How are Kiwanis clubs like snowflakes? Scientists tell us there are no two snowflakes alike. Each snowflake is made up of the same elements but are different sizes and shapes. Working together, snowflakes attach to trees, fences etc. to add beauty to the community.

In the winter, kids get some benefits from the snow – a fun time to play outside.

In the past three months, I have visited about 26 clubs, some for a regular meeting and some for special celebrations. In these visits I have learned the following about our clubs:

• Every club is a different size and is made up of the same elements.
• Each club has identified needs in their community and has meaningful service projects.
• Clubs recognize the value of supporting one or more SLP’s – K-kids, Builders Club, Key Club, Circle K, and Aktion Club.
• The size of a club does not make a difference in what a club can accomplish. Naturally a larger club has more hands to do service, but I have seen small clubs do some amazing service projects.
• Kiwanis clubs have fun meetings! I have been entertained by seeing members interact during meetings. I have enjoyed great speakers, singing together, and playing games- like trivia.
• Some of the Kiwanis clubs partner with other service organizations in their communities, to meet the needs of the kids and their families.

So, like snowflakes, our clubs are all made up of the same elements. No two clubs are alike. With Members working together, each of the clubs add beauty to their community. Last, and most important, Kids benefit from Kiwanis!

An area of concern that I hear from clubs is the need to keep their current members and add more to the roster. Increasing membership for the district will always be a challenge.

By the time you read this Builder, we will have completed the opening of two new clubs in Eaton Rapids and Grand Ledge. We were honored to have three Club Opening Specialists, from Kiwanis International, here to help open these clubs in January. The other good news is the Kiwanis International has chosen Michigan to have the next Mega Blitz, May 5th – May 8th.

We will have upwards of 35 club openers from around North American here to help with opening five new clubs. Locations have not been determined, so let me know if you have a community that we should be choosing for a new club! Although we have openers coming to Michigan, we need as much help as we can get from our district. Mark your calendar to help with this blitz. More information will soon follow. One advantage of working on a blitz is learning how to invite members to join a club.

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

Larry Memmer | 2018-19 Governor | Michigan District
Governor@mikiwanis.org
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.

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**Builder Publication Schedule**

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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.
The mind is powerful and the prognosis you have of yourself and your club is extremely important. If you wholeheartedly believe you can’t grow, chances are you will not. Stop lying to yourself and allow your club to grow!

So, what is the biggest lie that you’ve been telling yourself or that you’ve heard others say as to why they are not growing? Do you have other lies not on the list that you think are rail-roading growth? What topic would you like me to write about in the next Builder? Email me at SarahKew@Ymail.com I would genuinely love to hear what you’re thinking.

10 LIES YOU TELL YOURSELF, that are preventing your club from growing

WE HAVE TRIED EVERYTHING
You haven’t. I can guarantee you that you have not tried everything. There are so many tips, tricks and tools available from your Lt. Governor, MI District Leadership and Kiwanis International. There are over 4,200 Kiwanians just in the Michigan District that you could brainstorm with. Lastly, make sure that the product you are selling (aka your club) is a product that your prospects want. I recommend reading Executive Director, Greg Smith’s Builder article about Mystery Shoppers, this can be a game changer for clubs.

IT’S IMPOSSIBLE
Stop telling yourself and your club members that you can’t do it or that it’s impossible. You reap what you sow, and if you keep doing what you are doing, you will keep getting what you are getting. Why are you saying ‘no’ to yourself before anybody else is? These things matter. It matters that you want more than what the rest of the world is settling for and where there is a will, there is a way.

FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION
Thomas A. Edison once said “I have not failed. I have just found 10,000 ways that won’t work.” The only failure that exists is that which you do not learn from. And even if you do fail, stop belittling your efforts. When you qualify anything you do as a “failure,” or “not good enough” you are keeping yourself from gaining experience before even starting to grow.

I’M AT A DISADVANTAGE
You don’t have to be the top Kiwanis recruiter. You do not have to know the most about Kiwanis. Think of all the inspirational people out there who’ve done impossible things: Beethoven was deaf, Joan of Arc was an illiterate peasant, Oprah Winfrey was raised by a single mother who worked as a maid. Normal people achieve the impossible every day, so what are you waiting for?

I JUST DON’T HAVE THE TIME
Out of all the lies, this is probably one of the biggest. It is true people have obligations. But think about this, if you don’t grow Kiwanis starting with your own club, who will be there to continue your club’s legacy? Who will serve the children in your town? Prioritize, reorganize and learn to use your free time wisely. If you don’t have the time, it’s because you haven’t made growth a priority.

I’LL GET IT TO LATER
No, you won’t. If you don’t do it today, chances are you will not do it tomorrow. The more you put something off, the easier it will be to procrastinate. Avoid this, and don’t leave for tomorrow what you know you can do today.

THAT PERSON JUST GOT LUCKY
It is true that success comes with a small amount of luck. However, before getting lucky, you must work hard. Sitting there and waiting to grow doesn’t happen out of a strike of luck. Anyone who is successful failed, tried again, kept trying and didn’t give up until they found the right answer, idea, or method that worked. Think of it as buying lottery tickets: the more tickets you buy, the more likely you are to win. But how are you supposed to win if you don’t play?

IT’S NOT WORTH THE EFFORT
Yes, it is. You are far more likely to regret what you didn’t do than what you tried and were not successful at. It’s better to go through life thinking “wow I actually did that” than “wow, I wish I’d done that when I had the chance”. Even if you fail, it’s a learning opportunity.

I’M TOO OLD
You still have a working mind and you still have time. Until you’re in the ground you still have time to be successful. I’ve worked with many Kiwanians over the years that have come from all social classes, all ages, and all financial circumstances. You’re never too old to learn. You’re never too old to try. Don’t give up on Kiwanis and the work we do. My biggest role model in Kiwanis is retired, very active with his church, and has a beautiful family. He is the prime example of not allowing age to become an excuse for accomplishing goals.

