Convention is a time of year I always look forward to. I walk away from every one with a treasure chest full of new ideas, new skills and new connections. Some feel that with advancements in technology in-person conventions and trainings are a waste of money. If that is your attitude, you may be missing out on one of the best opportunities to take your club to the next level. Seasoned Kiwanians and new members alike can have a memorable experience, if they let themselves!

1. Sharpen the Saw: Back in college a professor assigned me to read the book “The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People” by Stephen Covey. This quickly became a favorite of mine that I’ve re-read and referenced many times in my life. Habit 7 is Sharpen the Saw. In this book Stephen Covey used the phrase ‘Sharpen the Saw’ to mean preserving and enhancing the greatest asset you have… you! The idea being that sometimes you must take a break from the daily grind and sharpen your skills. A sharp axe cuts a tree way more effectively than a dull one.

DCON (District Convention) allowed me to sharpen many of my leadership skills. Perhaps my favorite session was one led by Past International President, Paul Palazzolo on effective clubs. Through this workshop he went through steps for recognizing why your club may be struggling and how to improve it. I view my club as a strong club. Fundamentally, we do many things right. However, just like people, no club is perfect. This workshop helped me identify areas we could improve on to be a more effective Kiwanis club which is able to provide more beneficial community service. Perhaps the idea that I loved the most from Mr. Palazzolo’s workshop was regarding community surveys. If your club is not currently doing one annually, this needs to be a top priority. During the community survey, you have the opportunity to talk to various community leaders and figure out the true un-met needs of your community. Mr. Palazzolo recommends gathering 4-5 community leaders such as someone from the schools, clergy, social services, first responders, Food pantry, etc. Plan a program at a club meeting to have these leaders come and answer 1 question (which you will give them ahead of time). They will each have 5 minutes to answer and will speak to your club back to back. The question is “What is the most important needs in our community today?” This allows a great opportunity to evaluate your club’s current projects. Are they all still relevant? Are you doing them simply because you always have? Is there a way you can fill some of the needs discussed?

2. Meet influencers face to face: Influencers come in all shapes and sizes. Our district leaders are certainly influencers to our clubs, however they are not the only influencers you may encounter at a DCON. I remember my first DCON I met past governor Joan VanArsdalen. She had such a passion for Kiwanis. Ideas seemed to flood effortlessly from her. That day, she became...
October
20-22 Circle K Fall Rally-Holly
21 Kiwanis MI Foundation Board, 9:30 AM Mason
     Club Opening Event- Lincoln Park/Taylor
28 Kiwanis OneDay (District Wide)

November
1-5 Governor-Elect Training, Indianapolis
4 Past Lt. Governor's Council, 9:30 AM, Mason
11 Key Club Fall Rally-Mt. Pleasant
15-16 Club Opening-Bath/Dewitt
18 Circle K Snowpia-Northwood
16-19 District Secretaries Conference Las Vegas
23-24 THANKSGIVING--District Office Closed

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Builder Publication Schedule

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Attention: Club Presidents, Secretaries & Bulletin Editors;
Lt. Governors and District Chairpersons. Submit all articles, photos
and video to Thebuilder@mikiwanis.org. All photo and artwork must
be sent as either jpg or bmp files. Video must be sent as mpeg files.
Welcome to a new year and a new beginning for Kiwanis in Michigan.

I am honored and privileged to be Governor for the Michigan District for the 2017 – 2018 year and am ready to move our District forward with a vision:

- Develop Leaders
- Open and strengthen Clubs
- Be an integral part of our Service Leadership Programs
- Bring awareness in our communities, of who and what Kiwanis is, and
- Have more volunteering to serve more children in our communities

Kiwanis begins with each and every Kiwanian! You are Kiwanis! Every member and each club is extremely important. The service that each member accomplishes improves the lives of children and their families. The Michigan District of Kiwanis and Kiwanis International’s role is to support each Kiwanis member and club.

My role is to listen, encourage, guide and mentor each Kiwanian and Club so you can: to

- Achieve your goals and potential
- Provide meaningful service and
- Be a viable club in your community.

**How can this be accomplished?**

- By first having a Vision: We have an IPLAN that is a strategic plan to help us achieve our goals. WE would like each member and club to utilize the District’s goals by setting your own immediate goals in your clubs in order to meet the needs and service of your communities.

