This year’s District Convention will be held at beautiful Boyne Mountain Resort and the Boyne City Club is happy to be hosting this year’s Convention. For those not familiar with the Boyne City club, while we may be a small club, we are not your average club. We tend to be a little loud and people definitely know when we are in a room. Our focus is on FUN, and we are taking much of that same focus into the Convention with us. We will have everything from golf, and Zip Lines to exciting speakers, live entertainment and beautiful Lake Charlevoix as an added bonus.

Boyne Mountain is not only known for its skiing and championship golf courses, but has a many other amenities as well. Not into golf? How about a spa day? Or Zip Lining? Water Park? Great restaurants? All of this is right on Boyne Mountain property, but a mere six miles away on beautiful is Boyne City.

All of this, and you will want to find time for the convention as well.

For those arriving on Thursday, you will have a chance to check out the golf course during the afternoon, as well as take a chair lift ride to check out the view and have a snack at the top of the hill in the evening.

We have great speakers lined up for the Convention this year. Our keynote speaker on Friday will be Tony Rubleski of the Mind Capture book series. We will also have local leadership expert Chip Hansen speaking during lunch on Friday.

Haven’t had enough leadership yet? How about some leadership games and exercises with Michael Cole? After all that leadership, let’s have some fun with on a Zip Line, before exploring Boyne City.

Anybody ever hear of St. Baldrick’s Foundation? They raise money for Pediatric Cancer Research by organizing “head shaving events”; it started around 50,000 shaved heads ago. ‘Shave to Raise’ is one of their catch phrases. Greg attended the MI District Circle K Convention in Detroit; Circle K has partnered with St. Baldrick’s Foundation. When the hair challenge landed in his lap, he made an agreement with some energized Circle K members; “Raise $500 for Baldrick’s and I’ll do it.” Greg is a man of his word! So heads up Kiwanians, the Baldrick’s Foundation challenge could be coming to Boyne in September. You can start fundraising now to lose your awesome Locks!

Greg could not be happier with his new look; and looks forward to sharing the challenge!
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2018 CLUB Leadership Education Dates
Calling all 2018-19 Club Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers to attend Club Leadership Education this year. Information about these sessions and who should attend was presented at the Spring Divisionals in March and April.

Click to Register

JUNE
1 Deadline for filing Annual Report of Elections
2 Training for District Chairs 2018-19, Mason Past Governors Council Annual Meeting-Possible move to Circle K Convention
28 2018-19 Club Presidents have Committee Chairs selected
28-1 Kiwanis International Convention, Las Vegas, NV

JULY
2-4 INDEPENDENCE DAY  District Office Closed
4-8 Key Club International Convention-Chicago
4-8 Circle K International Convention-Chicago
5 Club Chairs to set Budgets & Projects for 2018-19
6 Deadline for Club Proposed Amendments 
& Resolutions to District Office
5 Club Chairs to set Budgets & Projects for 2018-19
6 Deadline for Club Proposed Amendments 
& Resolutions to District Office
Fellowship of Christian Athletes Camp, Albion College
14 Club Leadership Education (CLE), Grayling
21 Club Leadership Education (CLE), Troy
22-27 State Police Student Law Academy, Lansing
28 Club Leadership Education (CLE), Kalamazoo

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Articles are due to the editor by the 5th of the month prior
 to the month of publication.

Click to Register

Builder 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.
Plan on completing your Registration soon and experience a fully planned Convention with activities for everyone. DCON will be held at Boyne Mt. this year. Activities begin on Thursday with golf and a special luncheon followed by an evening going up to the top of the mountain in a chairlift for refreshments. Mark your calendar and plan on attending Thursday, September 6th to participate in these events. This year, we are having our Memorial Celebration of our past members at our Friday Breakfast. We want to start the Convention recognizing our past members that have given so much of themselves serving Kiwanis and their communities. A full day of Education, Service and Fun is planned for Friday (check our newsletter for all the details), ending with shuttle rides to Boyne City for strolling music, restaurants and a special project in town. We are working with St. Baldricks, to help them obtain funding for children with Cancer. We are looking for 10 participants to get their heads shaved this evening. We have 3 signed up so far, I will start the fundraising by donating $100.00 for each Kiwanian participant. Our goal is to raise $1,000.00 per participant to give to St. Baldricks for children with cancer. Saturday continues with great speakers, education, service and fun. After the Governor's Banquet we will have entertainment featuring a local group, Carl and the Cabanas, for 2 hours so we can relax with friends and enjoy. The Lt Governor's Banner exchange is on Sunday after breakfast.