IT’S TOO HARD TO GET STARTED
It can be tough to get started. It’s down to you, yes YOU, to show some initiative, though. You don’t have to be an officer of your club or in a leadership role at all. All you must have is a desire to share the love you have for Kiwanis and the work we do. We have a support team here in the Michigan District that is willing to work with you and your club to develop a plan for growth. A famous Dutch saying is that the hardest part of starting any journey is taking your first steps out of your front door. I couldn’t agree with that statement more. Once you get started you’ll wonder what all the fuss was about.
Attracting & Retaining Members

Over the past two years, thirteen new Kiwanis clubs have been opened in the Michigan District. This is a great accomplishment and should be celebrated because we are creating awareness of Kiwanis in new areas which will help all of us.

In the meantime, we are always looking for ways to strengthen existing clubs by adding new members, finding ways to make a greater impact in the community and creating partnerships. While a membership blitz with a team of people helping your club is one way to add members, most times a self-help effort will be the most effective and long-lasting.

So over the next several issues of the Builder, I will present some ideas for your club to try. These are ones I have seen work in clubs in Michigan and other Districts. Look these over, consider them, try them, have fun with them.

The first idea is the concept of a “Mystery Shopper”.

Those of you with a retail background may be familiar with the concept of a “Mystery Shopper”. Basically, it is someone who stops in the store unannounced and unknown. He/she then evaluates how he/she is treated and the whole shopping experience. He/she reports back to the manager of the store with the results so improvements can be made and/or praise given to those who deserve it. An offshoot of this concept is the TV show “Undercover Boss”.

So why not consider implementing your own “Kiwanis Mystery Shopper” program.

There are ongoing networking and partnership efforts to help create greater community awareness of Kiwanis throughout the state.

All of these efforts are part of a marketing campaign to get the story out about Kiwanis, generate excitement and drive people to check out their local club and join.

So we can have all kinds of programs, spend all kinds of money and take all kinds of time to get people interested in attending their local Kiwanis club meeting. The question is “What are they going to see when they get there?” The marketing campaign may be wonderful, but if the product is not attractive, results will be disappointing.

This is where the “Mystery Shopper” comes in. We may all think we have good or great clubs, but how do we appear to new people attending the meeting?

We all talk about adding members and getting the message about Kiwanis out to the general world. This program and the marketing campaigns are some good first steps to make this happen. Who knows, your “Mystery Shopper” may become a member of your club!

Greg Smith | Executive Director | Michigan District
executivedirector@mikiwanis.org
The first three of many ideas are:

1. To start up the shoe project again. Jeff Lawther is heading this up. His contact number is cell # 734-320-5812. He is available to help you out. Remember every 25 pairs of old shoes gets us $10. If we contact our community and schools this should be an easy way of getting funds. 100 bags of 25 pairs of shoes each will raise $1,000 towards the Eliminate Project. You just need to MAKE AN EFFORT and ASK for shoes.

2. Establishing a parent night out. Where you charge a fee and entertain the children while parents have a night out. Encourage your Key Club and members to develop this event. You can conduct this event at a community center or ask for a room in your local schools.

3. Honor your members by donating a Zeller or on a smaller scale make a certificate and donate funds to the Eliminate project honoring your member. Remember to always state on the check that the funds are to go to ELIMINATE. And please send me a communication on how much and when you donated the funds so I can check that Michigan is credited with your donation.

Fran Babbage District Advocate for the Eliminate Project
franbabbage@yahoo.com | text 313-408-3909 | home 313-386-3909
Well, now that we are firmly into another Michigan Winter and fresh off of a Christmas Season of much joy and gratitude I wanted to focus my first column as your Michigan Foundation President on two items. First, a patient story from C.S. Mott’s Children’s Hospital that truly reflects how The Child & Family Life Programs at the hospitals we Kiwanians support can work miracles. And next, how our Michigan Kiwanians through The Thomas Oliver Holiday Greetings Program shown a heart of gold this past Holiday Season in how they stepped up to support the non-reimbursable activities of The Child & Family Life Programs at the four children’s hospitals we support.

So first the story of Gerald, a patient at C.S. Mott’s Children’s Hospital who was diagnosed with leukemia and having a very rough time in adapting to the hospital setting and his new diagnosis (see photo of Gerald and C.S. Mott’s music therapist Susan Smiddy). He didn’t trust anyone nor want to engage with any other children. But Gerald loved country music, especially the song “Devil Went Down To Georgia” and when introduced to the violin by music therapist Susan Smiddy Gerald’s affect went from completely flat to smiling and laughing as he shared his excitement with his parents as well as anyone else around him. Actually, he never would have thought that his dream of being able to play the violin would have come true while being confined in the hospital. So with music therapy Gerald was able to engage in a therapeutic experience that truly changed his perception of the hospital experience, brought him joy and fulfilled one of the dreams of his short lived life.

And with Gerald’s story firmly in mind, we are proud to share with all of our Michigan Kiwanians that The Michigan District raised over $11,550 for hospitalized children through our Thomas Oliver Holiday Greetings Program this past Holiday Season. Moreover, our Foundation Program Leader Paul Elsey shares that these contributors came in all shapes and sizes. Small Clubs like The Southgate Club (only 6 members) contributed $215.00. Big Clubs such as The Woodhaven Club (home of our Immediate Past Foundation President Paul Elsey) had 63% of its members make a contribution, with Club Members between the ages of 20 and 83 contributing. In the end then, working together we have big clubs, small clubs, older Kiwanians and younger Kiwanians all coming together to significantly enhance the lives of hospitalized children.

