo.com

Aktion Club Administrator:
J. Gordon Schleicher (Margie),
1586 Hagadorn Rd. Mason, 48854-9317
Club: South Lansing Phone: (517) 833-4988
Email: aktionadministrator@mikeyclub.org

Builders Club Administrator:
Lucinda "Cindy" Kenney (Darrell),
P.O. Box 445 Manchester, 48158-0445
Club: Manchester Cell: (734) 417-3653,
Email: buildersclubadministrator@mikiwanis.org

Kiwanis Kids Administrator:
Sheataura Clayborne (Jonathan),
1330 Nash Ave. Ypsilanti, 48198-6209
Club: Ypsilanti Phone: (734) 796-0212
Email: kiwaniskidsadministrator@mikiwanis.org

Key Leader Chair
Marian O'Higgins,
8307 Clay Ct. Sterling Hts., 48313-4605
Club: Detroit No. 1 Cell: (586) 801-6576
Email: keyleader@mikiwanis.org

Michigan District of Key Club International, Inc. Seeks Grant Writer

In 2013, the Michigan District of Key Club International applied for and was granted 501(c)(3) non-profit status by the federal government. With this status, we are eligible to apply for grants and accept donations, providing a tax benefit to those who donate.

We would like to maximize our efforts to seek donations, leverage our non-profit status and to apply for and receive grants to help offset the costs our members have to pay to attend events sponsored by our district and Key Club International. We are looking for a member of the Michigan District of Kiwanis family who can help us seek out and write/apply for grants that may help us in our goals of offsetting costs for our members.

If you have experience in writing grants and are willing to help in our efforts, please contact Bryan L. Crenshaw, District Administrator, Michigan District of Key Club International at administrator@mikeyclub.org or 517-256-6573.

Youth Protection Guidelines-Seeking Surrogate Trainers

The Kiwanis International Board of Directors in January 2007 developed a set of Youth Protection Guidelines for all Kiwanis Advisors to Kiwanis Service Leadership Programs (K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, Circle K and Aktion Club. The guidelines protect both our youth and adult members and outline expectations for adults working with people under age 18.

Since then, updates have been made to ensure Kiwanians adhere to the best practices when working with youth. The most recent changes were implemented in October 2014.

Each Kiwanis District has a Youth Protection Manager to work and train Kiwanis Clubs and Kiwanis Advisors. Training and education is required to be conducted annually for all Kiwanis Clubs and Kiwanis Advisors. As Youth Protection Manager for the Michigan District, I am seeking a divisional surrogate trainer for each division to help in the compliance of training and education. Thank you to divisions 5, 14, and 17 who have identified their surrogate trainers to help ensure we are training our Kiwanis Clubs and Kiwanis Advisors. If you are interested in being a surrogate trainer for your division, please contact your Lt. Governor, or contact me, Bryan L. Crenshaw, Youth Protection Manager at youthprotection@mikiwanis.org or 517-256-6573.

Detroit Helping-Out Aktion Club

The Detroit helping-Out Aktion Club are superstars. One of the highlights of the Michigan District convention was a dance number performed by the Detroit Helping-Out Aktion Club. The dance number choreographed by Detroit #1 member, Chris King, was imaginative and displayed the unique abilities of club members. Aktion clubs have varied organizational structures. The members of the Detroit Helping-Out Aktion Club are composed of people who attend the Adult Day Program operated by Cass community Social Services. The club, the only Aktion Club, in the City of Detroit, always has a waiting list for membership. The Club Advisor is Mrs. Patricia DeCarlo. Next Community activity: Christmas caroling to assisted living patients.

Hello Kiwanis, greetings from Key Club.

Here is what has been going on the past couple months. We just had our Fall Rally which was a success. It was at Plymouth High School and well attended with 400 plus members. The SLC theme was revealed which will be a Hollywood theme, “Stars of Service”. Now that Fall Rally is over and was a success, we are moving on to planning for the Service Leadership Conference (SLC). If you don’t know, this event (formerly known as DCON) is a weekend long convention in which all of the Michigan District of Key Club comes together. This year it is in Acme from March 11-13. As Kiwanians, if you are sponsoring clubs, make sure to get them to attend as well as yourselves, but if you are not sponsoring a club we would love to have you as a guest. Also ads are for sale in the SLC booklet, just let any Key Club District Board Member or Key Club administrator (Bryan Crenshaw) know you would like to purchase one.
On October 1st, 2015, the very first Young Professional (YP) Kiwanis Club in Michigan celebrated their Charter Night. The Metro Detroit YP Kiwanis officially chartered with 19 members eager to make a commitment to serving the community. Joined by many local Kiwanians including sponsoring clubs Livonia Early Risers and Detroit #1, district leadership including Governor Linda Lawther, family and close friends, members celebrated this momentous occasion with great excitement for what the club can do for the community and for the growth of Kiwanis.

