

# MINNEKOTAN

Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

No.43

April 2013

## Greetings from the Desk of the Governor

*03/31/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Cindy Braseth, District Governor*

As I write this, I am looking at the snow banks still about waist high and still thinking of Spring. It's coming, right? I'm also half way through my year as Governor now and I can't believe it has gone so quickly. It has been a true pleasure and honor to serve in this capacity. In March, I attended the Circle K District Convention. What a joy to see our young Kiwanians in action. We all had a great time! In April, I will attend the Key Club District Convention. I will definitely need a day of rest after looking at that agenda!



The Region 2 Education Conference last weekend was also a lot of fun. I sewed for the first time in a long time along with a few others as we made Kiwanis dolls for the Sanford Children's Hospital. My last Regional visit will be in a couple of weeks and also promises to be a busy day. Lt. Governor training is looming at the end of April. We are still in need of candidates for Lt. Governor Elect in some of the Regions. If you want a fun job within Kiwanis, I urge you to explore becoming a Lt. Governor.

As promised, I am going to discuss the second goal of the Strategic Plan that was recently approved by the District Board of Directors. This second goal relates to the growth and support of our Service Leadership Programs. Service Leadership Programs (SLP's) are Circle K, Key Club, Builders Club, and K Kids. We have had several new clubs built so far this year. Having an SLP is a great way to put some energy back into your club because these kids are so enthusiastic, it rubs off.

**Goal:** The district will have 70% of all clubs sponsor at least one SLP by October 1, 2017. The district will aid and educate clubs in their responsibilities of sponsorship. Explore reinstating the Key Leader Program within the district in 2014. Right now, about 50% of our clubs sponsor at least one SLP. Some clubs sponsor several.

**Strategy:** Develop education and support through a district wide speaker's bureau to assist clubs in knowing what their responsibilities are. Forums at the District Convention will be aimed at advisors and clubs to offer education. We are investigating ways to recognize clubs for sponsoring SLP's in the form of banners, banner patches etc. We also heard SLP Administrators when they asked for a more direct link to the District Board.

The position of District Director of Administration has been expanded to include responsibility for coordinating and working with SLP Administrators in the District. That person will provide support and a voice at the District Board. We also need a better way to track how many SLP's we have in the District and which clubs sponsor them.

Measurement: The number of clubs sponsoring SLP's.

Responsible Entities: Administration/SLP Director, SLP Administrators, Education Director, Governor/District Board.

Lastly, it's halfway through the year, time to look at your club goals and assess where you are at in meeting them. Also time to be looking at leaders for next year and getting those key positions filled. Don't forget to make your travel plans for Vancouver and for the District Convention in Aberdeen!

To those who celebrate it, I wish you all a Happy Easter.

## April Update

*03/30/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas*



**District Kiwanis Convention:** Mark your calendars...the Minnesota-Dakotas District Convention will be held August 9-11, 2013 in Aberdeen, South Dakota. All clubs should be represented at this annual convention. More information will be coming soon!

**Monthly Club Reports:** Thanks again to club secretaries that submit their club reports online each month. Your reports provide very valuable information to the district officers and Kiwanis International. (Reminder to club secretaries: Be sure that your club monthly reports are submitted online by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each following month.)

**Club Elections:** Just a reminder that your club election results will be due June 1<sup>st</sup>. Club secretaries should submit the club election reports online through the same KiwanisOne webpage that we use for monthly club reporting.

**Kiwanis International Convention- Vancouver, British Columbia:** Besides registering for the convention, be sure to report your club's two International Convention delegates and two alternates to the International Office by April 30 on the Delegate Certification Form. Be sure to send copy to the District Office. You can download a copy of the form from the Kiwanis International Convention website.

**Lt. Governor Education Conference Planned:** Governor Elect Judie Rosendahl, along with the Lt. Governor team for the upcoming 2013-2014 Kiwanis year will be meeting April 26-28 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 10-11 in Fergus Falls.

As always, 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".

## **Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office Contact Information:**

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## **Region 2 Kiwanis Governor's visit a success**

*03/24/2013 - Division: Division 02 - Submitted by: Peter Larson, Moorhead Kiwanis President*

Governor Cynthia Braseth visited Region 2 at the Sons of Norway building in Fargo on March 23rd. She outlined the eight parts of the District's Strategic Plan for those attending. Then Bill Daugherty gave an update on the Eliminate Project followed by Steve Handegaard providing a review of how District Reports can be accessed.