To each and every Kiwanian who have contributed to hospitalized children through making our Thomas Oliver Holiday Greetings Program a part of their holiday tradition our Foundation Trustees as well as our program leader (Immediate Past President Paul Elsey) Gerald was a patient diagnosed with Leukemia at C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital who was initially having a really rough time being in the hospital setting and adapting to his new diagnosis. He did not trust anyone and did not want to engage with other children. Gerald loved country music, especially the song “Devil Went Down to Georgia”. When introduced to the violin by Susan Smiddy, music therapist, Gerald’s affect went from being completely flat to smiling and laughing as he shared his excitement with his parents. He never would have thought that his dream to be able to play the violin would happen while in the hospital. In music therapy, Gerald was able engage in a therapeutic experience that changed his perception of the hospital experience, brought him joy, and fulfilled one of his dreams in his short lived life.

SINCERELY, THANK YOU!

Lindsay K. Heering, MS, CCLS
Administrative Director | Child & Family Life Department
Michigan Medicine | C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital
Another year is behind us, and we have already started a new year. Some of us are focused on those resolutions we made, and others are focused on goals to meet, and obligations to fulfill. No matter what you’re focused on, we should all remember that each year offers us opportunities to provide services to those in need.

As Kiwanis family members, we truly understand the difference that one person can make. If we multiply that by all the Kiwanis family members throughout the world, I cannot begin to fathom the positive changes that we create through our service.

This is my first year as the Lieutenant Governor for the Fantastic 5th Division. I am going to focus on bringing about change for the Michigan District of Kiwanis. I’m not talking about being a rebel or renegade. I want to focus on changes that yield positive results, better partnerships within our communities, and more important than that, change that invigorates Kiwanis.

The first change we’re excited about making is to combine some of our social media groups and pages. As many of you already know, the Michigan Kiwanis Family Facebook Group was deactivated on January 2nd, 2019. Why? We need to ensure that we present a common, unified marketing and PR social media presence for the Michigan District of Kiwanis. We accomplish more working together than we do working in fractured groups. Our social media presence is the natural starting place to do that. This decision was made by the Executive Committee and our Marketing/PR Chair.

Each club and division is still encouraged to have their own Facebook page or group, as are the various Kiwanis family groups like Circle K, Key Club, and Aktion Clubs. The intention is to keep all Michigan District of Kiwanis social media combined into one page so that we can promote a unified voice.

Another awesome change is that Robert Ptaszynski, from the Greater Gibraltar Kiwanis Club, is now the Lieutenant Governor-Elect for the Fantastic 5th Division. He will be the Lieutenant Governor, beginning in October 2021. Congratulations, Robert! I truly believe you have the heart and mind of a leader that will make a lasting difference.

Other changes that you all can help make happen. Make sure you attend the Spring Division Council meeting near you. These are not the same as they have been in the past. They will have a focus on social time, and opportunities for service towards others, as well as working with our other Kiwanis family members like Key Club and Circle K members.

Do you love Kiwanis trivia, and know a lot about the history of Kiwanis? If you do, I want to hear from you. You can contact me directly, email and phone are listed below.

International Convention is coming up June 27th – 30th. I hope you plan on attending. It’s an amazing opportunity to combine a family vacation and Kiwanis to create a truly magical experience.

Lastly, I know that many Kiwanis clubs are looking for help in a specific area, whether it’s membership growth, retention, fundraising, or other area. There are members in the district that can and will help you. You can reach out to us for more help.

I wish you all a very healthy, happy, blessed, and prosperous new year.

Yours in service,

Preston Abadie  |  plabadie@comcast.net  |  734-752-1015
The last few months have been a busy time for the clubs in Division 7. All of our clubs have some wonderful unique holiday projects that they do to support their communities. Many of our clubs support the Salvation Army by Bell Ringing. Throughout the month of December, there is pretty much always a club from our division on duty for a weekend somewhere. Pontiac, Royal Oak, Troy, the list goes on. Many of our clubs have unique traditions as well. One of our newest clubs, Clarkston-Waterford hosts an annual happy hour toy drive. Not only do they get hundreds of toys donated for children in need, they also use this opportunity to celebrate the season with their members and invite others to join their club. The Birmingham-Bloomfield Club stays busy serving at the Hope Warming Center, giving those in need in our community a good meal and a place to warm up from the cold. Metro North Troy and Metro Detroit Young Professionals each host their own holiday parties to celebrate the season with their members. These fun holiday traditions are beloved by members and really bring a sense of unity to the club. Throughout Rochester and Rochester Hills our clubs get toys donated and wrapped for children in need and host a wonderful pancake breakfast in conjunction with the local Christmas parade that welcomes Santa to town! All of our members truly know how best to celebrate the season!
Kalamazoo Sunrise Kiwanis Club

Kalamazoo Sunrise Kiwanis, as their name implies, meets at 7:30 every Friday morning in Kalamazoo. When I first started going to their meetings I imagined there might be just a few early rising souls at the meetings. I was (and still am) surprised at how many members make it to these early meetings. They are a very lively group and I think their meeting sets the tone for their Fridays. They often have an eye-opening speaker and all are pumped up and ready to serve their community by meetings end. Their signature project is their Hotcake Hustle. This is an annual event that takes place in the fall and draws a good number of participants. It consists of a five K run and a five K walk. They started this event four years ago and it has grown from only nine participants to close to 100 participants this past year. As the name implies; they incorporate exercise with a hotcake breakfast. The community looks forward to this event and has supported it over the years. They have raised close to $10,000 since its inception. With this money they are able to work with three school districts, providing dictionaries, backpacks, and sometimes clothing to those in need.