The last two months, as I visited clubs in our district, I am hearing and seeing so many wonderful projects and service our clubs are doing. I so appreciate the work and time all Kiwanians are doing to make our world, our state, and our communities be a better place.

Thank you to all that attended our Spring Divisionals. Each Divisional had its’ own unique planning and sharing. It was great seeing so many clubs receive awards and also have the chance of communicating with each other their special projects.

As this year progresses, keep working towards completing your goals and commitments to your clubs. Remember, our International President has labeled this year as the Eye of Tiger. Let us keep our passion, dedication, commitment and follow through to reach our goals.

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

Marian O’Higgins
2017-18 Governor
Michigan District
Governor@mikiwanis.org

**Education - SERVICE - Fun**

**Governor Marian**
The calendar says

JUNE 1ST

WE MUST
NOT FORGET
TO SERVE
OUR KIDS
IN OUR
COMMUNITIES
IN THE
SUMMER.

Hopefully, we have green lawns, growing gardens, and beautiful flowers in bloom. The busy days of summer are upon us! Our lives take on a different rhythm in the summer.

School is out, and families are busy. Our grandchildren have more ballgames. Vacations and outside activities fill a lot of our time. Clubs have very active summer reading programs, bicycle derby’s, fishing activities, and other youth sports programs. We still need to package food to help families because the food programs through the school are not there. How is your club serving the children of your community?

For many of our clubs, summer is a time for their fund raising. They park cars at festivals, sell popcorn at concerts, work at the local fairs and festivals, and put out flags for the summer holidays.

As Kiwanians we are out in the public more. By wearing our Kiwanis apparel, we are noticed. This is a great time to accomplish two things.

One, when you are working at a community event, talk to people around you about Kiwanis. Tell them what your club does and why it is important. Invite them to attend a meeting and follow through to make them a member. Use your club tri-fold, application, and other information, to help them learn about Kiwanis. As the district continues to strengthen clubs and grow in numbers, we continue to make a difference in our communities!

Two, sell those raffle tickets you received in the mail from the foundation. This money will help support the foundation programs in the four hospitals. The district money will be used for education and training, marketing to support clubs, and strengthening existing clubs. If your club has 20 members and they sell 10 tickets each – that’s $200.00 that will come back to your club to support your programs.

Also, this summer there will be a club opening event in Novi and Farmington. International President Jim Rochford, with the eye of the tiger team, will be here July 16-18. Think about how much time you can help those three days? Come and learn how to recruit members from the best.

Contact me, larrymemmer@gmail.com, if you are willing to give some time. We need your help.

Kiwanis Making a Difference Together

Larry Memmer
2017-18 Governor-Elect
Michigan District
Governor-elect@mikiwanis.org
PAST GOVERNOR Spotlight

Past Governor: Charles B. Kincaid
Year as Governor: 2004-2005

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Associate Baker College Medical Assistant
HOBBIES: Reading and golf
SPECIAL INTERESTS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS: Church work at Grace Pointe Wesleyan in Owosso

A BRIEF HISTORY ON YOUR KIWANIS CAREER: I joined the Kiwanis Club of Owosso in 1990. Have served three terms as president, two of those years we were recognized for being distinguished. Currently I am Treasurer of our club. Served as Lt. Governor, under Bob Page, 1999-2000. Served a convention chairman, new club building and Kiwanis Children’s Fund.

WHY YOU JOINED KIWANIS: I was asked by a good friend and thought that was something that I would enjoy, and I have enjoyed it very much.

What do you feel your successes were as Governor: The year I was Governor was the year that Alan M. Dailey was hired as the Executive Director. Visiting so many different clubs and observing how they managed their clubs.

YOUR KIWANIS MOMENT: I do not have a particular moment but going to several conventions both at the National and State levels was very enlightening and good learning experiences.

WHAT KIND OF HELP COULD YOU OFFER A CLUB IF ASKED: Close to home I could help build new clubs.