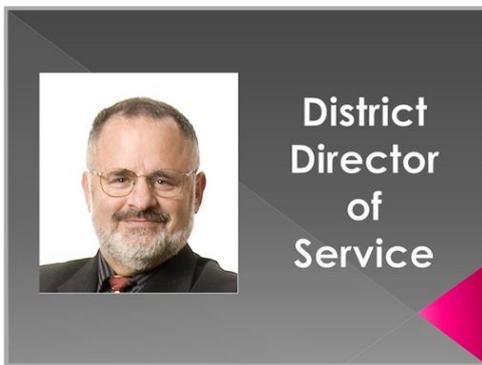
After a discussion on the need to secure a Lieutenant Governor for Division 2, Peter Larson, Moorhead Kiwanis President, was selected for that position. They assured him that training would be provided April 26th to April 28th.

After lunch there was a successful CLE training session for club officers and a service project for those not attending CLE. The service project was stuffing, final sewing and bagging of Kiwanis Dolls. Materials were provided and initial cutting and sewing was performed by members and spouses of the Moorhead Kiwanis Club. 50 Kiwanis Doll were presented to Hillery Mork of the Children's Miracle Network at Sanford medical center in Fargo. This was also a practice run for the Moorhead Kiwanis Club that will be making Kiwanis Dolls with the Moorhead High Key Club and other area Kiwanians on Kiwanis One Day, April 6th.

## **From Vision to Action**

*03/24/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Stewart Ross*

In the past year I have been fortunate to be a part of three different strategic plans at three levels of Kiwanis. Our current Kiwanis International President, Tom DeJulio, asked me this year to be the chair of the Kiwanis International Strategic Planning Committee. I have attended a number of Kiwanis International Board meetings in this capacity and continue to help in the pursuit of a strategic plan that might aid all of Kiwanis. Although the plan is still being developed, when completed it will give us hope and aid our



international officers in working together over a period of time.

At the district level I served as the facilitator of the MN-DAK District Kiwanis Strategic Plan. Working with other district leaders has been particularly gratifying to see how a group of dedicated Kiwanians can come together to create something that can really make a difference. The plan is now being implemented, with major goals clarified along with assessments that can be measured. We can now hold ourselves accountable as we move

forward to create the best district possible through increased service, better communication and the development of strong, vibrant clubs.

Finally, in the past few months I served as the facilitator for a strategic plan for the Mankato Downtown Kiwanis Club. This work was particularly exciting since I knew so well the members of the committee having been a member for 25 years. After some difficult (but interesting) work we now have a strategic plan (once the board votes for it in April) that holds us accountable to our members. With a club over 100 members, having a plan for the future was crucial for continued success. The new officers throughout the next few years now can refer to the goals, assessments and strategies that can lead to a highly successful club.

What we mean by strategic plan is a vision. Exercising vision is developing an understanding of where you are and where you're headed, both as a member and as an organization. As I worked with these three different strategic plans this year I was continually reminded of the words of Joel Barker: "Vision without action is merely a dream. Action without vision just passes the time. Vision with action can change the world."

Although it is important to dream about the future, at some point action needs to take place. On the other hand, lots of action without a vision behind the actions often leads to poor outcomes. It is those Kiwanis Clubs that have a vision and back that vision with action that actually change their communities and the world.

As we move toward the second half of the Kiwanis year I hope our Kiwanis Clubs take seriously the idea of creating a strategic plan; a plan that begins as a dream and ends as a way to really change our communities for the better. Our Kiwanis Clubs need to heed the words of Fred Pryor: "Vision is a process that allows you to think ahead to where you want to be and what you want to be doing, and to create workable plans to lead you there. My hope is that every Kiwanian reading this column asks their club leaders to work together to create a strategic plan for the future of their club. Create a vision, articulate that vision, and passionately own the vision as you relentlessly drive it to completion.

Stewart Ross, MN-DAK Director of Service for 2012-2013

## **April...Club Leadership Education Time**

*03/26/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Loreena Luetgers*

No. There won't be any Club Leadership Education this year because all of the new officers know everything about Kiwanis and the CLE instructors have gone on strike! **April Fools!** Kiwanians aren't fools, are we? We know that CLE is offered every spring to help our club officers and members learn about Kiwanis, leadership skills and their positions. And, the certified instructors want to help.

However, this year CLE has changed and we're excited. The materials are the best that I have seen in all of my years in this organization. The Kiwanis International education department is offering great materials that the club officers need to help make your club be successful. There are options offered this year for the Club Leadership Education that are described below, so please read carefully.