Kalamazoo Sunrise Kiwanis Club

The eight clubs in division 13 have been busy updating projects that were successful in the past year and creating projects we all hope will contribute to our communities for the current Kiwanis year and beyond. We all believe we cannot rest on the accomplishments and successes of the past, but must build on and improve them as well as come up with new thoughts and ideas to keep us viable into the future. I think that we, too often feel a successful project or idea is the final thought as to the way to raise funds or contribute to our communities, when, in fact, it can be the incubator to create new ideas and new ways of doing things. Like those before us; we may not come up with some world or life changing item or process (or maybe we will), but we are driven to improve something we already are doing or create something better or different than what we had before.

Benton Harbor/St. Joe Kiwanis

The Benton Harbor/St. Joseph Kiwanis club has been busy all year long. They presented several pancake breakfasts during the year. I participated in these breakfasts and they usually have a good turnout for them. The proceeds from each breakfast are dedicated to a particular project as they see fit. Another fund raiser they have is a car wash every summer. They get good participation and everybody has a good time while raising money for the club. They are very active with the St. Joe High School Key Club and the Key Clubbers work closely with the parent club. Over the years the club has sponsored a trip to a Chicago Cubs game and they usually have a great turnout for that. Probably the biggest thing that happened to this club this past year is that they turned over ownership of their Kiwanis Park to the city of St. Joseph. This allowed them to keep the park viable and at the same time keep their name on the park. They utilize the park for meetings and other special events during the good weather months. Lastly, I think the Benton Harbor/St. Joe club has the best newsletter I have seen during my time as lieutenant governor. It is published almost weekly and is full of exciting club news and information about upcoming events. Kudos goes out to them for this.

Kiwanis Club of Downtown Kalamazoo

An example of what I am talking about is an idea that was presented to those attending our division council meeting in Paw Paw in November. Discussion came up about an idea that the Downtown Kalamazoo Kiwanis Club came up with to develop new ideas that might appeal to the younger members of that club. Their idea was to form a committee composed of those members under the age of 50 and let them direct the club in a different or possibly an entirely new way of running the club. They were told that they could make huge changes in the way the club operates by changing the meeting dates, frequencies, or even locations. They could eliminate lunch meetings in favor of evening meetings, or have biweekly of monthly meetings, or possibly not have meetings at all. This was prompted by the thought that younger members may not be able to attend weekly lunch meetings. Maybe they would rather have more social meetings at a bar or restaurant in the evening or after work. Perhaps they would like to structure committees in different ways than has been done in the past. It is becoming clear that many younger people do not want to go to meetings. They want to do projects or provide service. We all know that we are in dire need of younger members and maybe we need to let them tell us how they want to operate so that Kiwanis can survive into the future. The downtown club has also revived the Key Club at Loy Norrix High School in Kalamazoo. They are making a renewed effort to get students interested in Kiwanis by getting them involved in projects the club is doing. Again, this is a way to provide projects to work on as opposed to going to meetings and talking about it. This club is really trying to look ahead and come up with new ways of thinking about service and participation. This is something we should all be thinking about.
PORTAGE SUBURBAN KIWANIS

The Portage Suburban club does kind of an unusual service project. Upon learning that the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission provides meals for adults and their families; they wondered what kinds of food are provided for the children for breakfast. After asking some questions and doing some research; they learned that quite often the kids have to eat the same foods as the adults. This is not a bad thing, but they thought that they could target the kids with something that might be a little bit more kid friendly. They came up with the idea to supply the mission with cold cereal so that the kids might have something more to their liking for breakfast. The club made it their project to work with the mission to provide different kinds of cereal to the kitchen so the kids might feel that they are more personally cared for. They also provide juice boxes and other breakfast needs appropriate for children at the mission.

Another thing this club does is, working with local organizations, they learn of families in the Portage area that are in need of help over the Thanksgiving holiday. They then gather food and supplies for as many families as they can afford and make sure they are able to enjoy a healthy and enjoyable Thanksgiving dinner. Portage Suburban Kiwanis does other things for their community, but these are an example of some ways in which they are able to make a big impact with the budget they have to work with.

PAW PAW KIWANIS

The Kiwanis Club of Paw Paw has one of the more unusual fundraisers in our area. They sponsor a Turtle derby. Every year in September the village of Paw Paw celebrates their annual Wine and Harvest Festival. The Turtle Derby has been a part of the festival for over 40 years. The festival draws people from several states and many local communities. As with most community festivals; a big part of the agenda are events sponsored by local service clubs, schools, churches and other groups. The Turtle Derby is supported by local businesses and individuals who are encouraged to sponsor turtles ($10 per turtle) in the big race. The turtles “race” down a track in several heats (up to 12 turtles per heat) and at the end of the day heat winners compete with each other to win the overall event. “Jockies” of the turtles are children chosen by participating businesses, parents, grandparents and other who wish to participate. The club itself sponsors every third grader in Paw Paw schools. Prizes are awarded to all heat winners and grand prizes are awarded at the end of the competition. After the event is over, those children that are allowed by their parents can “adopt” a turtle to take home. This is always a popular event and a good portion of the funds raised are used for local projects supported by the Kiwanis Club.

Paw Paw Kiwanis also hosts a golf outing each spring. This is always a successful event, again providing the club with funds to support community projects. Like other clubs, they also do coupon book and candy sales throughout the year.

SOUTH HAVEN KIWANIS

The South Haven Kiwanis Club is a club that I enjoy visiting throughout the year because they are an active club and usually have great attendance at their meetings. It is always interesting to hear what new or recurring projects they have going on. Their biggest project is probably their pancake breakfast that they serve every August during the National Blueberry Festival. This is a weekend long Festival celebrating all things blueberry. In keeping with the spirit of the festival they serve blueberry pancakes as the main staple for breakfast on Saturday and Sunday of the festival. I have worked this project with them and it is a busy but fun time and I get to enjoy all the blueberry pancakes I want as a reward for helping out. This is a big project, but as I said, they have a large club to help and the work is shared by many making the effort somewhat easier. South Haven is working on a new project in which they are planning to sell promotions on many of the tents that are set up at several events happening in their town every summer. They are working on setting up a bike rodeo for the upcoming summer season to teach kids the proper rules, courtesies, and safety concerns for summertime biking. As with many other clubs; South Haven also does nut sales and other fundraisers so they can provide dictionaries and thesauruses to children in the local schools.