Past Governor: Liz Wilson
Year as Governor: 2011-2012

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Graduated from Mason Michigan High School Business Management Degree from Lansing Community College Law Enforcement studies at Lansing Community College Public Administration and Public Speaking studies at CMU
HOBBIES: Golfing, Gardening and Travel
SPECIAL INTERESTS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS: President Mason Area Historical Society, Co-Creator, Mason Promise Scholarship, Past President, Mid-Michigan Crime Stoppers, Board Member Prescription Drug Task Force

A BRIEF HISTORY ON YOUR KIWANIS CAREER: Joined Kiwanis 22 years ago when I was asked to a meeting by a friend. Served as Circle K Administrator, Lt. Governor, Division 16, Builders Administrator and Law Enforcement Academy Advisor, and Governor.

WHY YOU JOINED KIWANIS: I saw the needs of our Mason Community were better met when I worked with a team. We could accomplish more when we worked together, than what I could do on my own.

WHAT DO YOU FEEL YOUR SUCCESSES WERE AS GOVERNOR: Though we lost members, we gained new members who brought new ideas to the organization and we were able to cultivate new leaders who continue to work hard to develop training programs, see that our youth programs continue to succeed, Key Leader being one of those and establish better communication between the Clubs and the District.

YOUR KIWANIS MOMENT: I was the Assistant Administrator for Circle K and we were doing a weekend leadership retreat with the students. I overheard one of the students on his phone being questioned by a friend as to why he was there hanging out with “Old People”. “These people are not old” he told the guy on the other end, “These are my friends, they are Kiwanians.” I came to realize how Kiwanis through service from K Kids to Golden K bridges that age gap and we see each other through different eyes.

WHAT KIND OF HELP COULD YOU OFFER A CLUB IF ASKED: After the experience of helping to build a club in Grand Blanc, I realize how club building tools can be used to help build up membership for existing clubs. I would love to be able to share that experience with any club that would like to try those technics. The club just has to be open to try them!

When a Kiwanian is so passionate to share their love for Kiwanis, their ability to promote leaders in the organization and their desire to serve their communities and all children, the next step one may take is to run for the office of the Michigan District of Kiwanis Governor.

If so honored to be elected by their peers to that position, it is an amazing 3-year adventure. (Gov. Elect, Gov. and Immediate Past Gov.) Governors mentor their clubs, get involved in their projects, provide advice when needed and act as the District cheerleader. Once that three year commitment ends, a Past Governor is always available to lend a hand, to help celebrate a success, to counsel a club through difficult time, to help foster ideas to assist a club to grow or to mentor those seeking to become the next Kiwanis Governor. Over the next months, the Builder will be profiling Past Governors to provide a resource match to help you or your club. Please use us! We love to share our experience in Kiwanis with you!

Yours In Kiwanis
Liz Wilson
Past Governor 2011-2012
**District Convention at a glance**

**CONVENTION AND ROOM RESERVATION DEADLINE IS August 7, 2018**

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH**

9:00 AM  GOLF ON YOUR OWN - (KIWANIS PRICING)

12:00 PM  LUNCHEON - Vienna A

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM  REGISTRATION & CREDENTIALS - West Lobby

EXHIBITS & DISPLAYS - Set up only - Matterhorn C & D

6:00 PM  CHAIR LIFT, EAGLES NEST & ICE CREAM SOCIAL

8:00 PM  2017-18 DISTRICT BOARD MEETING - Graz

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 7TH**

7:00 AM  MEMORIAL BREAKFAST - Vienna

7:00 AM - 6:00 PM  REGISTRATION & CREDENTIALS - West Lobby

8:00 AM - 2:00 PM  EXHIBITS & DISPLAYS

Matterhorn C & D

9:00 AM  HEARINGS ON RESOLUTIONS & BYLAWS

(See program book for locations)

9:30 AM - 11:15 AM  WORKSHOP PROGRAMS - (See program book for locations)

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM  CONVENTION KICK-OFF LUNCHEON - Vienna

1:30 PM  DELEGATE SESSION & DIVISION CAUCUSES

(Voting Bylaws and Candidates) - Matterhorn A & B

6:00 PM  POST BANQUET RECEPTION - Graz

7:00 PM  GOVERNOR’S BANQUET - Graz

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 8TH**

7:00 AM - 3:00 PM  REGISTRATION & CREDENTIALS - West Lobby

KMF HOSTED BREAKFAST - James Bay

7:00 AM - 6:00 PM  EXHIBITS & DISPLAYS

Matterhorn C & D

8:15 AM - 11:15 AM  WORKSHOP PROGRAMS - (See program book for locations)

