

April 2008

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MINNEKOTAN

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Bill's Pitch

Governor Elect Bill Lardy, Membership Chairperson Stewart Ross, KI Membership Development Manager Ben Kocourek have put together a session to be held in Sioux Falls on moving your club from good to great through membership growth and satisfaction.



The session will be held at the University of Sioux Falls on Saturday April 19th from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm at the Cleveland Professional Center at 26th Street and Prairie Ave.

Clubs from both Regions 5 and 6 are invited to attend this free first of a kind session in Minn/Dak. We hope to have representatives from clubs within 100 miles of Sioux Falls in attendance.

Please mark it down and plan to attend. Let me know at pugowner@sio.midco.net so that we can have enough coffee and rolls for all to enjoy.

Governor Bill Daugherty

Update from the Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer - April 2008

By Steve Handegaard, Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer

Greetings Kiwanians,

COMING SOON! The Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District will soon have a new district website. Kiwanis International, with the leadership of Scott Smith, KI Technology Director, has agreed to build our district a new website with similar and many improved features (at no charge to our district!). The MINNEKOTAN online newsletter will also have new a new look and new features. The new site will be used as a pilot and model for other Kiwanis International Districts. The new website is expected to be completed and online in the next couple of months. Watch for more details.



A few other items:

- Monthly Club Reports:** Thanks again to club secretaries that submit their club reports online each month. Once again I would like to give you just a snapshot of the combined service work of clubs in our Minnesota-Dakotas District. According to the monthly club reports submitted from October to date, we have had 2896 different service projects with a total of 39,617 member service hours. In addition, clubs reported spending \$141,111.00 on these service projects. During the same time period 315 interclub visits were reported. The service that each and every club provides in their own community is truly fantastic, but when you consider the total service of Kiwanis Clubs around the world it is even more amazing. (Reminder to club secretaries: Be sure that your club monthly reports are submitted online by the 10th of each following month.)

- **Club Elections:** Just a reminder that your club election results will be due June 1st. Club secretaries will submit the club election reports through the same KiwanisOne webpage that we use for monthly club reporting.
- **Kiwanis International Convention in Orlando, June 26-29, 2008:** Remember that after April 25 the registration fee for the International Convention will increase from \$175 to \$200 and the non-member rate increases from \$85 to \$100. If you have not already submitted your registration form, we encourage you to do so before April 25 to secure the advance rates. Be sure that your club is represented. In addition to lots of Kiwanis education, fun and fellowship, remember that club delegates are the ones that determine the future of our International organization. You can register online now at Kiwanis International Website <http://www.kiwanis.org/>
- **Lt. Governor Education Conference Planned:** Governor Elect Bill Lardy, along with the Lt. Governor team for the upcoming 2008-2009 Kiwanis year will be meeting May 2-4 in Fergus Falls. They will be learning more about their role on the district level and developing district plans and goals.
- **District Kiwanis Foundation Board and Past Governors Meeting:** Both of these groups will be meeting May 16-17 in Fergus Falls.

Finally, think Membership Growth at all times! Only through maintaining and growing our membership can we be the vibrant service organization that is truly “Serving the Children of the World”.

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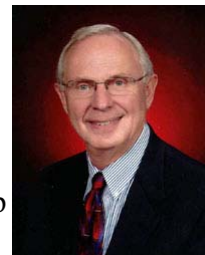
Phone: 218-589-7581

Fax: 218-589-7582

Email: secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org

Leading to Serve by Bill Lardy, Governor Elect

In his column this month Governor Bill Daugherty tells of a Growth Summit being held in Sioux Falls on Saturday, April 12. This event will provide a big boost to Sioux Falls area clubs as they work to grow their membership. I wish them well. I know the communities and clubs will benefit a great deal from the Summit.



At the other end of the state, on March 11, Rapid City Westside, under the leadership of President Kathleen Van Horn, held a membership blitz at its regular meeting. Approximately 10 prospective members attended the meeting which featured District Membership Growth and New Club Chair Stewart Ross as the program. The club has already received applications from most of the prospective members. Congratulations to that club and its leadership team! The entire process was a great effort that is paying off handsomely.

These are the types of events and efforts that will revitalize the clubs and allow them to better serve their communities. What these clubs are doing can, and should, be done by clubs in other areas if clubs are to thrive and growth. If you are interested to learning more please contact me or District Membership Chair Stewart Ross. We will do all we can to help.

MN-DAK District Convention news

Speakers are being signed up, forum leaders are getting into place, and the service project is set for this years convention.