NILES SOUTHWESTERN KIWANIS

Niles Southwestern Kiwanis’ signature project is providing boots for elementary school kids in the greater Niles area. Before the “boot season” arrives, the club members look for deals on boots in the area so they can be prepared and get as many pairs of boots as possible to fill the need. They recently spent about $17 per pair of boots. This project includes six to ten schools in the area. They distribute winter boots to kids in the first through eighth grades every year in the fall just in time for winter. In order to know who needs boots; they put the word out to the teachers in the elementary schools in the Niles area as to what kids are in greatest need. This process usually happens after the snow starts to fall so that the teachers can observe their students to find out where the greatest need is. This year the Niles club provided 100 pairs of boots to area children. Without a project like this many kids not only are at risk for health problems and ruining otherwise good shoes and socks, not to mention having warm feet, but also they may not be able to go outside in the winter for recess. (The teachers probably benefit in this respect.) This project has been going on for several years so most of the teachers in the area are prepared to watch for those students who might qualify for this wonderful benefit.

Their fundraising efforts include selling the Kiwanis nuts during the holiday season and simply writing letters asking local businesses to help support this worthy cause. Niles Southwestern is a small club but this project has a big impact on school kids in the Niles area. This is a great example of how a small club can have a significant impact on the everyday lives of young children in its area.
KIWANIS CLUB OF DOWNTOWN KALAMAZOO

An example of what I am talking about is an idea that was presented to those attending our division council meeting in Paw Paw in November. Discussion came up about an idea that the Downtown Kalamazoo Kiwanis Club came up with to develop new ideas that might appeal to the younger members of that club. Their idea was to form a committee composed of those members under the age of 50 and let them direct the club in a different or possibly an entirely new way of running the club. They were told that they could make huge changes in the way the club operates by changing the meeting dates, frequencies, or even locations. They could eliminate lunch meetings in favor of evening meetings, or have biweekly or monthly meetings, or possibly not have meetings at all. This was prompted by the thought that younger members may not be able to attend weekly lunch meetings. Maybe they would rather have more social meetings at a bar or restaurant in the evening or after work. Perhaps they would like to structure committees in different ways than has been done in the past. It is becoming clear that many younger people do not want to go to meetings. They want to do projects or provide service. We all know that we are in dire need of younger members and maybe we need to let them tell us how they want to operate so that Kiwanis can survive into the future. The downtown club has also revived the Key Club at Loy Norrix High School in Kalamazoo. They are making a renewed effort to get students interested in Kiwanis by getting them involved in projects the club is doing. Again, this is a way to provide projects to work on as opposed to going to meetings and talking about it. This club is really trying to look ahead and come up with new ways of thinking about service and participation. This is something we should all be thinking about.

KALAMAZOO WESTSIDE KIWANIS

Kalamazoo Westside Kiwanis is one of those small but very active clubs in division 13. They are able to focus on several projects that many of us would consider a major project. They provide coloring books to the hospitals of the Michigan Foundation on a somewhat regular basis. Westside works closely with Loaves and Fishes of Kalamazoo to provide snacks for school children to have in their backpack that supplement their school meals. They also work with that group to provide money and/or food for local participating food pantries. In addition, they work with the local YWCA to provide monetary support to its assault assistance program. Like many Kiwanis clubs in Michigan, Westside also sponsors one or two students every year for the Law Enforcement Academy. Right now, they are working closely with Miller Auditorium on the Western Michigan University campus promoting and selling tickets to the upcoming play “Phantom of the Opera” in February. See page 18 for more details. Westside is frequently offering support to other clubs in the form of ideas and information regarding new member recruitment, fundraising ideas, and community service suggestions. They are a club on the go.

KIWANIS HELPING ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN AT SUNNY CREST YOUTH RANCH | 2018 KIWANIS IMPACT

6 CLUBS DIRECTLY INVOLVED;
Supplying the boys with Toiletries, a game system, baseball gloves/bats, wood, bedding, bringing Christmas cheer and Santa, Sponsoring Key Club, sending a boy to key Leader weekend, covering the cost for a bed in the new home, covering some of the winter outings for all 30 boys and individual Kiwanians donating to support the boys programs.

MARTIN’S STORY
Martin arrived with a traumatic past that caused him to not trust anyone, even and refusing to speak. For three month’s the young child didn’t say a word. Yet through the consistent work of his tutor and his Therapist, he began to open up. Over time he spoke, unpacked the trauma and then the healing began. Over the next two years he progressed in not just therapy but in his academic, he’s caught all the way up to grade level and graduated from the public High School. Every year there are boys like Martin experiencing life change. When Kiwanians join hands to support Sunny Crest programs like academics through financial donations, legacy gift or items they are a part of the life change that happens in young children like Martin. Name changed to respect the identity of the child.

GET INVOLVED IN 2019
1) Invite us to be a club speaker.
2) Set up a field trip to tour Sunny Crest
3) Set up a club or division volunteer day
4) Send a financial gift support the mission

Sunny Crest Youth Ranch
13014 Sunny Crest Lane l Sunfield Michigan, 48890
Website: Sunncrestyouthranch.org
Number: 517-507-3144 Ext112
Email:jon@sunnycrestyouthranch.org
Michigan Kiwanis is definitely making a difference with Preemie Pals. We are wrapping babies in those beautiful quilts while giving the families of those baby’s emotional support. I am extremely proud of Kiwanians and Kiwanis clubs in the Michigan District.