As a YP club, this group serves all the same great missions of Kiwanis, but with a different style. The club has been very active in the community with hands on projects ranging from volunteering for the Rainbow Connection to helping a Halloween Party for the Troy Boys and Girls Club. The club also formed a partnership with the Central Woodward Jaycees where they hosted a canned food drive for the South Oakland Shelter. The club set a goal to complete at least two service projects per month and since chartered has had 2 - 3 scheduled per month.

The club also emphasizes socials for their members. Building friendships is one of the best things about Kiwanis and club socials are a great way to do so. The club commits to at least 1 social per month. Club socials range from visiting a local cider mill to ice skating at the holidays. Club socials are proving to be a great way for potential members to learn about the club.

The club is very eager to grow. The club has been actively posting flyers around the Metro Detroit area in local coffee shops, ice cream parlors, restaurants, etc. The club has built a user friendly website that not only allows people to learn about the club, but gives members and prospective members the opportunity to sign up for service projects, socials and interclubs directly on the website. Making projects available for online sign up has allowed prospective members to find a variety of ways to check out the club and get to know more of the members. The club is also very active in social media. The club actively uses its Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Snapchat and Meet Up accounts to share upcoming events, post photos from projects, connect with other young people in the area and share Kiwanis news.

To see more about the club please visit their website at: www.metrodetroitypkiwanis.org.

You can also find them on the following social media sites:
- Snapchat – MDYPKiwanis
- Instagram – metrodetroitypkiwanis
- Facebook – Metro Detroit YP Kiwanis
- Linkedin – Metro Detroit Young Professionals Kiwanis
- Meet Up – Metro Detroit Young Professionals Kiwanis
Kiwanis Club of Dearborn Heights

November is Kiwanis Family Month. A family that serves together, stays together! The Kiwanis Club of Dearborn Heights, along with the sponsored Hillcrest Kiwanis K-Kids and sponsored Annapolis Key Club, participated in the Dearborn Heights Make A Senior Smile Day on Saturday, November 7, 2015. The event, in its 7th year, is sponsored by Wayne County Commissioner Diane Webb. Volunteers rake leaves for senior citizens and disabled residents of Dearborn Heights.


Kiwanis Club of South Haven

Flipping flap jacks for a good cause has helped a South Haven organization purchase a new scoreboard for Baseline Middle School’s outdoor athletic events.

The South Haven Kiwanis Club donated the $4,500 scoreboard to the school this summer, and it never would have happened if it weren’t for the organization’s annual pancake breakfast fundraisers.

“We have pancake breakfasts during Harborfest and the National Blueberry Festival,” said Jeffrey Dick, president of the Kiwanis Club.

The club earns more than $10,000 from those breakfasts, which have become the group’s leading fundraiser. The idea to purchase a scoreboard for the middle school came about when South Haven High School varsity coach Troy Ayotte spoke to the Kiwanis Club last year.

“He said the varsity team had a nice scoreboard, but not the middle school,” Dick recalled.

Baseline Middle School’s scoreboard hadn’t been replaced since the school was built in 1992.

“The one they were using was actually a used scoreboard,” Dick said. “If you want to keep youngsters involved in sports they want a nice play to play.”

Undefeated – 2015 Fellowship of Christian Athletes Sports Camp

Rock Campbell, Central Michigan FCA Director

The FCA Sports Camp at Albion College was privileged to host 256 campers and coaches in 2015, making it the largest Michigan FCA camp since 1973. The theme for the camp, Undefeated, is taken from I Corinthians 15:57, “but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Sports offered included football, basketball, soccer, cross country and wrestling for junior and senior high school athletes. High school, college and professional coaches taught fundamentals of the sport in order to challenge athletes in their sport, while team chaplain, Jeff Henderson, challenged all spiritually. Many thanks to the 32 Kiwanis clubs who sponsored young men and women to the camp. We couldn’t do it without you!
October began another year helping to meet the needs of hospitalized children in the Michigan District. It is a big job, and with your help, your Michigan Foundation is up to the challenge. Our 90+ year history, has demonstrated how big the hearts of Michigan District Kiwanians really are.

My first surprise of the year came at our October Board Meeting. With two years of cuts in our funding to the Hospital projects and an increase in dues, I expected to be impeached. I was very surprised, past and current Trustees honored me with a Frank Stagier Distinguished Kiwanian Award. For those of you, unfamiliar with the Distinguished Kiwanian Award, $1,000 is donated to the endowment of our Foundation, and each year the interest is used to fund our Hospital Projects forever. It is truly an honor!

Last fall, I received two small grants, to support our Distinguished Kiwanian Award. We are able to offer the first ten Distinguished Kiwanian Awards of 2015-16 for only $900 plus $100 from this grant. Now is the time to honor a deserving Kiwanian in your Club or Division. I know there are many deserving Kiwanians out there. Your Kiwanis holiday celebration may be an ideal time to honor an outstanding Kiwanian in your Club.