Club president-elects have two options:

- Classroom education: club secretaries have received the information and it is listed on the District website.
- Online training: self-paced online experience that gives you an opportunity to attend when you have time.

Club secretaries have three options:

- Classroom education: Club secretaries may attend, however these sessions do not have information for their position. No credit will be given to club secretaries that attend these sessions.
- Online training. Kiwanis has designed a self-paced online experience that gives you an opportunity to attend when you have time.
- Webinars. Webinars for new club secretaries will be offered on May 30 and for returning club secretaries will on June 6. If you can't attend the live broadcast, they will be archived so you can view it at your convenience. Viewing the recorded webinar after these two dates also fulfills the attendance requirement.

NOTE: Club secretaries are encouraged to take the webinar and need to take either the online or webinar to fulfill the requirement for attendance.

Please check the District website under "Club Leadership Education – CLE" for the sessions and registration information. [Click here](#) Again, the only cost is your meal, if any, which you may be reimbursed from your club. Last year we had 55% of the clubs have their officers attend, which is the most we have had in years. So, congratulations to all of you. Can we do better? Yes, let's have 100% of all clubs participate.

Prizes: There will be a drawing at the District Convention for a Kiwanis leather portfolio briefcase, Kiwanis leather zippered pad folio, Kiwanis canvas tote bag and a Nook HD. Check with your club secretary or the District website for details.

We encourage you to attend a face-to-face session in your region. The discussion, learning from other club members and getting to know each other is awesome. CLE is a valuable tool to help officers, as well as all members, to learn about Kiwanis, attain knowledge and learn leadership skills. We look forward to providing you with the information and skills that will help you in your leadership roles.

## **Reminder: Kiwanis Club Incorporation**

*03/28/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, Dist Sec/Treas*

Kiwanis International policies and procedures state that every Kiwanis Club should be incorporated within one year of receiving its charter. Most states require a corporation to

file a renewal every year in order to maintain the corporation in good standing.

Incorporation helps to protect the personal assets of an individual member should their club be sued for something that happened at a club event. It does not remove all personal risk/liability, but helps.

If you are interested in checking out the incorporation status of your club or any other club in your state, you can go to one of the following websites and search for "Kiwaniis". All clubs are supposed to start their name with the word Kiwanis so you should find most by using the word Kiwanis. There may be some exceptions to that rule, however.

Following are the links to find status of club incorporations:

Minnesota: [Click here](#)

North Dakota: [Click here](#)

South Dakota: [Click here](#)

## **Kiwanis-The All-American Family**

*03/29/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Ann Backes Dodge*

Kiwanis- The All-American Family is the theme for the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District's 96th Annual Convention August 7~11, 2013, in Aberdeen, SD at the Ramkota Hotel. The District Convention Committee is working hard to make this one of the best conventions this district has ever had. We have revamped the agenda, are working on providing educational workshops that address our club's needs and have confirmed our Keynote Speaker, Holly Hoffman. Holly is best known for placing 4th in Season 21 Survivor-Nicaragua. She is also the author of " Your Winner Within." Plus, there is research going on to find a district service project during the convention as well as entertainment.



Holly  
Hoffman

Make sure to put August 7 - 11, 2013, in your calendar and be in Aberdeen, SD to celebrate the successes our district has had this year. It will be a wonderful chance to see old Kiwanis friends and make new Kiwanis friends as you learn how to grow and strengthen your home club.

In the Spirit of Kiwanis-The All-American Family,

Ann Backes Dodge  
District Convention Coordinator  
Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District  
annbackes@hotmail.com

## WE NEED TO TRY HARDER

*03/26/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Chuck Schroder*

There is a real need for clubs to participate in the Annual Club gift campaign. There are so many requests for help for disasters and with Spring here and all the snow that is in North Dakota and Northern Minnesota and Northern South Dakota, there is sure to be some serious flooding to our area and help will be needed. We are only at \$2.32 per



member at the present time and this means that we will only be getting 2 scholarships for Key Club and Circle K next year if we don't step up the pace. The goal for the district is only \$4.00 per member and International is recommending \$6.00.

There is a bright side to this. **Rapid City Down Town Club** has just received a grant in the amount of \$3,000.00 to help them with their "Penning County Infants Sleep Safely" program. **Congratulations** to your Club and all its members. I will also add that this

club has been an annual supporter of the Annual Gift Program every year and they have received other grants for their projects in Rapid City. Thank you for all you are doing in your community.