When I decided to introduce Preemie Pals to Kiwanis, I really didn’t know what to expect. I hoped clubs and individuals would recognize it as a good project and embrace the work we are doing. I am completely overwhelmed by the support and enthusiasm our district has shown for this project and the Preemie Pal group. Not only have individuals and clubs given generously, but we have had many Kiwanis members, their spouses, family members, and friends making quilts for the group. The 2 directors of this group are extremely impressed with the cash donations, the quilts, the time donations, and the talent. Thank You so much Kiwanis!

The money we collect is used to buy the batting – the layer that goes between the front and the back of the quilt. We also use some of it to buy needed fabric. Since Preemie Pals is a totally volunteer organization – every penny gets used wisely. In 2018, using up the grant from another service organization, and the money, time and talent of Kiwanis, we made a total of 1,000 quilts. That is a very remarkable outcome! Preemie Pals is an ongoing project and will continue for as long as we can continue to have supplies to make these quilts for our youngest and most fragile babies. (Brandon NICU cares for about 1200 babies per year.)

It is still important to continue to collect money, and to get help making quilts. If you have quilts finished for the group, get them to your Lt. Governor.

If your club has a financial donation, write the check to the Michigan District of Kiwanis, and mail it to me: Nancy Memmer, 1500 Wolf Lake Rd, Grass Lake, MI 49240. If I haven’t had a chance to come and speak to your club, I would love the opportunity. If you need more information, please email or call me. Again, a huge thank you to everyone and every club that has helped!

Nancy Memmer
Nancy.memmer@gmail.com
517-926-6226

NEW KIWANIS CLUB OF ISLAND CITY

NEW KIWANIS CLUB OF GRAND LEDGE AREA

From January 7-9 teams of Michigan Kiwanians along with some help from Kiwanis International went into the towns of Eaton Rapids and Grand Ledge and opened two new Kiwanis clubs. At this point, both clubs look to charter with more than 20 members. You’ll hear more about them in the near future. Come and celebrate with them when each announces its charter night.
In my mind, the Law Enforcement Career Academy is an amazing program designed to allow high school students throughout Michigan get a feel for what it is like to be a cop.

I had the privilege of attending the graduation ceremony at the Michigan State Police Training Academy in July of this year. I have to tell you, I was impressed. When those young cadets came marching in, I had tears in my eyes. It was awesome!

Sgt. Sarah Whitman is the School Commander, and her staff did an excellent job of training our youth.

Our Kiwanis Clubs sent 36 students to the Academy this year. 34 students graduated. This is very exciting, but our numbers have been down about 30% the past two years. Many years our numbers were in the 50’s.

Three awards are given:
(1) Academic Achievement
(2) Marksmanship
(3) Outstanding Student

Here is what I am proposing:
1. I am available to share a program about the Academy at your club. My cell # is: (517) 282-9653. Please call me and set up a time for me to come to your club.
2. I am setting a goal of 55 students going to the Academy in 2019. That means that several clubs will have to “buy in” to this program. It is expensive to send a student, so you will have to put it into your budget.
3. Go to your local high school and see if the school will work with you in finding young men and women who have an interest in Law Enforcement. They are the ones you will want to encourage to attend the Academy.
4. Let’s get busy!

Terry Strickler | Kiwanis Program Advisor
Taking Care of THE COMMUNITY

The Charlevoix Kiwanis Club has been busy this holiday season. They recently held their annual Christmas Dinner at the Charlevoix Public Library and enjoyed camaraderie collecting fifty-two gifts for the Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation. For several years the club has provided gifts for children who are patients in the children’s unit at McLaren Hospital as well as other hospitals designated for children.

Anne Heier, Child Life Specialist working with the Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation shared her joy with Kiwanis members explaining how she pushes a cart filled to the brim with toys and games for tots to teens, allowing each to pick out their own gift. The Charlevoix club does this at Christmas but provides financial donations and gifts to help throughout the year.

Kiwanis members were seen at the local K-Mart ringing the bell for the Salvation Army. Between belting out Christmas melodies and bringing cheer the members were able to exceed their goal providing financial support to those individuals most in need this winter.

If you noticed extra cars parked at the Charlevoix Elementary School on Wednesdays it may have been a Kiwanis member who shared their time reading to a Head Start student. Each week the children wait in anticipation for their reader to sit and share a book and their time with them. This takes place all year but this year was finished up with each child receiving handmade mittens.

Boulder Park recently reveled in the angelic voices of the Kiwanis sponsored Builders Club. As members walked the halls they would pause to place a handmade ornament by the bedside of a gracious resident. Boulder Park residents thanked the children with their smiles and by joining in with familiar songs from their own childhood.

Our local Kiwanis Club continues to grow in membership working diligently to fill the hearts and lift the spirits of our community. The current Charlevoix Kiwanis Club President Laura Potter Migda welcomes your interest if you have a desire to volunteer your efforts helping children and providing them support. She can be reached at laura@charlevoixlibrary.org.
When the 2018 calendar year began, Clinton Township firefighters went about their jobs in the usual manner. Lifesaving maneuvers during cardiac arrest situations were being performed manually, sometimes while individuals in distress were being transported up and down stairs, their blood possibly coagulating.

FAST-FORWARD 12 MONTHS.

In April the Clinton Township Kiwanis Club wrote the first check for the first Lucas 3 Device and on Dec. 12, the Clinton Township Kiwanis Club wrote a check for a fifth and final LUCAS 3 device. Immediate Past President Lori Stillwell said at the April Clinton Township Board Meeting that we would have five more, but she did not know how that would be possible. As soon as the word was out about the chest compression machine which is popular for providing American Heart Association guideline-consistent compressions, it just happened.