11:30 AM  HONORS & AWARDS LUNCHEON - James Bay

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM  LEADERSHIP GAME-MICHAEL KOLE

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM  EVENING IN BOYNE CITY

8:00 AM - 1:30 PM  EXHIBITS & DISPLAYS

Matterhorn C & D

8:00 AM - 2:00 PM  GENERAL SESSION - Matterhorn A & B

3:00 PM - 5:30 PM  ZIPLINE

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM  EVENING IN BOYNE CITY

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 9TH**

8:00 AM  PAST LG COUNCIL BREAKFAST - Vienna

9:30 AM  CLOSING SESSION - Graz

**SIX FUN THINGS TO DO!**

**CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM AND TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM**

**CLICK TO WATCH**
Meet District Convention Key Note Speaker

TONY RUBLESKI

Tony is currently the president of Mind Capture Group. His message is designed to help people ‘Capture’ more minds and profits. He is an in-demand speaker who’s given hundreds of presentations the past decade, a strategic business coach, and global event promoter with over 20+ years of experience in the personal development industry.

His second book in the Mind Capture series went #1 in three different business categories with Amazon.com and received stunning reviews from a wide range of leaders in marketing, sales, psychology to academia and multiple New York Times bestselling authors. His latest book titled, TRAILBLAZERS: Leadership Lessons from 12 Pioneers Who Beat the Odds and Influenced Millions, will re-release globally on September 4th, 2018 with New York publisher Morgan James.

His work has been featured in various media outlets ranging from Toastmasters International Magazine, The Detroit Free Press, the FOX TV network, ABC, to CNN Radio, NPR and Entrepreneur Magazine Radio. In addition, he has also served as a Faculty member with the U.S Chamber of Commerce.

For more information Email
or CALL 616-638-3912

HE IS AN IN-DEMAND SPEAKER WHO’S GIVEN HUNDREDS OF PRESENTATIONS THE PAST DECADE
Friday night will find us in Boyne city at an event called Stroll The Streets, where we will have the opportunity to enjoy the sparkling waters of Lake Charlevoix, have a bite to eat at one of many fantastic restaurants or Tap Rooms. There are more than 15 eating establishments in walking distance in downtown Boyne City, all offering a wide array of entrees. Boyne city has everything from Latin and BBQ to European Café and breweries and Tap Rooms. During Stroll The Streets you will also have the opportunity to listen to wonderful street music and check out the local art district, and take a carriage ride as well.

Whatever you do, don’t get a haircut before heading to Convention. Friday night will also present a great opportunity to raise some cash for a great cause, St Baldrick’s. St Baldrick’s is an organization focused on raising awareness and filling the funding gap in childhood cancer research. Get some pledges before you arrive or raise funds on sight to shave your head and show kids with cancer that we support them. Couldn’t be talked into having your head? How about making a fun yarn wig for kids with Cancer back at the Convention on Saturday morning?

After making your wig on Saturday morning, if not attending the break-out sessions, head back into Boyne city to check out one of the biggest and best Farmer’s Markets in northern Michigan.

Boyne City has often been called the place where life meets the lake. And from the moment you arrive, you’ll see why. From a leisurely afternoon on the Boyne River, to the beauty of watching a sailboat catch a summer breeze, anything having to do with fun on the water is found in and around Boyne City. Haven’t had enough fun yet…how about dancing the night away after the Governor’s banquet to the live entertainment of Adam and the Cabana Boys.

We will conclude with the Governor’s Breakfast on Sunday morning along with one more motivational speaker and leave with lots of memories of fun! With all these fun options, it will be hard to remember that we are here to learn.

Everyone Communicates Few Connect

“Only One Thing Stands Between You and Success. It Isn’t Experience. It Isn’t Talent.”