Jazz bands, keynote speakers, as well as a lot of very good informative and worthwhile Kiwanis information will be coming your way at the 2008 Minn-Dak District Convention.

This convention will take place in the beautiful Marriott Convention center in Moorhead, Minnesota and the dates for you all to put on your calender are August 8-9-10, 2008.



Watch your mail in early May for more exciting announcements regarding the Service project and the fun filled family night.

Rapid City Downtown Club Receives Starfish Award

At its regular meeting March 12th, the Rapid City Downtown Kiwanis Club received the Starfish Award for Distinguished Service to Community for its contribution to Rapid City school children. The award was presented to project chair, Carl Bangert, by Rapid City School Superintendent Dr. Peter Wharton and Chief Academic Officer James Ghents.

The award title has a most interesting story behind it. It was named for one child's effort to protect one beached starfish while understanding there were perhaps thousands of such star fish in need of assistance

The school district recognized the club for its purchasing of thousands of dollars worth of shoes and socks each year for needy area school children.

At a special Board Meeting, chaired by club president Gus Jacob, preceding the regular meeting and award presentation, Rapid City Downtown Club heard a special request by two General Beadle Elementary School K-Kids Club members and their School Advisor Lorrie Melone.

The Rapid City Downtown Kiwanis Club sponsors the only K-Kids Club in Region 4. Funds were approved for Easter basket gifts for residents of a local nursing home.

Present for the meeting was Governor-Elect Bill Lardy visiting from Bismarck ND. Also present was Lyle Sonnenschein, Lt Governor for Region 4, visiting as a member of the Kiwanis Club of the Black Hills, Hot Springs.

Clubs Encouraged to Nominate for Citizenship Award

To All Kiwanis Clubs in the Minnesota-Dakotas District:

Each year the Past District Officers Association (PDOA) selects a person or person(s) from within the Minnesota-Dakotas District to receive the “**Citizenship Award.**” Nominees are submitted by Kiwanis Clubs of the Minnesota-Dakotas District. The award recipient(s) will be recognized at the banquet at our annual Minnesota-Dakotas District Convention in Moorhead August 8th-10th on Saturday evening.

There is not a formal application. If your club wishes to submit a nomination, please:

1. Submit a nomination of a person or person(s) who have been a part of a heroic deed this past year (between July 2007 and June 2008).
2. Include a short description of the circumstances of the heroic deed, and any news clippings or other supporting information.
3. Include the name of your Kiwanis Club and President, a contact person with the contact information (preferably e-mail address) and the name of your Lieutenant Governor and Region Number.

The PDOA will inform the nominating Club if their nominee was chosen for the award. The nominating Kiwanis Club is responsible for the travel and lodging expenses for the recipient to attend the banquet at the District Convention. The PDOA will pay for the recipient's meal at the banquet.

The information must be submitted by June 30th, 2008 to:

Mary Dierbeck, PDOA President
252 South Cove Road
Hudson, WI 54016

Mdierb7843@aol.com

Power of a Penny

Two dozen Moorhead K-Kids from Ellen Hopkins School kicked off their shoes in solidarity with Greg Mortenssen, best-selling author and fellow do-gooder. The K-Kids started a penny fundraiser for the Pennies for Peace organization. Jen Nelson read the bestseller book co-wrote by Greg Mortensen, Three Cups of Tea during Christmas break and was inspired to do something for the children of Pakistan and Afghanistan. She met with the K-Kids and discussed the idea. She also educated them on this area and the great need these kids have for education. The K-Kids with Jen's assistance put together a slide show to present to the Ellen Hopkins students and asked them to participate in bringing in pennies from home. Over the course of a couple weeks each class collected pennies.

Greg Mortensen, was in town as a guest speaker at Concordia for the Nobel Peace Prize Forum and stopped by the school to meet the K-Kids. He spent time with the kids, showed them the video related to his organization, asked questions about why they had taken on this project and informed them about the great need for education for kids around the world. He also encouraged them to write letters to the kids in Pakistan; he explained that these kids have never received any presents and how powerful receiving a letter would be to them. He indicated that one penny can buy a pencil and 100 pennies can pay for teacher for one day.

The interaction with Greg Mortensen was definitely worth more than all the pennies collected in a wonderful service learning project for the K-Kids and students at Ellen Hopkins School.

AKtion Club

Sponsors are in place, the agency has signed the papers and the lists of prospects for the newest AKtion club in the Minn-Dak district is under way.

