Region Star Awards

2012-2013
Audrey Cleary, a servant leader and stand-out contributor to our club, is Bismarck Golden K’s nominee for this year’s Region Star Award.

A 22-year club member, Audrey was our president in 1996-97 and 2008-09, and secretary in 2001-02. She has been program chairperson since 2008, gaining the gratitude of our members for her diligence in carrying out this challenging task.

Audrey is an enthusiastic participant in our club’s service and fund-raising projects. She helps with the Badlands Treks we sponsor for the Youth Correctional Center in Mandan, and each Christmas season she is among our club’s Salvation Army bell ringers. Audrey was our club’s fund-raising coordinator for the IDD project. And since 2006, she has chaired our very successful Herberger’s Community Days project, raising money for our service activities, and more recently, our donations to the Eliminate Project.

Audrey’s servant heart is readily seen in her church and community involvement. She helps clean and decorate the church for Christmas and Easter and serves on the funeral committee. She has been a liturgical reader and choir member, a long-time treasurer and volunteer with Catholic Daughters, and a coordinator of the Meals on Wheels project.

Audrey has served many years on the God’s Child Project Board, the University of Mary Board of Trustees, and the St. Alexius Hospital Medical Auxiliary. As a member of RSVP, a volunteer coordinating organization, Audrey has performed a wide range of services for the people of Bismarck. In addition, Audrey was a member of the North Dakota Legislative Assembly for eleven years and continues to follow legislative activity, testifying on bills of importance for the people of our state.
LaVerne Sanstead joined Kiwanis in 2003 and has been a member of the Golden K Kiwanis Club since that time. He has served in all leadership positions and is currently Vice-President.

LaVerne's Kiwanis activities include helping to charter the Fargo Aktion Club. He represents our club on the “Kids Against Hunger” Key Club Project and serves on the Region 2 “Eliminate” Project Committee.

He is one of our club's mainstays in our clubs many fund-raising projects that includes wrapping Christmas presents at the West Acres Mall and selling brats at area shopping centers. He volunteers with other members at the Fargo Air Show and at the Kiwanis Pancake Feed at the Fargodome. He also serves as one of our ushers at all NDSU Men and Woman's Basketball games.

LaVerne's community involvement is exemplary. He delivers Meals on Wheels and assists at the FM Emergency Food Pantry. He served as a Board Member of the FM Churches United for the Homeless for six years and currently serves as an active volunteer. The staff looks forward to his arrival every day and appreciates his cheerful and positive attitude.

The Property Committee at Messiah Lutheran Church appreciates his leadership and he personally helps maintain and upgrade facilities. On Sundays, he drives a van to pick up Messiah members at area care centers and brings them to services. LaVerne and his wife Marion provided a foster home for young children for 10 years.

LaVerne leads by example. He is truly one of the “Worker Bees” that every Kiwanis Club and community needs to be of service. He serves as an excellent role model for all members of our Golden K Kiwanis Club.
Region 3

John Cremers  
Kiwanis Club of Brainerd

It is with great pleasure that the Kiwanis Club of Brainerd with support of the Baxter Kiwanis Lakes Area and Friends that we nominate John Cremers for the District 3 Regional Star Award.

John became a member of the Brainerd Kiwanis Club in 1971 and has 42 years of perfect attendance with his club. John has served as club President twice, 1976/77 and in 2001/02 and has served on the board of directors many times. John has served also on many committees and is very involved in the community. One of John’s favorite committee’s is Community Service where he has volunteered many years for Habitat for Humanity. He is a regular volunteer for Habitat. John is also very active on the Fund Raising Committee working every year in the county fair food booth.

Another favorite committee for John is being on the interclub committee. He is the responsible person for making sure that the club qualifies for the annual inter club award and at the same time gets as many members as possible to participate. John also spends many hours volunteering with the Kiwanis Park projects whether it is painting or cleaning and also with the annual Kiwanis Kid’s Triathlon. Each year since its inception he has assisted with setting up the course and has been a key supervisor with the bicycle course.

John is also the “permanent” song leader for the club and helps with the club set up for each meeting.

John has been married to Eileen for 52 years who passed this spring and had 3 sons; John, David and Tom who also passed away this spring.
Frank Ferguson's outstanding dedication and service to Kiwanis, and its projects make him stand out as the Star Award nominee from the Kiwanis Club of the Black Hills. Frank was instrumental in starting a Key Club at Hot Springs High School in 2008 and he continues as the sponsor of the Key Club, attending their meetings and supporting their efforts in every way possible. As liaison between the Key Club and his own club, he informs and encourages the two clubs to work together on projects such as Peanut Day, the annual Talent Show, the Delta Dental Bus, the Coats for Kids giveaway, and any other projects or fund raisers the club’s sponsor. Frank’s involvement in Key Club has fostered an excellent relationship between Kiwanis and Key Club members. In appreciation for this ongoing support, the Key Club hosted and served a Valentine’s dinner for the Kiwanis Club members in February.

