

MINNEKOTAN

Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

No.54

April 2014

Message from the Governor

03/31/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Judie Rosendahl, District Governor

Do you see anything different with the picture in this article? Read on and you will learn what this is all about! What a wonderful Circle K District Convention Myron and I were able to be a part of last month! It was truly a highlight of my year as Governor! Many great students were there who treated us as one of them. Fun games were enjoyed-I'm thinking that we should do some of them at our own convention. That would be a real riot for the Kiwanis members who attend the convention! Ask me about the pterodactyl game. Nearly \$800 was raised for Eliminate by the CKI members through a raffle, penny wars, and a silent auction. I also had the privilege to raise some money for Eliminate by being pie-ed and Steve Handegaard was the pie thrower. The picture above shows this in action!



Now we are looking forward to the Key Club District Convention coming up April 12-14 in St. Cloud. There are many Kiwanis activities in the next month or two including the Lt. Governor training the end of April. Please consider volunteering to be a Lt. Governor from your region as we still need several people to fill these positions. This is one of the most fulfilling jobs a person can have in Kiwanis-I loved every minute of it! The opportunity to meet fellow Kiwanians in the clubs around you is so much fun and rewarding.

Key Leader is just six weeks away! The Kiwanis sponsored leadership weekend will be held May 16-18 at Camp Victory in Zumbro Falls, MN. This event is open to all youth and all schools and all youth organizations. We are in need of students to attend! Please encourage students in your community to register as soon as possible. In fact, we need an additional thirty registrations by April 11 or we will be forced to cancel for this year! Right now is our window of opportunity to make this a success! Our Kiwanis International Trustee, Jane Erickson, has recently been named the lead facilitator so you know how great this event will be! Please do all that you can to register students in the next two weeks! See the Key Leader flyer that you can distribute in your area. [Click here](#)

As we look ahead to next year, we see the 100th Anniversary of Kiwanis International. I

want to encourage you to begin thinking now of ways that your club would like to celebrate this milestone! Will you have a festive banquet, do an extra service project in honor of our 100 years, make it your goal to add five new members, or do all of these and more? Whatever you decide to do will be great and I would like to have you share some of your activities with me. A link from Kiwanis International is available for additional ideas. [Click here](#)

Saturday, April 5 is Kiwanis One Day! I want to encourage your club to be a part of this worldwide service day. Your community will profit from your involvement in this special event! If you have not committed to doing a project on that day, please feel free to do it at a later date. The date is not the most important aspect of Kiwanis One Day- it's the service that you do! Please consider sending in an article about your Kiwanis One Day project for the Minnekotan next month. It's fun to see all the different projects!

I want to thank everyone who sent art work to me for President Gunter's project to raise money for Eliminate at the convention in Japan this July 17-20. It was delightful to see such creative thoughts about "Building Bridges for Children to the Future" and then transferring that to paper. Thanks for helping me with this project!

If your club has a worthwhile project that could use additional funding, consider making an application to the Kiwanis International Foundation. Our District has been successful in receiving grants in the past that have been a huge benefit in funding major projects. You may visit the Kiwanis website for a list of Dos and Don'ts when filling out a grant application. [Click here](#)

May is Kiwanis Membership Month and we all should be thinking and planning for a big push in May! I am mentioning this now so you will have a month to prepare. Hopefully every club has a membership committee that is already working to target membership growth! A strong membership committee and an excited chairperson is the best foundation for growth in your clubs. Because we are talking about this now, there is time to get your committee fired up and ready to begin when May arrives. Of course, membership should be a top priority for all Kiwanians all year long to enable our clubs to grow and in turn, provide more service to the children of our communities and around the world.

April Update

03/31/2014 - 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 8-10, 2014 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. 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 10th of each following month.)

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

Kiwanis International Convention- Japan: 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 Sharon Scudder, along with the Lt. Governor team for the upcoming 2014-2015 Kiwanis year will be meeting April 25-27 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.