World-renowned leadership expert John C. Maxwell says if you want to succeed, you must learn how to connect with people. And while it may seem like some folks are just born with it, the fact is anyone can learn how to make every communication an opportunity for a powerful connection. In Everyone Communicates, Few Connect, Maxwell shares the Five Principles and Five Practices to develop the crucial skill of connecting, including:

• Finding Common Ground
• Keeping Your Communication Simple
• Capturing People’s Interest
• Inspiring People
• Staying Authentic in all Your Relationships

The ability to connect with others is a major determining factor in reaching your full potential. It’s no secret! Connecting is a skill you can learn and apply in your personal, professional, and family relationships - and you can get a great overview of these principles during our workshop!

Let’s play a game!

Conducted by JOHN MAXWELL LEADERSHIP COACH Michael Kole

Get Ready to Raise Your Organizations Leadership Lid!

The Leadership Game is a fun, yet challenging experience designed to help you and your team better understand core leadership principles and values. Through this game, you will be able to raise the leadership awareness of your team and introduce the timeless leadership principles that will bring about positive change through communication and connection!

In this two-hour event, you will engage in open discussions with your group about challenges and opportunities the Kiwanis organization is facing. You will discover ways to strengthen both your and your team’s leadership abilities! This is a fun learning experience, where you are exposed to leadership concepts, and most importantly, how to immediately apply them!
The Kiwanis Club of Brooklyn looked like a lot of small town clubs at the beginning of the year. They had around 25 members, with a core group of about a dozen who worked most of their projects. They had about 20 years under their belts since the club had been re-chartered (the club had closed its doors once before). And, many of its members were on their second or third round of serving as club president. It was a job that nobody was fighting for any more.

In the previous years, the club had only grown by two members. “My mom was a member of the club and was always volunteering me for events, so I figured I might as well be a member,” says current club president, Chris Holbert. “Soon after, my husband joined for the same reason, except I was the one volunteering him.”

Like most of its committees, the club’s membership committee consisted of one person, usually the president. Whenever the dreaded issue of membership came up, the comments were always the same. “We’ve asked everyone already.” “Young people don’t volunteer anymore.”

“My thought every time we discussed it was that we were literally a year or maybe two away from not having a club any longer,” says Holbert. “Our members were fiercely committed, but they were getting burned out, and we couldn’t afford to lose even one person from our core group of volunteers.”

Not only was there no growth, but some of the club members had developed health issues, and a couple more had retired and started travelling more. Several more were snowbirds. It’s a theme that Holbert says she hears about a lot when she talks to other clubs at conventions and trainings.

So what changed?

“One of our best volunteers had a change in her work schedule and had to leave the club. In one fell swoop, we lost our Fundraising Chair and our President Elect,” says Holbert. “I had just been tapped to replace her as President Elect and was thinking we have to do something about this right now. And then I heard about Tecumseh.”

At one of the Division 11 meetings, the Tecumseh Club reported that they had recruited 11 new members in 2016-2017. That was the “a-ha” moment that Holbert needed.

“Tecumseh took away all of our excuses,” says Holbert. “I realized, the problem isn’t with ‘people’ the problem was our attitude. We didn’t believe it could be done, so we weren’t really trying. We were doing the same things we had always done and getting the exact same results... so, we changed.”

Holbert attributes their success to a few of these key changes. When asked what worked for her club, she gave us the following:

We dumped the stuff that we hated. At the beginning of the year, I asked the club to tell me what stuff they loved and what stuff they hated, and then we dumped the stuff we hated. We didn’t like selling wreaths for a fundraiser, so we dumped it. Running a kitchen at our annual craft show didn’t bring in enough money for the amount of work that we were doing, so we dumped it. By the same token, we reasserted our love for the things that we really enjoyed or were particularly proud of. Now we had a plan for the year that felt less like “work” and more like a mission.

We became more visible. We were not great at taking credit for the things that we do and we weren’t really getting our branding out there. People had no idea who we were, what we were doing, or why we were doing it. That seems silly when we have such a fantastic mission. We decided that we needed to come out of the shadows. We started submitting written articles to our local paper about every event. We became more interactive with our SLPs. We put a float in our Christmas Parade for the first time in years. And we started the flag program by partnering with our local scouts to lend the muscle our club didn’t yet have.

We defined our target audience. Most of our club members hadn’t joined when they were young because they, like young people today, were busy with their families – volunteering at school, coaching sports, and so on. We decided our real targets weren’t “young people.” They were the newly retired people moving to our area and the new empty-nesters who suddenly had more time on their hands and were looking for things to do. Once we made that decision, we focused on promoting the camaraderie of the club and social aspects along with our mission.