Another important area in which Frank stars is his chairmanship of Peanut Day for his club. He creates excitement in the club for achieving excellence in fundraising for Peanut Day. As a result, the club has seen an increase in the community’s giving every year.

Frank’s loyalty and deep passion for the mission of Kiwanis is always evident in his words and actions. He is a 33 year member (15 in his current club), has served as president in two different clubs, and as Lt. Governor in 2005 and 2008.

Highly respected in the community, as well, Frank has held a number of volunteer positions in the community of Hot Springs, including president and board member of the school board and the Mammoth Site.
Kimberly Stockinger defines service. As a member of Diversity Kiwanis Club of Sioux Falls since the fall of 2009, Kimberly has served in a number of club roles. She is a well-rounded professional whose values correlate with the mission of Kiwanis. This has led to her quick movement up the ladder of officers within our club. Her skills were most notably highlighted throughout her presidency in the 2010-2011 Kiwanis year. During her leadership, the club achieved many accomplishments including providing over 300 immigrants with winter apparel, 1,350 homeless children with blankets, 1,200 pairs of shoes to children in Guatemala and providing financial support to two Boys and Girls clubs, the Khor Wakow School project and the South Dakota Backpack Program.

As an example of her creativity, and passion to impact the lives of children in need, Kimberly created and oversaw the production of the annual Champagne Ball. During the course of the last 5 years, the fundraiser has raised over $50,000 to benefit a number of organizations including the South Dakota Back-pack Program, Khor Wakow School Project and Make-A-Wish Foundation of South Dakota. Outside of Kiwanis, Kimberly promotes the Kiwanis mission by staying involved with other programs that serve children, including Sioux Falls Area CASA, Lutheran Social Services Mentor Program and Children’s Care Hospital.

She whole-heartedly believes in service and gives tirelessly of herself. The quality of life for thousands of children have been richly improved due to her efforts.
Myron Rosendahl has been a member of the Madison, Minnesota Kiwanis Club for 32 years with 32 years of perfect attendance. He has served as treasurer, secretary, president-elect, and President of the club. He has chaired the spiritual aims committee, the fundraising committee and membership committee. He was instrumental in building the Kiwanis playground at the softball field. He has received the Distinguished Member Award four years and he has brought in many new members. Myron has been club delegate to numerous District conventions and to three International conventions.

Myron received the 2000 Outstanding Citizen Award from the Madison Chamber of Commerce. He was on the Madison City Council for twenty years serving as President for fourteen years. During that time he was also on the Madison Economic Development Committee. He has served as president of the Madison Chamber of Commerce. He has volunteered with the local Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts for ten years.

Myron served in the Army in Viet Nam and is a life member of the American Legion, Order of the Purple Heart, Disabled American Veterans, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He is presently the Quartermaster for the local unit of the VFW.

Myron is active in his church having served on the church council holding the office of Chairman for many years, auditor, Sunday School teacher, youth leader, and usher. Myron volunteered with Prison Fellowship at the Prairie Correctional Facility in Appleton, Minnesota for seven years working directly with the inmates. Myron has served as secretary or president of the local Gideon organization for the past fifteen years.

Myron’s life is one of service to God, family, and the community. People often ask what his hobbies are and he responds “volunteering”. He is a quiet, unassuming person who gets things done for others by just keeping at it. He truly exemplifies the Kiwanis motto of “Serving the Children of the World”.
Diane Johnson
Kiwanis Club of Rochester Day Makers

Diane joined the Kiwanis Day Makers three years ago and hit the ground running with her commitment to the youth programs, like Key Club and Builders Club. Even her daughter joined a Rochester Kiwanis Club this year. She also serves on the Board of Directors for our Club. Service and enthusiasm are her middle names.

Diane has driven all of our youth programs and the Century Key Club has tripled its membership in the last two years. For the last two summers she brought the largest contingent of youth from Rochester that has ever attended a MN-DAK district meetings.

Additionally, she has engaged at the MN-DAK District level to pull together two District K-Family Retreats at Ironwood Springs and Camp Victory. She provided the greatest guest speaker ever who will now be the District speaker at Aberdeen.

As the Eliminate Campaign started she quickly pulled her team together to sponsor a 5K Run/Walk event to raise visibility and $$ for Eliminate. She even participated in the Red Wing Regional meeting last fall to help launch the Eliminate project with bright yellow “ducks” T-Shirts for the Retreat/5K RunWalk. In addition, Diane personally stepped up to her Walter Zeller Fellowship this year.

In February, she convinced her fellow Wal-Mart employees to join her in the Rochester Winterfest Polar Plunge event to raise $24,000 towards the community objective of $200,000 for Special Olympics. She has since gone on to secure $100,000 grant from Wal-Mart for Channel One and a community grant for Day Makers of $1000.

Her enthusiasm and commitment to youth and community services is infectious to all who surround her. She is clearly leading by example and is very focused on the future of Kiwanis through her commitment to youth SLP and other community service projects like Chemo Duck for Kids, Channel One and Food for Kidz.