- How can we accomplish this? When members of each club work with each other as teams, extend that team to your divisions, and with the guidance of your Lt Governor, the Michigan District and myself, and using the support provided, then GREAT things can be accomplished!

- What can each of us do? Communicate within our clubs, set up a plan for the year, and evaluate it at least quarterly, to see if you are on target of your goals. Use your Lt Governor as your guide. They will be able to answer many questions you have, and are your immediate resource. Their role is to help you. They have on going training to assist each club in their division. If they don’t know the answers, they will get them.

The Michigan District and I are here to assist you with your goals, questions and concerns. Take time to read the MI Builder and look at the resources available for you on the website.

Each year, our District has an Int’l Trustee assigned to us, to assist in accomplishing our goals. We are excited to have Gary Levine to work with our district, bringing his level of expertise to Michigan.

The next level of support is from Kiwanis Int’. Check out their website – SO much information and FREE materials, video trainings, ideas and suggestions are available to assist you and your club.

As a member of Kiwanis, look within yourself, and your club to develop new leaders. Every person has strengths and leadership qualities. Ask each member of your club for ideas, and have all members develop ownership to your club by sharing activities, no matter how small it could be. Clubs will witness new leaders emerging.

The year of 2017-2018 will be a year to strengthen existing clubs, and open new clubs. We need and want to keep Kiwanis, in the forefront of our communities. When we have more Kiwanis members, we can help more children! We have a Formula Team in Michigan, to accomplish this. You will also hear about the EYE of the TIGER team. This extension has been developed by our incoming International President, Jim Rochford. It consists of part of the Formula Team, Eye of the Tiger Lead for our region, the Lt. Governors and myself.

What does it mean? It means we are focused, confident and determined!

Why do we have these teams? To lead our District to move forward, with the help of each member of Kiwanis, so we can provide more service to children.

OUR Service Leadership Programs also develop leaders starting with K-Kids in Elementary schools, Builders Clubs for Middle School, Key Club in High School, and Circle K at the College Level. Please support, sponsor and do service with our Future Leaders. Send students to Key Leader, a weekend concentrated on building confidence, values and commitment to service for our youth.

Continued on page 4
Wear Kiwanis clothes, pins, use Kiwanis cards and materials. Bring up Kiwanis in your conversations with people you meet. Put your Kiwanis club in the news; Media is your club's best friend. These simple things can let people outside of Kiwanis know who we are and what we do in our communities. Develop your own unique signature project so everyone in your area will know when they hear the name Kiwanis, they will identify your club with that project.

Commit yourself to do more service this year. Let us increase our level of service to at least 10% more than last year.

In the year of 2017-2018, Let us use our commitment to Kiwanis to:
• develop new leaders
• Strengthen clubs and open clubs. The Formula and Eye of the Tiger teams are here for you!
• Bring awareness to Kiwanis in our Communities through marketing who we are, what we do, and our significance in our immediate communities.
• Work with and support our Service Leadership Programs and by doing service projects with each other and increase meaningful service
• Develop our own signature projects.
• Make our Clubs financially sustainable
• Participate in projects in all levels.
• This means your club, your division and Kiwanis International One Day.

Michigan will also have our OWN Day of Service on March 3rd. Your Lt Governor will work with their clubs to develop a Division Service Day, doing a Service activity with the members of all the clubs in your own division and with your SLP’s.

In conclusion,
PLEASE Remember, I want to work and support each club, and its members, while improving the lives of children and families.
As a Team, Great things can occur. We are the Kiwanis Family!
Let us work in fellowship, and have fun, while we serve our children with Meaningful Service.
I commit to working hard, using my passion and knowledge, to support every Kiwanian to be successful in accomplishing your goals this year. I WANT TO THANK EACH AND EVERYONE FOR ALL YOU DO FOR CHILDREN and KIWANIS!
I look forward to your support with my commitment to support you this year. Let us work and play as a TEAM and move the Michigan District Forward in 2017-2018.

Marian

Continued from page 4

Continued from page 1

an influencer to me. Several years later, she probably does not even remember that day and perhaps does not even remember me. However, that day she made a difference in my life.
Saturday afternoon at DCON there was a feedback and Q&A session. Our Governor, Dee Hudson and Governor-Designate, Marian O’Higgins sat with members across the district and fielded questions that members had. They listened as members voiced opinions both positive and negative. And passionately attempted to come up with solutions that made sense.