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:

Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office

P.O. Box 735 Dalton, MN 56324-0735

Phone: 218-589-7581 218-589-7581

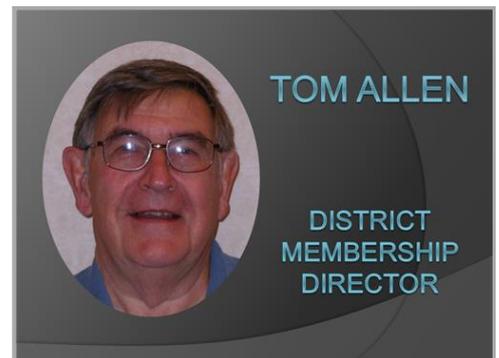
Email: secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org

MAY IS MEMBERSHIP MONTH

03/22/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Tom Allen

As the headline states, May is Kiwanis Membership Month!

Just think how much more your club could do in your community if you just had five or ten more members. Without new members our current members start burning out and dropping out. What can we do? Well, it's time to dust off your membership committee list and dust off your committee members to prepare for Membership Month. Actually the Kiwanis International website has many helpful pages to get your membership drive off to a great start. Below are pages your board and committee members should check out.



1. [Click here](#)

This page gives you links to other pages with helpful hints to recruit new members, evaluate your club so you can enhance current member and prospective member experiences, as well as recognition tools for club enhancement.

2. [Click here](#)

This page asks you why you love your club. You are encouraged to be ready to share

the reason(s) with prospective members as well as with your own club members. You are encouraged to dust off your "one minute speech" or your "elevator speech" so you can be ready to tell the person who asks, "So what is Kiwanis? "What do you do with the money you are raising at this _____?" (Insert pancake breakfast or chili feed or kid's fair or any other of our worthy events.)

Each member of our clubs needs to be recruiting new members from the people they know. I don't mean they necessarily have to ask the question if they are concerned about receiving a negative response. But they can give the membership committee those individual's names so the committee can follow up with a letter or a phone call. It is important to remember that letters don't often bring in new members. The "personal ask" is the way most of us became members. If you are anxious about personally using the "personal ask", just ask your friend or acquaintance to lunch. Not very many of us are such poor sales persons, that we can't sell a free lunch! Let the membership committee take over from there!

Your community needs more Kiwanians to help the children in need. If each Kiwanian asks three people to join and only gets one person to commit, just think how much more service could be done to improve your community! Good luck with your recruiting!

What is an SLP?

03/28/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Matthew Schuweiler, District Circle K Administrator



There are a lot of acronyms in Kiwanis and it's alright if you don't know what they all mean. I've been in the Kiwanis family for 8 years and I still get stumped on occasion. SLP stands for Service Leadership Programs and they are one of the greatest parts of Kiwanis. It's what sets us apart from the majority of other service organizations out there. First of all, thank you to all the clubs that currently sponsor an SLP. If your club doesn't, please strongly consider it.

There are many types of SLP's that a Kiwanis club can sponsor. I will be specifically focusing on Circle K International, also known as CKI. Circle K International is the largest community service focused club in the world. Across our organization there are more than 12,600 members in 17 nations. In the MN-DAK District, we have 10 clubs and 240 members.

One of the great things about Circle K is that it is student led and run. This is key because it gives students the leadership skills that they need when they graduate from college and go into the "real world". I was able to serve at both the club and district level. I can say without a doubt that it helped with applying for jobs after and even during college.

I hope that all clubs will consider sponsoring a Circle K club. As a former member and the current Administrator of Circle K, I admit I am a little biased. I also understand that for many clubs, there is not a college/university in your area. If your club is unable to sponsor a Circle K club, please consider sponsoring another SLP. It will be one of the best decisions and investments that your club can make.

I can say without a doubt I would not be in Kiwanis today if I had not joined Circle K. If you have any questions or concerns regarding starting a Circle K, please reach out to me. Thank you all for the wonderful work you do in your community.

Your Friend in Service,

Matthew Schuweiler
Circle K MN-DAK District Administrator

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Leadership Education Sessions

03/31/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Loreena Luetgers

What a surprise! It is that time of the year to promote the Club Leadership Education sessions for the incoming officers for 2014-15 Kiwanis year. AND, when I checked the International website to see if any of our club officers have taken the online courses, I was amazed how many of you have. This is awesome.