But each device costs around $16,000. That was a large reason why none of the stations possessed even a single device when the year began.

Thanks to donations from several groups and individuals, each township fire station is now equipped with a LUCAS 3. The most recent device was assigned to Fire Station No. 5, on Elizabeth Road.

Donations have come from the Kiwanis Club of Clinton Township, Clinton Township North Kiwanis Club, the Clinton Township Board of Trustees, resident Carol Barker, C.J. Barrymore’s, the American House, Clinton Township Firefighters Local 1381 and resident Mary Rode whose son Phil Rode is the current President of Clinton Township Kiwanis Club.

“We use these devices almost every day,” Clinton Township Fire Chief Tim Duncan said. “There have already been several successful outcomes throughout the township. The support has been phenomenal from many groups and individuals. The Kiwanis have been immensely helpful spearheading this effort. Without their involvement, we would be lucky to have even one device. Once the first one was purchased, it allowed everyone to see the value this device provides on the scene of a cardiac arrest.”

EMS Chief John Gallagher said the CTFD “is honored to serve such a supportive community.”

“Providing optimal service to those entrusted in our care is paramount, and we are always seeking means to attain positive outcomes,” he said. “With the addition of the LUCAS 3 devices, we are realizing higher rates of return of spontaneous circulation and providing the patient a better chance of survival from cardiac arrest.

“Our relationship with the Clinton Township Kiwanis has blossomed into an amazing story. This group of selfless individuals has afforded our department an opportunity to better serve our community and strive for improved clinical efficacy. To say we are thankful is truly the understatement of the year.”

CTFD Battalion Chief Paul Brouwer Jr. called the device a “game changer,” adding that patients being delivered to the hospital still have a pulse and are still “viable.”

Duncan praised Gallagher for making a push to bring the device into the community in the first place. Now that it’s here and being used nearly every other day, the intention is for innumerable lives to be saved well into the future.

“We both believe this is one of the greatest devices our profession has seen in some time,” Duncan noted. “It basically comes down to great people doing great things for their community, and we couldn’t be more honored to have these groups and individuals be part of our little family here at the Clinton Township Fire Department.”

And then there WERE FIVE
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

On December 12th the Cheboygan Kiwanis held their annual Christmas party for adults with disabilities for all Agencies in the area. It is a huge celebration before Christmas for such a big crowd. Straits Area Aktion Club members attended and they were all excited to be a part of the party. First there was a meal with hors d’ oeuvres, a Christmas Dinner and then desserts. Following the meal Mr. & Mrs. Santa visited and presents were handed out to all in attendance. Live music and dancing was a nice end to the party. A “BIG” thanks to the Cheboygan Kiwanis Club sponsors of the Aktion Club for your continued support, Love and Care you have shown us.

CHRISTMAS CHEER WITH AKTION CLUB

Lansing Peckham Helping Hands Aktion Club hosted their Christmas Party for area Aktion Clubs on January 5. Everyone was gifted with a present. Here Governor Simone Taylor and Advisor Joe Grubaugh tell Santa what they wish for Christmas next year.

Mason Golden K presented its Aktion Club members with winter scarfs at the Kiwanis Club Christmas party.

Melissa Cole, South Lansing Kiwanis Aktion Club advisor displays ice cream sold to raise funds for the club.
MAKE AN INVESTMENT IN TOMORROW’S LEADERS, BY SPONSORING A STUDENT TODAY, INTO KEY LEADER!

Start looking for that special student, 14 to 18 years of age, that you would like to send to Key Leader. This year’s Key Leader conference will be held April 26th through April 28th, 2019, at Faholo Conference Center in Grass Lake, Michigan.

Leaders must work with others to create a legacy of leadership, based on courage that will touch people’s hearts, and stimulate their minds. After all, great leaders are made, not born. This is the value of Key Leader. We create the keys that will unlock the leadership legacy of tomorrow.

THE FIVE KEY LEADER PRINCIPLES THAT HELP BUILD THE FOUNDATION OF SERVANT LEADERSHIP ARE:

- Personal Integrity – Doing the right thing
- Personal Growth – Developing in mind, body, and spirit
- Respect – Showing consideration for self, others, and your surroundings
- Building Community – Developing relations to achieve positive goals
- Pursuit of Excellence – Expecting and achieving the best while living a life of purpose

For more information on Key Leader, please check out the website www.key-leader.org, or contact Michigan District Chair Person, Carol Abadie, via email at Cabadie@comcast.net, or call me at 734-624-1190.

MICHIGAN DISTRICT KEY LEADER CAMP - CONTRIBUTION FORM

Our goal is to help send as many young students, ages 14 to 18 from the entire state of Michigan to Key Leader. Below is a list of ways you or your organizations can help us bring this life-changing opportunity to the Michigan Kiwanis District Students.

No contribution is too small

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$10</td>
<td>Sponsor supplies for each student Facilitators bag – (need 8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>$50</td>
<td>Sponsor Juice boxes for the weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150</td>
<td>Sponsor the snacks for 72 students for the weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$700</td>
<td>Sponsor the T-Shirts for the camp – (need 72)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500</td>
<td>Sponsors one breakfast – (need 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$600</td>
<td>Sponsors one lunch – (need 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>$750</td>
<td>Sponsors one dinner – (need 2)</td>
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<thead>
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<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$125</td>
<td>Sponsors the cost for one student facilitator - (need 8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$260</td>
<td>Sponsors the cost of one student participant- (Max 72)</td>
</tr>
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</table>

I/We can contribute $_________ that can be used for any necessary expense for Key Leader.

NAME/ORGANIZATIONS NAME:______________________________________________________________________________
E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____________________________________________________      CELL PHONE NO: (______)_____-_____  

Thank you for your support and for giving the best gift Kiwanis can give to our future leaders! Currently, Key Leader contributions are not tax deductible. Be sure to include this form with your generous contribution so it can be correctly applied and acknowledged.