Next month I will give another reason your club needs to participate in the Annual Gift Program.

## Newsletter and Brochure Contest Suspended

*03/26/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Colleen Hyde*

The longstanding contest for the best newsletters and brochures in the District has been suspended. Did you notice? Do you care?

The number of regularly published newsletters has gradually lessened over the years. Many clubs use social media and e-mail to communicate with and between members, sending out notices as reminders for upcoming events, etc.

The contest was originally meant to motivate and inspire more clubs to produce a newsletter, or improve the one they were already producing. Likewise with brochures. If clubs are using brochures these days, they are not entering them in the contest!

So, if you have comments or suggestions regarding this contest please feel free to send them to me. Perhaps we can reconsider a contest with a different format or purpose.

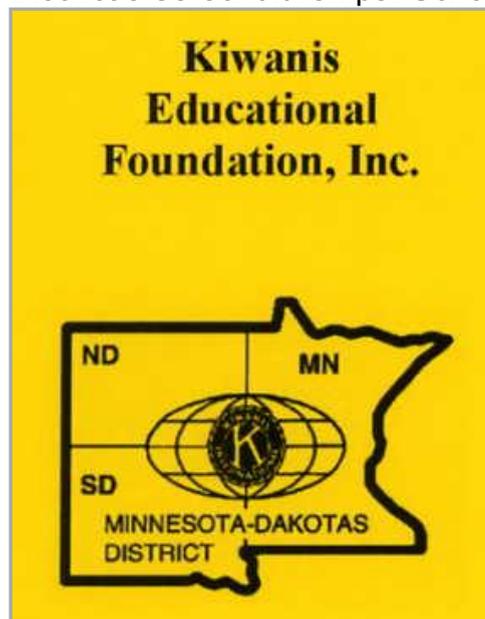
We have considered a web-site competition, but judging them would be a huge job and very time-consuming. (A good web-site is updated often; judges would need to check on them every few weeks through-out the year!!)

Send your comments to: Colleen Hyde [hyde@cord.edu](mailto:hyde@cord.edu)

# Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis Educational Foundation

03/28/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Jean Collins

Spring arriving always makes me think of High School graduations. The Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis Educational Foundation is finalizing the judging of applications for our District's 55 scholarships. Scholarships are awarded as follows:



Region 1 - 2 Scholarships + 5 Scholarships at designated schools

Region 2 - 2 Scholarships + 8 Scholarships at designated schools

Region 3 - 2 Scholarships + 3 Scholarships at designated schools

Region 4 - 2 Scholarships

Region 5 - 2 Scholarships + 3 Scholarships at designated schools

Region 6 - 2 Scholarships + 12 Scholarships at designated schools

Region 7 - 2 Scholarships + 3 Scholarships at designated schools

The Foundation presents 3 District at Large Scholarships—one is Kniskern designated, one is Messer Foundation designated and the third At Large Scholarship has been renamed the Merald and Jeanette Enstad District At Large Scholarship. The Foundation also matches funds with Kiwanis International to present 2 Key Club and 2 Circle K scholarships. It is always exciting to hear from the recipients how these scholarships impacted their lives.

The funds for these scholarships come from the financial earnings of our Foundation. All donations given to the Foundation provide for the base for these earnings. It is important that each Kiwanis Club in our District make a yearly \$100 donation to the Foundation as a Century Club Member. Many clubs will honor a special member by donating \$100 in honor of them and that person becomes a Vantine Life Fellowship Member of the Foundation. A bigger gift of \$500 awards the member a Joseph E. Messer Fellowship Membership. Often the Foundation will receive Memorial Gifts honoring a Kiwanian or family member. Since the Foundation only uses the earnings on the funds—this is an on going legacy for these individuals. The Foundation is very appreciative of all donations.

## Club News

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### University of Minnesota Circle K Chartered

03/26/2013 - Club: Rochester Day Makers - Submitted by: Jack Zierdt

The Rochester Day Makers Kiwanis Club chartered a new Circle K Club at the University

of Minnesota Rochester. The charter night celebration was held on Thursday March 14, 2013. The original charter was sent in with 50 members in November of 2012 and approved by Kiwanis International on December 10, 2012. By the time the charter celebration was held the membership had grown to 70 members. About 90 per cent of the membership are first year students.