Several Kiwanis Dignitaries joined us throughout the weekend including Immediate Past Kiwanis International President, Sue Petrisin- Kiwanis International Chief Executive Officer- Stan Soderstrom, Past Kiwanis International President- Paul Palazzolo, Kiwanis International Trustee- Gary Levine, Kiwanis International Director of Member Services- Joan Wilson, Kiwanis International Chief Marketing Officer- Amy Wiser, Kiwanis International Children’s Fund- Jereme Grinslade as well as many of our current and past district leaders. These leaders made themselves available throughout the weekend for conversations, offer tips/tricks, or for a simple handshake.

3. Networking Opportunities: As a marketing professional, many would assume that I am not only comfortable but also prefer social media networking as opposed to in person. That is simply not true. Social media is fantastic! It allows us to stay connected with those near and far. However, there is absolutely no substitution for meeting someone in real life. Like any good convention, DCON afforded the opportunity to mingle, form new relationships and strengthen existing ones. Meals allow the opportunity for discussion and catching up. At workshops, you may find yourself sitting next to your new best friend! Many of my closest friends were met this way. And I’m not just referring to friends I see once a year at convention. These are friends that have become a part of my daily life.
Perhaps you’re in need of a mentor, you can find that at DCON. During a workshop led by past KI President, Sue Petrisin a member shared some issues she was having in her club and expressed that she wished she had someone to mentor and help her. Without hesitation, Sue Petrisin volunteered to be that woman’s mentor. I bet she is thankful she decided to attend workshops!
As a new year begins...

In Michigan, the days are getting shorter, the nights cooler, and leaves are starting to turn color. To most Michiganders, this means it is fall. To Kiwanians, it is the start of a new year. The Kiwanis calendar begins October 1, with new leadership, new plans of action and new excitement.

If you were at the district convention in September, you know there were opportunities for learning, new ideas, new ways to brand Kiwanis, get media attention, and find and retain members. There was excitement in the air as we greeted Kiwanis members and made new friends. The democratic process was shown during the delegate session, caucuses, and our longtime traditions were honored. It was both fun and educational.

For me personally, being elected as your Governor-Elect was humbling, exciting, special and an honor. This year 2017-2018, will be a learning year for me. I will pay close attention to what is happening in our clubs, our district, and Kiwanis International. Hopefully, I will have ideas and suggestions from all of you, too. As the year progresses, I hope to formulate my plans for reaching the goals I feel are important for a healthy and successful district.

I believe communication is one of the most important aspects of Kiwanis –We can learn from each other, support each other, and appreciate all of our successes as one Michigan District! As Governor-Elect, I will make communication a priority. Please call and let me know what I can do to help your club.

We, as individuals and clubs, are doing great things for communities here in Michigan and across the world. We all recognize that kids need Kiwanis, and the programs and activities we support.

My goals for this year are to support Governor Marian O’Higgins and be there to help with her governorship. I will continue to work on increasing membership and helping Andre Laubach with the formula and opening new clubs. In the future, we need to look at increasing educational opportunities, develop a leadership training plan, and work on a long-term business plan.

I am excited and ready to work hard for the district. I am open-minded and willing to listen to your needs, and want to see us have a fun year! I am up to the challenge and exited to be your governor elect for 2017-2018.

Thank you for your support and giving me this honor to serve you!

Larry Memmer
2017-18 Governor-Elect
Michigan District
Governor-elect@mikiwanis.org
100 year old Michigan organization is poised to grow over the next several years and needs positions filled to support that growth.

With an ever-expanding footprint throughout the state, we need local men and women of all ages to be available and lead so the organization can realize an even greater positive impact on children. If one or more of the following criteria describes you, you may be qualified to be considered for one of these positions.

- Enjoy meeting new people
- Are passionate about making a difference
- Like working with groups
- Ready for new challenges outside of your current group
- Want to help set the direction of the organization
- Interested in opening locations in new areas
- Interested in strengthening existing locations
- Want more responsibility and accountability

Training, mentoring and support are available throughout the whole process and for as long as you are in the position. Why does this organization need these positions filled at this time?