Lowell Disrud, Region 2 Lt. Governor, and Larry Rittgarn, district Education director have been hard at work to get this newest club up and running.

The Fraser Hall Agency in Fargo, has signed on as the Agency that will be responsible for this new club, and the 7 Kiwanis clubs in the FM area have all agreed to co-sponsor this new club.

Over 100 prospects have been identified for membership and the prospecting is under way.

Watch the Minnekotan next month for more news about this most exciting new Kiwanis club in the the Minn-Dak District.

Distinguished Clubs for 2006-2007

I am proud to announce the Distinguished Clubs for the 2006-2007 year: In Region 1 both Jamestown and Mandan clubs were distinguished; in Region 2, Fergus Falls was honored. In Region 3 the Brainerd club and the St. Cloud Downtown clubs received the award, and we had three clubs in Region 5 – Pierre, Sioux Falls East and South Sioux Falls. Albert Lee and Mankato are distinguished in Region 6 and five clubs made the list in Region 7: Anoka, Columbia Heights/Fridley, Rochester Day Makers, Rochester Sunrisers and Saint Anthony. Congratulations to all of you for your work to make Kiwanis stronger!

I have recruited Governor Bill Daugherty, Governor Elect Bill Lardy and Past Governor Stewart Ross to help me in visiting these clubs and bringing these awards. If your club has not yet been visited, I will be making arrangements for that soon. Since the whole club is involved in becoming distinguished, we feel that it is important that this honor is given at a club meeting.

Each year the criteria for Distinguished Clubs changes slightly and this current year and next year particularly involve some changes. Check with your Lt. Governor for specific criteria. We also will be talking about those in regional meetings and at the District Convention in August, but now is the time to become aware of what it takes to attain this and to do those things that make it possible. The Governor Team hopes that many, many more clubs achieve this honor.

Again congratulations to the fifteen distinguished clubs! We as a district, salute you!

Coralyn Dahl

Region 6 Kiwanis Conference Updates

We only have 12 days (Saturday, April 12, 2008) until the Region 6 Mid-Winter Conference in Mankato, Minnesota being held at the Holiday Inn Civic Center Downtown! We will have registration from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. and conference will be from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. with dinner served around noon. Previously, we sent a copy of the invitation, information and registration form to both your Kiwanis Club Secretary AND Kiwanis Club Rep. We need to have you bring the following items on behalf of your Kiwanis Club.

Registrations are due by Monday, April 07, 2008.

We are encouraging ALL KIWANIANs IN REGION 6 TO ATTEND! Everyone is welcome!

Please bring your Kiwanis Club Banner and we will hang it up in the Conference Room. The hotel has lots of hangers for us to use. It will create a wonderful display and enhance our Conference.

Please bring an item for our Silent Action. We will have those at the Region 6 Conference vote to decide where we want these funds to go.

Please bring a doorprize for our drawing. We want all Region 6 Kiwanians will have a chance to win a door prize before they go home.

Please bring one (1) copy of three (3) different issues of your Kiwanis Club Newsletters and one copy of your Kiwanis Club Brochure to the meeting for our Kiwanis Club Newsletter and Brochure contest.

We are going to have TWO MAIN ENTRÉE choices: Roast Beef OR Roast Chicken with all the trimmings plus a light dessert at the 2008 Region 6 Conference.

If you have already registered for the Region 6 Conference, please send an e-mail with the choice for you and each Kiwanian or partners/guests to Dawn Fairbrother via muffins3@charter.net or telephone: Home: 507-451-5939 or Cell: 507-363-6766.

If you are going to be sending in your Region 6 Registration form, please make a note of your meal choice.

Thank you so much for your assistance. We want to have an accurate meal count. We must have a food count to the hotel by Monday, April 07, 2008.

If you have any questions, please contact Dawn Fairbrother at muffins3@charter.net or via telephone: Home: 507-451-5939 or Cell: 507-363-6766.

We hope to see all of you at the 2008 Region 6 Conference!

K-Kids and Builder's Club Contest entries due April 1st

If you can't make this April 1st Deadline and still want to send in a project for the K-Kids or Builder's Club contest(s), please contact Dawn Fairbrother at either www.muffins3@charter.net or by telephone at home: 507-451-5939 or cell phone: 507-363-6766. I have a short window of time to have the Kiwanians do the judging and get the entries mailed to Kiwanis International before their deadline of April 15th.

Contact Dawn at the above address for specific project requirements and guidelines.

Dawn Fairbrother



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