All of the students are health sciences and health professional majors. Michelle Burgraff, President quoted the Circle K motto saying, "we live to serve and we love to serve." As students at UMR, they are in a unique position because of their relationship with the community. The students want to give back, because without this community, they wouldn't be doing what they are doing at UMR.

Circle K is the vehicle that they have chosen to join in their mission to give back by service in the community.

## **K-Kids Pennies for Patients Fundraiser**

*03/24/2013 - Club: Early Risers, Worthington - Submitted by: Dale Carlson*



Every year across the country, kids' voices are heard! They show the world just how powerful kids can be by making huge differences in the lives of blood cancer patients! This year the Prairie Elementary School K-Kids Club (Worthington, MN) once again did an excellent job of sponsoring the Pennies for Patients fund raiser.

Students at Prairie Elementary School collected donations during the month of February as part of the Annual Pennies for Patients program benefiting The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. All 1,121 students and their 49 classroom teachers teamed up to raise an amazing \$2,628.96.

There were 5 classes that donated over \$100.00. The top fundraising class was Ms. Burnham's class. They donated \$175.14 and won a pizza party.

Prairie Elementary staff added a little bonus to students who donated. Students who donated money throughout the fundraiser were put in a drawing to pie a faculty member. At the conclusion of the fundraiser a "Cool Whip Time" pie lyceum was held. Thirty-five faculty members including classroom teachers, support staff, counselors custodians and even the principal and assistant principal took a pie to the face from a student in support of Pennies for Patients.

This fundraiser shows how powerful our youth can be and the "change" they can make in the fight against cancer.

A big thank you to Ms. Carissa Gabrielson and Mr. Zach Dingmann faculty advisors to K-Kids and to the K-Kids themselves. Also a big thank you to all the Prairie Elementary School students who participated, to the faculty, administration, and staff for their cooperation and support.

Thanks also to the members of the Worthington Early Risers Kiwanis Club who sponsor

and support the Prairie Elementary School K-Kids Club.

## Fargo Affiliates

*03/05/2013 - Club: Fargo - Submitted by: Courtney Taylor*

The Kiwanis Club of Fargo celebrated the beginning of March with an induction ceremony for five new members. These individuals come from a variety of professional and personal backgrounds. Our program that day was the Region 2 Lieutenant Governor Kent Hochgraber, discussing that very topic: membership. With yet another three members soon to be approved and inducted, our club appreciated receiving information not about recruiting but about retaining old members. Thanks to Ltg Hochgraber for a meaningful presentation, and welcome to all of our new members!



## Prescription Drug Drop Box

*03/04/2013 - Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Kathy Welle*



The prescription drug drop box is a partnership with the **Columbia Heights/Fridley Kiwanis Club**, and a joint effort by the Fridley Police Department and Anoka County Sheriff's Office. Expired, unwanted or unused prescription drugs pose substantial risks in our community by either falling into the wrong hands, or by damaging our environment through improper disposal. In response to the need for a safe method to dispose of prescription drugs, a drug drop box was recently installed in the lower level lobby of the Fridley Municipal Center.

## Lakefield, MN and Jackson, MN Kiwanis Duel Over Best Chili

*03/02/2013 - Club: Lakefield - Submitted by: Dale Cuperus*

The past 2 years the Lakefield, MN Kiwanis and the Jackson, MN Kiwanis have held a friendly contest within a contest during the Annual Food For Kidz Chili Cookoff fundraiser held at the Immanuel Activity Center in Lakefield. Three entrants from our clubs competed, two from Lakefield and one from Jackson. This February the Jackson club once again walked away with the most votes for best chili. However, they triumphed by only a single vote!

Both the Jackson and Lakefield Kiwanis have supported the Food For Kidz effort during the 8 years it has been active in bagging meals for distribution to hungry children. The clubs have provided time,

talent and donations to make the local Food For Kidz effort successful. In 2012 the group raised a little more than \$15,000 which will provide 100,000 meals for children in need of added nutrition. Most of the bagged meals (rice, soy protein, dehydrated vegetables, vitamins and minerals) went to Honduras this year. The local Food For Kidz has a goal of \$16,000 for the 2013 bagging to be held in September. They would like to provide at least a 100,000 meals again and maybe a few more.



The Lakefield and Jackson Kiwanis are now trying to expand our contest within a contest to other clubs. We have made contact with the Windom, MN and Worthington, MN clubs and invited them to participate with us to determine who can cook the best chili. If other clubs in our area would like to participate in the 2014 Chili Cookoff next February or help during the bagging this September, please contact:

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