CHECKS NEED TO BE MADE OUT TO: Michigan District of Kiwanis l c/o Carol Abadie -Key Leader Dist. Chair 22385 Village Drive l Woodhaven, Michigan 48183 Cell: 734-624-1190 l Email: cabadie@comcast.net
Change Your 2018-19 Directory

(Also make appropriate changes on pages 20-25)

NEW CLUB –
GRAND Ledge AREA, DIV. 16
Grand Ledge Library, 131 E. Jefferson
S., Gd. Ledge, 1st & 4th Tues, 6:00 PM
Pres: Sgt. Kyle Lunsted, 218
Spinnaker Dr., Lansing, 48917-3448
Phone: (616) 634-6874
Email: armymissfit18@gmail.com
Sec: Nicole Nyboer Halliwill,
4673 W. Grand Ledge Hwy.,
Mulliken, 48861-9652
Phone: (616) 514-2641
Email: nikinyboer@hotmail.com

NEW CLUB –
ISLAND CITY, DIV. 16
Island City Assisted Living,
1507 Kyle St, Eaton Rapids,
1st Thurs., 6:00 PM
Pres: Larry Weeks,
101 Line St., Eaton Rapids,
48827-1166
Phone: (517) 663-8118
Email: lweeks@cityofeatonrapids.com
Sec.: Sue Steward,
102 N. East St., Eaton Rapids,
48827-1315
Phone: (517) 819-2013,
Email: ssteward@totallocal.com

NEW CLUB –
BIRMINGHAM-BLOOMFIELD, DIV. 7
Sec: Jenna Boughton,
17148 Rougeway St., Livonia,
48152-3831
Phone: (313) 398-9620
Email: info@homewithjenna.com

CLARKSTON-WATERFORD, DIV. 7
Sec. Cathy Utter,
785 Little School Lot Lake Rd,
Holly, 48442-8523
Phone: (517) 230-6161
Email: uttercat@aol.com

CLARKSTON-WATERFORD, DIV. 7
Sec. Cathy Utter,
785 Little School Lot Lake Rd,
Holly, 48442-8523
Phone: (517) 230-6161
Email: uttercat@aol.com

GRAND RAPIDS NORTH, DIV. 14
Club name changed to Grand Rapids
Pres. Roger Moll,
Phone: (512) 636-6762
Email: docley@yahoo.com

KIWASSEE, MIDLAND, DIV. 10
Pres. Roger Moll,
Phone: (512) 636-6762
Email: docley@yahoo.com

LAKEVIEW-URBANDALE, DIV. 12
Sec. Lawrence Youse,
11698 Yorkshire, Richland, 49083-9384
Phone: (269) 731-4851
Email: docley@yahoo.com

MASON GOLDEN K, DIV. 16
Sec. Diane Hall,
3388 W Columbia Rd., Mason,
48864-9500
Phone: (517) 490-1041
Email: halldii7@gmail.com

PETOSKEY, DIV. 20
Sec. Marion Kuebler,
Phone: (231) 633-0475
Email: mekuebler32@gmail.com

ST. IGNACE, DIV. 21
Sec. Gregory Cheeseman, c/o
Cheeseman Insurance Agency,
470 N. State St., St. Ignace,
49781-1427
Phone: (906) 643-7944
Email: cheesecpa@sbcglobal.net

CLUB MEETING PLACE/DATE CHANGES

CLINTON VALLEY, DIV. 3
Penne Lane, 44905 Morley, 1st Thurs.,
6:30 PM; remaining meetings at Kens
Country Kitchen, 40280 Hayes Rd. 
Thurs. 7:45 AM

GOLDEN K OF GRAND RAPIDS,
DIV. 14
East Congregational Church, 1005
Giddings Ave. SE, Thurs., 9:30 AM

INFO FOR ADDITIONAL
INDIVIDUALS

LT. GOVERNOR, DIV. 1
(replaces Casey)
Frank Palazzolo (Lois Ann),
20211 Van Antwerp St.,
Harper Woods, 48225-1401
Club: Detroit No. 1
Phone: (313) 802-3199,
Email: frankjpalazzolo@yahoo.com

BUILDERS CLUB ADMINISTRATOR
Lisa Hicks-Clayton,
26826 Rough River Dr.,
Dearborn Hts., 48127-1642
Phone: (313) 348-9848
Email: hicksclaytonlisa@yahoo.com
February 10, 2019
at 6:30 p.m.

at Western Michigan University – Miller Auditorium in Kalamazoo
Sponsored by the Westside – Kalamazoo Club.

>CLICK TO WATCH<
Watch a sneak 2 plus minute preview of Andrew Lloyd Weber’s production “The Phantom of the Opera”

For every ticket purchased $5 will be returned to our project account for the many local and international organizations.

DON’T MISS A CHANCE TO SEE THIS SPECTACULAR NEW BROADWAY PRODUCTION

GOVERNOR’S MEMBERSHIP TROPHY

Net Gain is from 10-1-18 thru 12-31-18 and includes clubs only with at least a net gain of +5 based on official membership numbers supplied by Kiwanis International.

Press

Active Clubs .......................... 156
District Beginning Membership .......... 4129
Reporting Members Feb. 1, 2019 .......... 4262

Net Gain +133 members

In Memoriam

DAVID E. LAKE
Dearborn Outer Drive

BRADFORD S. FOSTER
Petoskey

SHIRLEY RAPELJE
Lansing Area G.K.

GERALD T. CELESKEY
Warren

WILLIAM GREVELDING
Paw Paw

SLP MEMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLUBS</th>
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<td>Circle K</td>
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<td>Aktion Club</td>
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4884
388
366