Because #KidsNeedKiwanis

To get more information or to say “I’m ready to be considered now!”, please contact Governor-Marian O’Higgins, Formula Chair-Andre Laubach or Executive Director-Greg Smith.
I have been in Kiwanis for nearly 10 years. During that time, I have been truly amazed by the quality of servant leaders we have in the Michigan District. I have seen leaders who can inspire and motivate. I have witnessed so many acts of compassion and caring that some members should be sainted. We have some awesome and talented leaders in the Michigan District of Kiwanis. The concern is that we need a stronger pipeline of leaders so we prepare the Michigan District of Kiwanis for success in the future.

If I were to ask several people what Kiwanis Leadership means to them, I know I would get a plethora of answers, and I’d even get a few duplicate answers. Looking at the word graph below, you’ll notice there are words that people consider traits of a leader.

Whether you agree or disagree is not the point. The point is this. A leader is someone who creates an inspiring vision of the future, and motivates and inspires people to engage with that vision.

The Michigan District of Kiwanis wants to hear from you. We want to know what you and your club need to grow. We want to grow future club and division leaders, and we cannot do this alone. We are focused on your success, and we are here to help.

We each have something valuable to share that will help us grow and succeed. Share your thoughts with me. Give me your feedback. Bend my ear. Share what you know. We will not grow and develop as a district if we don’t hear from you. Help us grow a strong pipeline of future leaders. Your feedback will be used to shape the future leaders of the district, and we’ll put it to use in 2018.

I am Preston Abadie and I am the District Education Chair. You may contact me via email at plabadie@comcast.net or on my phone at 734-752-1015.

I am reminded of the actual meaning of Kiwanis when I think of leadership. We do!

Speaking of growing future leaders, make sure you save the date for our upcoming Midwinter Growth Session where you can learn about your leadership potential.

It will be held February 17, 2018, at the Management Education Center located at 811 W. Square Lake Rd., Troy, MI, 48098.

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Dear Kiwanis Member,

The Equifax breach is a stark reminder that you and your employees need identity theft protection. Every year over 10 million Americans have their identity stolen. Here is what you need to know about the Equifax breach.

Equifax Breach Quick Facts: Equifax is one of the 3 major credit bureaus and has access to some of the most sensitive information.

- Number of people affected: 143 million Americans, which is 44% of the population, which could mean 44% of your workforce.
- Data compromised: Names, social security numbers, birthdates, addresses, driver’s license numbers, and credit cards numbers--just about every important piece of personal information you have!

What does this mean: 143 million people and their families are at risk of their identities being stolen and it could take up to 18 months to resolve. This breach can cause stress, distraction, absenteeism, lowered productivity and leave your company vulnerable and your employees defenseless against this life-long threat.

What can you do: Shield yourself and your employees with IDShield, a comprehensive identity theft plan that provides access to licensed private investigators, credit monitoring and internet monitoring.

Listen as Morgan Wright, U.S. State Department Senior anti-terrorism adviser, provides tips on what consumers can do immediately to pro-actively protect themselves if they think their personal information was compromised from Equifax’s data breach and he references his IDShield Membership!

Out of 143,000+ companies, IDShield is THE best service at THE best price. As a Kiwanis member you receive the lowest price of 8.95/single coverage or 18.95/entire family coverage.

For more information or to enroll: www.legalshield.com/info/mikiwanis
The Children in the Michigan District thank you from their hearts as they reap the benefits from your hard work with the projects and fund raisers achieved in this fiscal year. These children don’t know you, and you probably don’t know them, but they know that Kiwanis is their friend and there to help!

October 1, 2016 we began our Kids Need Helping Hands Campaign. I am proud and happy to say that the members of our district have responded by providing those helping hands and encouragement to children via our K-Kids, Builders Clubs, Key Clubs, CKI, Aktion Club, and Key Leader programs. The other beneficiaries of our Helping Hands have been the four Children’s Hospitals in Michigan: Children’s Hospital of Detroit, Mary Free Bed in Grand Rapids, C. S. Mott in Ann Arbor and McLaren Children’s Hospital in Petoskey.

This year I have had the opportunity to travel all over our great district and participate in many major celebrations of dedicated years of service to the Children, to counsel clubs, participate in a project or service event and last, but not least, to open a new club where Kiwanis was needed in 7 unserved communities.