We created new groups within our club to find new members and “friends.” We decided that it would be great to get new members, but almost as good if our club could make new “friends” who were willing to volunteer now and then. It was much easier for some of our members to invite people to be “friends” of our club than to make the membership pitch. It also made it harder for people to turn us down.

We took a look at things that our club members already enjoyed doing and created events around them so that people would have more opportunities outside of our meetings to interact with us. Now we have the Kiwanis K-nitters, making knitted projects for donation and for sale in our craft show; a sewing group called Sew What? that is making pillow cases for kids in the hospitals and foster care; and Quarter-a-Quarter, a quarterly event where we ask 25 members of the community to come out to lunch with us to hear about some local programs and agree to donate $25 per person. We also tried the Kiwanis StriKers, which was a bowling group that ultimately fizzled out, but only after we brought in two new members.

We created a satellite meeting once a month at a different time. Our meetings are at lunch, which automatically excludes most of our town’s working people because they leave the area during the day. We created an evening meeting once a month so we could eliminate that barrier to joining the club.
About this time last year, a very nice lady knocked on my door and asked if I was interested in continuing the Flag Project. I love this program and had been proud to participate, but I had just lost my job due to downsizing and had been diagnosed with breast cancer. So even though $30.00 isn’t a lot, I was worried about expenses and told her I had to decline. Well, I had a flag in my yard last year because of her kindness. And that little bit of “normal”, and the happiness I felt every time the flag appeared was a true bright spot during a long hard year.

I’m happy to report that life is a little easier this year. My treatment is going well and I am back to work part – time. So I am very excited to be able to participate this year. I also have included an extra $30.00 for a flag for my sister. We lost my brother-in-law to colon cancer last October, and I would like you to put a flag in her yard in his memory. If the program doesn’t extend to her neighborhood, please use the extra to help someone else, or put it toward the other good work that you do.

The Hillsdale Kiwanis Club is very proud of the many projects we are doing for our schools, community, county and the world. A big thank you to the Jackson Downtown Kiwanis Club for encouraging and supporting us on this endeavor. We are truly improving the world one child and one community at a time.

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**Welcome to my world as MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**

Remember, as for membership, one must prepare, invite and follow up, to be effective.

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**THE PILLOW Project**

When the Grand Blanc Kiwanis club heard there are kids right in their community that don’t have pillows to sleep on, they decided to do something about it. Combining a love of reading with a lack of pillows led to the formation of the Kiwanis “Hop on Pop” reading night at Art Van Pure Sleep. During the event, books are read aloud by special guest readers who also encourage children to read at home. The children are also given books to take home and a special full size “reading pillow”. Art Van Pure Sleep even let them run and jump (not too rough) on the beds. Several of the kids were more interested in holding their pillows than eating a cookie. Plans are to hold three or more of these special nights a year!

---

When you love your club, you’ll want to share that experience and invite others to be a part of it. It started when our two time Past President Thom Mann brought in his new member and received that Kiwanis cup I was giving away for new members. We planned new-member orientation and installation to help new member Marian feel special and involved. Growth was in the air with Kiwanis Detroit #1 Club’s history; now we can look back and thank Thom for being the one who sponsored our First Female Governor of our Kiwanis Detroit #1 Club and Division 1. Since that time, Marian O’Higgins went on to be our President, our Lt. Governor of our Division 1, and still making history in the Michigan District. Next Marian O’Higgins as a new member, came on board diligently working to help build her legacy, in our club telling her story. Kiwanis asks you to “Tell Your Story.” Well I realize this is just one of my many, mine has changed to fit the occasion when I tell you as Membership Chair of Detroit #1, I installed The Michigan District Governor in my club. However, membership growth is shared by all of our members. Remember, as for membership, one must PREPARE, INVITE AND FOLLOW UP, to be effective.

Have a membership drive; however, when it is not possible, there is still a Club goal to accomplish. At this time, I needed Team Work to get the job done. I asked all of our 56 #1’ers to be on the Committee, use a Lead Form that I had created to expedite the growth process. Marian worked the Oak Park 4th July Parade Kiwanis booth, talking and giving out over 200 Books with Thom in the park having fun with children, parents and the cute little dogs, telling our Kiwanis story. Did you know the most likely person to join are busy people, colleagues, friends and family? Give them at least three weeks to respond to an invitation, but also ask that any member who refers a guest follow up with a personal invitation as the date gets closer. From that request Marian gave me her lead form and it was her friend Renea…….History made at our Detroit #1 Club’s Membership Chair & Past President, Beverly Wiggins’ Story.
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.