A few weeks later, I had the privilege of visiting the Kiwanis Club of Holt. I had the unique opportunity to meet and shake the hands of two truly distinguished Kiwanian. I had the extreme pleasure to meet BK Gopal & Priscilla J. Krohnke. Feeling blessed with the bounty of this world, they have planned their estate, to support our Kiwanis Foundation, by their physical blessing they won’t need in the next world. What an excellent gift to support the youngsters served by our Foundation!

Unfortunately, the bad news came as I viewed the final 2014-15 final Michigan District membership numbers. We built our 2015-16 Kiwanis of Michigan budget on 4,600 members in the Michigan District. We finished last year with only 4,448. That is a loss of 152 members (from our projected budget) or 152 members x $45ºº = $6,840ºº. Your Foundation Trustees will be knocking on your door a little louder this year. Failure to meet our commitment to the four hospital projects is not an option for your Trustees. More importantly, we all need to support Larry Memmer and the Formula Team. We all joined Kiwanis because Kiwanis values were important to us. Each of us should be actively recruiting new members to join the organization we believe in.

In this issue, you will see the many Kiwanians, who choose to support your Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation and the children we serve, by purchasing a Thomas Oliver Holiday Greeting. THANK YOU to everyone who made supporting hospitalized children part of their Holiday tradition. Childhood illness and trauma do not take the Holiday Season off. If your name is not on the list, I hope you will join Kiwanians from around the Michigan District, as well as, Louisa and I as part of the Thomas Oliver Holiday Greetings program next year.

Concordia University Circle K is the newest member of our Kiwanis family in Division 10. Their sponsoring Kiwanis club, Ann Arbor Morning Edition, held an Induction Ceremony for them on October 14, 2015, at the Earhart Manor on Concordia’s campus. Julanne Williams, Lieutenant Governor of Division 10, inducted the new members, and Deb Trapp, president of Morning Edition, installed their new president, Stephanie Johnston. In addition to the sponsoring club, the event was attended by members of both U of M and Eastern Michigan’s Circle K Clubs.
How blessed we are to have the district’s board of Lt. Governors pass a resolution to pledge their fair share for the Eliminate program. With a goal of $2.6 million and the last giving report showing pledges and donations of $1.2 million, we in the district now have the district’s full support.

We are continuing business as usual in addition to the district’s pledge as in the past weeks I have talked and e-mailed district leaders, coordinators and volunteers a list of approximately 50 clubs who qualify for a Global Service Society pledge. Even though model clubs are still at the top of the list, there are many clubs who qualify for a bronze, silver and up. The goal for the district is to have 28 model clubs. There are only 16 at present, but the list is showing that 12 additional clubs now qualify for this status. With five additional years or the year 2020 for completion of their pledge it is an incentive for clubs to come on board. If a club is unable to pledge a silver, maybe a bronze would be a fairer commitment, but the goal is to ASK and get a club to commit.

Individuals are not left out of the game either as they too can make a commitment with a lead or major gift.

This will be my last article for the Builder regarding the Eliminate project as my time ends as your District Coordinator December 31, 2015. Working with the Multi, Division and Club Coordinators plus the leaders of our district has made this position most rewarding and enjoyable with its many challenges too.

Thank you all for your passion and dedicated service in saving lives through this world wide project. I want especially to thank Jeanette Harris, Dave Garland and Joe Scheuring as Multi Division Coordinators for their leadership role. Also, thank you to the speaker’s bureau role for their driving force. They are Kiwanians Joan VanArsdalen, Liz Peters, Jeanette Harris, Bob Nelson and our International President Sue Petrisin. They too have given their full support and dedication to this project. The list is endless for all those who worked and showed their passion in making our district proud. We will reach our goal by 2020. Thank you all.

Richard A. Butterly
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CALEDONIA, DIV. 14  
Real Arriero, 9740 Cherry Valley Ave., 1st
Thurs., 5:30 PM; remaining Thurs., Noon

WEST BRANCH, DIV. 20  
China Inn, 601 W. Houghton Ave., Tues.,
Noon

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Phil Krauss, P.O. Box 74, Brooklyn, MI 49230-8335
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Woodhaven Kiwanis Club

Our nineteenth annual food drive came to a culmination on Saturday, October 10th with the distribution of canned and packaged food to eight area Food Pantries. A group of thirty-five “friends of Ryan Sergent” used the Kiwanis buses to make their deliveries. Food was delivered to Our Lady of the Woods (Woodhaven), Faith Lutheran Church (Brownstown), Community Lutheran Church (Flat Rock), St. Mary’s (Rockwood), Gibraltar Food Pantry (Gibraltar), Downriver Food Pantry (Wyandotte), the Downriver Salvation Army (Wyandotte) and Core Neighborhood City in Detroit.

This was a joint project of the Woodhaven-Brownstown School District, Ryan’s Friends, Porter-Clark Chiropractic and the Woodhaven Kiwanis Club. Ryan’s mother, Evelyn Kosowski, thanked everyone for keeping Ryan’s memory alive!