Our District team of Governor, Governor-Elect, Lt. Governors, District Chairs, Formula Team, Club Advisors, Counselors and Club Openers have been very busy working to grow our service areas as well as to develop new programs and projects in the communities that we currently serve.

We have had a very successful and rewarding year in the Michigan District, and we all look Forward to continuing our growth and service into 2017 – 2018 under the leadership of Governor Marian O’Higgins.

Dee Hudson | Governor Michigan District 2016 - 2017
Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation

A ninety-six year tradition of Michigan Kiwanians stepping up and helping Children and Families cope with the challenges of childhood hospitalization.

Make helping Hospitalized Children part of your Kiwanis Holiday Tradition!

Christmas 2016
225 Individual Kiwanians and 22 Kiwanis Clubs could not be wrong!

This Holiday Season, rather than purchasing Holiday Cards, purchasing stamps, writing notes, address envelopes, sealing envelopes for your Kiwanis friends you can participate in the 2017 Thomas Oliver Holiday Greetings Program.

Make a contribution to the Thomas Oliver Holiday Greetings Program, supporting hospitalized children, and your greeting will be published in the December/January issue of the Michigan Builder.

See your Division’s Michigan Foundation Trustee for more information. Our deadline is November 4th.

[ ] Cash Contribution, Amount $___________
[ ] Check made payable to Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation, Amount $___________
[ ] Charge my contribution of $______.00 to my: (Your Contribution must be at least $20.00 to charge it.)

[ ] VISA [ ] MASTER CARD (Sorry, we only accept VISA & Master Card)

Account Number ____________ Zip Code ____________ Expiration Date ____________

Name as it appears on your credit card ___________________________________________

Signature ___________________________________________________________________

Please complete this information for your Thomas Oliver Greeting to appear in the MI Builder

Your name and title as you would like it to appear in the Builder (Please Print)

Your Kiwanis Club _______________________________ Your Division _______________________________

Please complete the following information if you would like to receive a receipt.

Address _______________________________ City ____________ State ____________ Zip ____________

Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation, P. O. Box 231, Mason, Michigan 48854-0231
Engage your Service Leadership Programs as part of the Michigan Kiwanis Family

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

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

Builders Club Administrator
Nicole Gayney
616-322-6299
nicole@grosseilekiwanis.org

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

Key Club Administrator:
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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: loril2547@yahoo.com

Kiwanis Family Members

Are you ready to take service to new heights? Let’s take to the skies together at the Michigan District of Circle K International’s Fall Rally! Join students from all across Michigan for a weekend of food, fun, and fellowship! Enjoy the numerous amenities of Camp Ohiyesa in Holly, MI, (7300 Hickory Ridge Rd) as well as incredibly unique volunteer events, fundraisers, and games to get to know your fellow Kiwanis Family Members!

Kiwanis family members join us on Saturday the 21st from 9 am to 3 pm for service and lunch free of charge as long as you volunteer. Registration deadline is Tuesday, October 10th at 11:59 PM!

We look forward to taking to the skies with you in a weekend of service, leadership, and fellowship! Any questions, please contact Emily Williams at williame@northwood.edu Or Sean Nauss at Snauss14@gmail.com

Want to make a small investment with a HUGE return?

The 2018 Key Leader weekend will be held April 20-22, 2018. Last year, Kiwanis changed the lives of nearly 4,000 youths across the world by sending them to Key Leader Weekend. Let’s change the lives of even more in 2018 by teaching about servant leadership, integrity, respect, growth, community, and excellence.

How can you help? Sponsor a youth, 14 to 17 years of age, to Key Leader weekend, and change their life by inspiring them to achieve their personal best through service leadership.

Who can sponsor? Your Kiwanis Club, your Church, Mom, Dad, Grandmother, Grandfather, Aunt, Uncle, anyone can sponsor a child. The cost is small, $250.00 for a student, and $225.00 for a Key Club Member. You will truly be amazed at the return on your investment!

Need more information? Visit our website www.key-leader.org or you can contact Carol Abadie, Michigan Key Leader Chair, via email at Cabadie@comcast.net.

Support Key Club by going out to dinner on November 16th!