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nicole@grasselekawani.org

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Email: lori2547@yahoo.com

It is time to register for the Michigan District Annual Aktion Club Convention.

The convention will be held September 14-15, 2018 at the Rock Lake Christian Assembly Camp in Vestaburg, MI. This year’s convention promises to be educational, inspirational, and service oriented.

The convention will provide many fellowship and leadership opportunities for club members, as well as Agency and Kiwanis advisors. Our theme for this year’s convention is: Aktion Clubs Show Olympic Spirit! Club members will have fun participating in Olympic contests and attending the Olympic dance on Friday night. We are happy to announce our Keynote speaker this year will be Justine Caine. Justin is a Michigan resident, a Paralympic athlete, and accomplished inspirational speaker. “People with disabilities, overall, have by far, a stronger work ethic than people without,” Caine said. “Things aren’t given to us. We’ve got to earn every step we get, and we don’t want to take it for granted and then lose it, because you never know when another opportunity’s going to come along.”

Rock Lake Christian Assembly Camp
7389 Vestaburg Road
989-268-5377
Vestaburg, MI 48891

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

**KIWANIS AKTION CLUBS DAY!**

LUGNUTS VS. CEDAR RAPIDS KERNALS

Monday, July 23rd
@ 12:05pm

*Game typically last between 2.5 - 3 hours

Hurry! The absolute last day to order is: Friday, July 13th.

**Ticket Order Form**

Order Deadline: Friday, July 13

**Club:** ____________________________ **Advisor:** ____________________________

**Number of Box Tickets:** ________ @ $11.00 = ________

**Number of sack lunches:** ________ @ $4.00 = ________

Please return forms with payment for your entire group to:

ATTN: Josh Arendsen at 505 E. Michigan Ave, Lansing MI 48912.

Or to order with a credit card by phone, call Josh at 517-485-4500 ext. 229.

Hurry! The absolute last day to order is: Friday, July 13th.

Make Checks Payable to: Lansing Lugnuts

For more information please contact: Larry Memmer @ larrymemmer@gmail.com
Sven John Benson's arrival to Cadillac from Sweden in 1865. Sven was approved to homestead 80 acres providing he would work the land and remain for a minimum of five years, which he did. Then in 1870 the homestead was legally his and he started out with 10 cows and took to planting cucumbers and potatoes.

After a period, the farm was passed on to Sven and his wife's son, Arthur, and his wife, Anna, Bob's parents. Arthur continued to grow cucumbers and potatoes and he grew the farm to 160 acres and maintained 10 cows. Arthur and Anna had eight children; Robert was the youngest, born August 13, 1931. Unfortunately, Arthur passed away when Robert was sixteen.

In 1951 Robert married Amelia and they continued to carry on the family business. In 1961, Robert became the sole proprietor of the family farm and proceeded to grow the business. Robert obtained additional dairy cows and more land to support the business. Robert expanded his dairy herd to 30 cows and added additional buildings. During this time Bob and Amelia brought six children into the world. They also transitioned from growing cucumbers and potatoes to growing corn and hay to support their growing dairy business.

In 1986, Robert began transitioning the business to his son William (Bill). Bill and his wife Jill continue to expand the family business and have 180 dairy cows. Robert continued to be active on the farm by helping with the planting and harvesting until recently. New, more sophisticated farm implements made it difficult to continue and so Robert stopped operating equipment.

The Kiwanis Club of Cadillac proudly highlights their most distinguished member, Robert (Bob) Benson. The Benson family were true pioneers of our community going back 153 years. It all started with Bob's great grandfather

**Distinguished Member RECOGNIZED**

**President Melodie Wightman**

**Vice President John Powers**

**Secretary/ Treasurer Melissa Lietz**

**Assistant Secretary Mary Cline**

**Membership Chair Jane Hult**

**Program Chair Linette Lachman**

**Public Relations Chair Norma Rapp**

**Fund Raising Chair Susan Carr**

**Social Chair Anne Bula**

**Kiwanis Club of Cadillac**

**P.O. Box 494**

**Cadillac, MI 49601**

**Phone: (231) 775-9249**

**Cell: (231) 476-3434**

**Email: kiwanis@cdal.net**
We changed our attitudes. At the beginning of my term, I told the club that our recruitment goal would be 12 new recruits, one more than Tecumseh had added the year earlier. I think it was mostly met with nervous laughter. Once we started gaining new members, it not only started to seem attainable, but we soon realized that we had set the goal too low. Many of our new members just needed an invitation to join.