The Michigan District of Key Club, Inc. has teamed up with Chipotle Restaurants to do a fundraiser to help with our Kids Coalition Against Hunger food packaging event at the 67th Annual Service Leadership Conference.

According to Nick Azzopardi, Marketing Strategist for Michigan and Toledo with Chipotle “We do more than just roll burritos. Each of our restaurants is committed to supporting local groups like neighboring schools, youth sports teams and non-profit organizations like the Key Club. One way we do this is by hosting fundraisers at our restaurants. When you partner with your local Chipotle restaurant to raise money for your group, a whopping 50% of each bill from your supporters’ Chipotle orders will go to your organization.”

All over Michigan, Chipotle Restaurants will be giving 50% of in store orders on November 16th from 5-9PM. For the Michigan District of Key Club, Inc. to receive the 50% from the order, you must take in a flyer, show the flyer on your smart phone, or tell the cashier you are supporting our cause.

Flyers will be mailed out to all Kiwanis Club President’s and Secretaries in October and November for dissemination to the membership. Please consider supporting Key Club in this fundraiser. The more money raised with the fundraiser will allow us to package over 40,000 meals!
**books for kids**

*Project Questions & Answers:*

**DESCRIBE THE PROJECT:**
Kiwanis Detroit No. 1’s signature project “books for kids” is designed to reverse the trend of illiteracy in the City of Detroit, starting with school-age children. The project has been ongoing for over 10 years, and impacts the lives of over 100,000 children annually by providing students and teachers books and materials they normally would not be able to afford. To date over $10 million in book donations have been raised, and with the help of our sponsored organizations (Circle K, Key Club & Young Professionals), over 1.5 million books have been distributed.

**DESCRIBE THE NEED BEING MET. WAS A COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT COMPLETED TO DETERMINE THE NEED?**
The findings from the Rice and Columbia Universities interviews show that affluent children hear 30 million more words in the first three years of their lives than poor children. The 30-million-word gap has been linked to poor school performance, a failure to learn to read, a failure to graduate from high school, and an inability to prepare for and to enjoy career success. The shortfall has astounding and bitter consequences. The Skillman Foundation reported that an estimated 47% of adults and over 40% of school-age children were functionally illiterate. The unemployment rate is officially at 25% but which the Skillman Foundation estimated at nearly 50%. Illiteracy leads to unemployment, and unemployment leads to lives of poverty, crime and abuse.

**DESCRIBE THE POPULATION BEING SERVED?**
The target population is school-age children K-12.

**HOW DOES THE PROJECT BENEFIT CHILDREN?**
See Question B above.

**WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF THE PROJECT-HOW MANY PEOPLE WERE SERVED?**
It is estimated that the number of children served annually is over 100,000 (1.3 million in total). The table below shows the percentage of books that go to various organizations and programs.

***Detroit No. 1’s logo for “books for kids” project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization Type</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Schools – Public and Charter</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start Programs</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Kiwanis Organizations serving children</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church Literacy Programs</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic groups with literacy programs</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library programs focused on literacy</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other not-for-profit organizations with literacy programs</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We estimate that over 100 members of the No. 1 Club and its sponsored organizations (Circle K, Key Club and Young Professionals) participate in some way annually.

**IS THE PROJECT RECURRING?**
As you may well imagine, reversing illiteracy is a huge undertaking. We have been supporting this project for over 10 years and we expect to continue well into the future.

**ARE THERE KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL OFFICIAL PARTNERS INVOLVED?**
No

Continued on page 12
ARE THERE KIWANIS PARTNERS OUTSIDE OF KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL’S OFFICIAL PARTNERS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT?
-Amazon              -Delta Dental
-Hackett Brass     -DeCarlo Catering
-DENCAP Dental Plan

DESCRIBE HOW THE KIWANIS BRAND IS INCORPORATED INTO THE PROJECT?
Each book is stickered with a Kiwanis logo sticker. In addition, each teacher who comes to the warehouse to select books is greeted by a member wearing his/her Kiwanis badge. We also have sponsorship brochures for the program which incorporate the Kiwanis logo.

HOW IS THE PROJECT PROMOTED?
It is now a well-established program known throughout the Detroit Public Schools, their students and parents. See also Question 1.

HOW MANY THIRD –PARTY MEDIA HITS RESULTED? HOW MANY SOCIAL MEDIA SHARES WERE MADE?
“books for kids” is promoted on our website. Teachers contact us to schedule appointments through our website and through email. Roughly 200,000 hits or impressions occur annually for this project. Information about the program is also shared periodically on our Facebook page.

HOW DOES THE PROJECT ATTRACT NEW MEMBERS?
“books for kids” is a popular project among all members. Since it is our signature project, we share it with all prospective members and it is featured prominently in our recruitment process.

HOW MANY NEW MEMBERS WERE GAINED BY THIS PROJECT?
The project is not designed as a recruitment tool, even though it is mentioned in our recruitment process. Therefore, we do not measure its effectiveness in recruiting and could not say with any degree of confidence the number of members gained through this project. But as was mentioned earlier, it is a popular service project.

WHAT IS THE TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT?
We provide $20,000 in direct support for the project and have received approximately $1 million in donations per year from partners and publishers. We estimate that approximately 10,000 hours are donated annually by our volunteer members and partners.

TOTAL PER MEMBER COST OF THE PROJECT?
For the entire 10 year period, the total cost per member for the project is approximately $4,500, which is a very conservative estimate. This number assumes our club had an average of 45 members in the last 10 years and that we incurred $20,000 in expenses related to the project each year.

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED BY THIS PROJECT?
In the ten years we have supported and sponsored this project, we have received in excess of $10 million in support from partners and publishers.

WHAT IS THE PER MEMBER AMOUNT OF FUNDS RAISED BY THIS PROJECT?
For the entire 10 year period, we have raised approximately $220,000 per member.

DID MEMBERS OF A SERVICE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM CLUB PARTICIPATE?
See Questions A & E.
Members of the Gladwin and West Branch Kiwanis Clubs loaded a truck with 155 bags of your old shoes to save the lives of over 4,300 babies. Left to right: Josh (the driver from Funds2.org); back row sitting: Jim Stange, Donna Dysinger, Dan Sheehan, Diana Miller; front row standing: Roy Mienk, Denny Shumway (W. Branch Kiwanis); Linda & Dave Crawford, Duane Miller, Elaine Shumway (W. Branch Kiwanis), and Werner VonDaggenhausen (W. Branch Kiwanis).

Members of the Gladwin and West Branch Kiwanis Clubs loaded a truck with 155 bags of your old shoes that literally help change the world – especially for over 4,300 babies.

One hundred fifty-five bags with 25 pair of old shoes amount to 3875 pairs of shoes.

The people of Gladwin County and West Branch have demonstrated that they care and want to make a difference! They have brought over 3,875 pairs of shoes to the collection boxes around the area to help Kiwanis provide tetanus shots to young women around the world so that their babies can be born without suffering from tetanus. This is not the first truckload to have been collected locally.

Here is how it works. When you bring your good/old shoes to one of the collection boxes, Kiwanis collects approximately $10 per bag that is used to purchase tetanus vaccine for young women of childbearing age in areas around the world that have been experiencing the death of a newborn every 9 minutes due to tetanus. The vaccine protects the women for 10 years so their babies will not be born with tetanus. Those 155 bags of shoes produce $1,550.00 – enough to provide vaccine for 861 women. Since each woman will have an average of 5 children, these funds will give approximately 4,300 babies a chance to live!

Old shoes are helping to save lives. Kiwanis Clubs all around the world are working with the United Nations International Children’s Fund to save the lives of newborn babies in many third world countries by preventing maternal neonatal tetanus. Tetanus is a disease we don’t even think about in our society because we all get tetanus shots. But that is not the case in many villages around the world.

The collection of old shoes is a simple way of raising money for this project.

UNICEF has been setting up the networks with governments and is delivering both education and the shots around the world, often to areas where there are no medical facilities. Kiwanis committed to raise $110 million to make this happen.

If you would like more information or if you have questions, contact Duane Miller at 989-426-2644.

You can make a difference!
Clean out the shoes piled up in your closet now!
4. **Resources:** The vendor area was filled with fresh resources and ideas for us. We saw our Kiwanis partners, District store, convention information, Fundraising ideas, service project ideas etc. This was information that we could undoubtedly find on their websites, however to get hands-on demonstration and be able to ask specific questions to a real life person was phenomenal!