We didn’t try one thing, we tried everything! We decided to just throw ideas against the wall to see what would stick, and it all worked together. We had one new member who heard about us through the local paper and our PR efforts. We recruited all of our local principals because we wanted to work more closely with the schools. We met two new “friends” through our bowling group who turned into members once we launched our evening meetings. We gained one through our knitting group and one through our sewing group and many “friends” in both who we are hoping will become members. We brought in two new members through a volunteer expo that we helped organize in the community. We brought in two more at our Quarter-a-Quarter event. One new corporate sponsor joined because they gave us a program and we created a funding opportunity for them and another joined because they heard so much about us that we seemed like an important partner organization.

Recruitment doesn’t seem so hard any more. Now that we have some momentum, the tides have totally turned. New members are bringing in new ideas, and new friends. Our committees are turning into actual committees instead of one-man-shows and for the first time in years, we’re not struggling quite so much to fill volunteer positions at our events. We have two new board members this year, and our meetings are filled with new people and new ideas.

But first... We had to believe it was possible.

Robert has always maintained an active role in the community. He was a member of the Wexford County Farm Bureau for many years, until the mid-1970’s. He also served with the Department of Human Services for 36 years. During his tenure at DHS the department instituted Project Christmas which is still celebrated today. Robert was also a member of the Conservation District Board from October 1969 through 1978, receiving the Farm Cooperator of the Year award in 1974. Robert enjoyed his recreational activities as well; he loved to bowl and golf. His wife Amelia enjoyed playing the piano and singing in the church choir.

In July of this year, Bob will become the longest serving member of the Kiwanis Club of Cadillac with 55 years of dedicated service. Bob joined Kiwanis on July 1, 1963 and has maintained his membership throughout the years. Bob has been an active member from the start, working at the Kiwanis Christmas tree farm, now gone. He is a regular volunteer at the Kiwanis concession stand at Veteran’s Memorial Field, which he built during his term as President he also is a regular at the food booth at the annual Art’s Fair. Bob also is a weekly volunteer with the Cadillac Area Backpack Program. Bob is an avid golfer and he enjoys meeting with fellow Kiwanis Club members for a weekly luncheon followed by a lively round of golf. Bob is a faithful member, attending all our weekly dinner meetings at Lakeside Charlie’s on Monday evenings.

Bob is truly an inspiration and a role model to us all in Kiwanis through his loyalty and dedication to community service. We in Kiwanis extend our most heartfelt thank you to Bob and congratulate him on his achievements.

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In Memoriam

LLOYD E. KITCHENS
SHERIDAN W. SPRINGER
Lt. Governor 1971-72
Ann Arbor

MICHAEL L. HALLIFAX
Hastings

ROBERT SCHOLL
Hilldale

JACK T. HIGGINS
Kiwassee, Midland

GREGORY T. LONGPRE, JR.
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2017-18 Governor’s MEMBERSHIP TROPHY

Flint +12
Brooklyn +12
Woodhaven +8
Lac Ste. Claire +7
Lapeer +7
Metro Detroit YP +6
Shorewood +6
Tawas +6
Tecumseh +6
Traverse City +6
Mt. Morris +5
St. Joseph-Benton Harbor +5
St. Johns 707 +5

Net gain is from 10-1-17 thru 4-30-18
and includes clubs only with at least a net gain of +5 based on official membership numbers supplied by Kiwanis International.

Active Clubs................................. 159
District Beginning Membership .......... 4246
Reporting Members May 1, 2018 ....... 4450

Members

Net Gain +204 members

SLP MEMBERS

CLUBS
K-Kids 15
Builders Club 40
Key Club 117 5462
Circle K 13 511
Aktion Club 24 381

THE TEACHER SHORTAGE GOES BEYOND THE CLASSROOM.
KIDS NEED KIWANIS