5. **New Tips & Tricks:** With the age of technology that we live in today it is easy to believe that we have everything we need at our finger tips. However, it can be difficult to navigate the clutter and figure out the best content possible for the area you are interested in. I had the honor once again of teaching a class at convention on Social Media for beginners. In the room were several past governors of the Michigan District. They have been around the block a few times and I thought they were likely taking my session more for moral support to me. So, imagine my surprise when I was approached by each of them separately after session to share with me what they learned from me that day. One past governor even mentioned she was surprised she had learned something new.

6. **Energy of like-minded people:** Hands down, there is nothing like being in a room of like-minded people. The passion and excitement for Kiwanis and serving our communities bubbled out of the pores of all present. At the Honors lunch when so many wonderful individuals and clubs were recognized, I found myself with goose bumps. When our first gentleman, Al Hudson auctioned off antique gum ball machines to raise money for our Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation, the passion for helping our sick children radiated through.

7. **Have a voice:** Decisions are not just made for us and we must sit by and accept it. Our DCON’s (and ICON-International Convention) have a delegate session. This allows clubs to send 3 delegates who will speak on behalf of the club on matters that affect us all. This year we had 2 controversial subjects that were presented to the delegates for voting. The first being a dues increase and the second being voting privileges for our executive director. The second issue was truly an example of every vote counts. We had 165 total delegates in session as of 3:04 pm which means 110 delegates were needed to pass the motions requiring a 2/3 majority vote. The vote for the executive directors voting privilege ended up with 98 in favor and 67 opposed, therefore the motion failed for not meeting the 2/3 majority. So, think about that, 12 votes more for the yay’s would have made this motion pass. That’s 4 clubs that weren’t present or clubs that only sent 1-2 delegates sending a full slate of 3 delegates. Regardless on which side of the issue you were on that should be eye opening. Those that wanted it to pass were within a few votes, those that did not want it to pass could’ve seen it slip away. I bring this up not because of the amendment itself. But to show the power of your votes. If you want a voice, you need to be there.

8. **FUN!:** I saved the best for last. Fun! That is the top word I would use to describe our 100th Michigan District of Kiwanis Convention. Thursday evening our district board met for dinner to kick off the festivities and enjoy fellowship. We had AMAZING speakers who were highly entertaining at the kick-off lunch. Friday evening members took the ski lifts to the top and raced down the slide. Afterwards, enjoying a nice bonfire. Saturday was filled with engaging workshops, networking, fellowship, recognition, and a memorable Governor’s Ball. I would be remiss if I left out the unofficial parts. Each evening when the organized activities were over groups of Kiwanians could be found playing cards, games, socializing, and enjoying food and drinks. Some could argue that’s where the “real business” happens. The bonds that are grown through conventions are unmatched.

I get it. Convention can be expensive. From the travel expenses and hotel to the meals and babysitter. However, conventions allow a unique convergence of networking, learning, and fun into a single package. Kiwanis Convention forces you to grow and challenge yourself.
Kalamazoo

WE DID IT

With only 11 members the Westside – Kalamazoo club paid off its Model Club pledge of $13,500 way before the due date of December 31, 2020. With a generous contribution and everyone working together over a period of time we were able to eliminate Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus to 7,500 mothers and their babies.

With the original pledge of 18 members, but due to attrition and other circumstances, we were able to complete this with only 11 members. If we can do this other clubs in the district can too. Let’s step up to the plate and help pay off any pledges or commitments clubs may have to the Eliminate project.

Not in picture: Dan & Roberta Coleman, Charlie and Doris Miller, Jeff Burkey, Ken Pratt, Kristin Ray, Shirley Ray, James and Julie Reslock,

**In Memoriam**

**SHERRILL HODSON**
Cheboygan

**THOMAS R. TODD**
Colonial Plymouth

**KEVIN BIRDSONG**
**JOHN E. “JACK” DEMMER**
Dearborn

**JAMES R. FIROS**
Lansing

**BONNIE HERTLER**
Manchester

**W. LARRY COLLINS**
Lt. Governor 1994-95
Mt. Pleasant

**ROBERT GALL**
Plymouth

**JOSEPH T. OWEZAREK**
Sterling Heights

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Net gain is from 10-1-16 thru 8-31-17 and includes clubs only with at least a net gain of +5 based on official membership numbers supplied by Kiwanis International.