Yes, online sessions do give club officers the information needed for their position and also gives credit for distinguished club criteria for the year. However, so do the sessions that are planned for this spring. This is a great time for officers and members from clubs to get together and not only learn about their responsibilities, but also get to share what

the other clubs are doing. It is a wonderful way to get to know fellow Kiwanians in your area. The scheduled CLE sessions are currently available on the website [Click here](#) and your club secretary will be receiving a listing as well.

According to the Kiwanis International website, these are the options that club presidents and secretaries have:



Club Presidents have two options:

- Classroom education
- Online training with a self-paced online experience that gives you flexibility to learn when you have the time. This can be completed all at once or in multiple visits to the site.

Club Secretaries have three options:

- Classroom education with the club president.
- Online training, again with a self-paced online experience.
- Tutorial videos that contain webinars, screencasts, tutorials and more. If you can't make a live broadcast, each session is archived to view at your convenience. Viewing the recorded webinar also fulfills the attendance requirement.

Club secretaries have had many changes to learn these past few months with a new website reporting system. Therefore, I would encourage them to keep up to date with the webinars that are available.

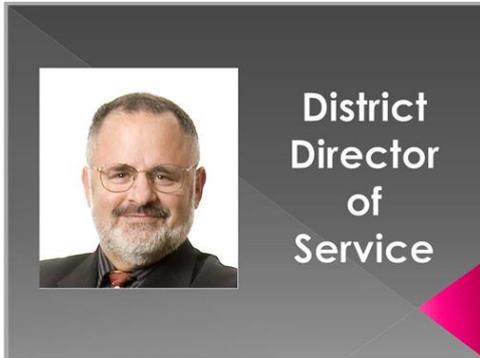
Question: Is education only for the president and secretary? The answer is no. Please check out the following link to the Kiwanis International website [Click here](#) and the "Learn" and "Lead" sections. Under this section is Education for the board member,

treasurer, club member, club committee chair, club membership chair, region leadership and district leadership along with the tutorial video archives in the same area.

So, I challenge you to register today for your Club Leadership Education session nearest to you. If you aren't available for that session, please register for a different one, even if it isn't in your region. We will see you there and hope you enjoy some Kiwanis moments with fellow members.

Key Club is a Kiwanis Club!

03/29/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Stewart Ross



I have been stumped for a topic for an article in the Minnekotan until this afternoon. I was at the Mall of American (a place I don't visit often even though I now live 12 minutes away). I decided to head over to the Apple Store where it is always interesting to see hundreds of people packed together, testing the latest electronic gadgets. While I was looking at the newest smart phone in the hopes of upgrading my current phone soon, a sales person came by. She was maybe 35 years old by my guess.

She introduced herself and started to tell me about the newest phone and why I would want to upgrade mine. However, in mid-sentence her face brightened and she pointed to my Kiwanis jacket and asked if I was involved with the Kiwanis organization in some way. Surprised, I told her I had been a Kiwanis International Trustee and was the current Director of Service for the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District. At that point, she smiled and told me her daughter had joined the high school Key Club. She was proud of her daughter and the service she was now doing as part of the club.

Needless to say, I was overwhelmed by this since it is not often I run into someone who knows much about Kiwanis...and here was a young woman proud that her daughter was part of our great organization. However, my excitement soon turned to disappointment when she went on to tell me some things I well knew but did not want to hear.

She told me that although her daughter was in the high school Key Club she had wondered why there was no talk of Kiwanis at meetings or from her daughter. She wondered why Kiwanis was not an important part of the Key Club banner she saw at meetings. She wondered why the kids in the club knew nothing about Kiwanis or even that a Kiwanis Club sponsored their Key Club.

Unfortunately, this was nothing new for me. As a Kiwanis International Trustee for three years I tried to get the attention of our Key Club leaders and officials but failed. It seems no one was particularly interested in branding our Key Clubs as Kiwanis Clubs. My disappointment is deep and continues to frustrate me. One of the finest things Kiwanis ever invented, (a service group for high school students) which continues to grow by leaps and bounds, continues to stay below the radar when it comes to being identified as a part of the Kiwanis family.

So the point of this column is simple. If your club sponsors a Key Club in your local high school, please make the connection with the students and parents and grandparents of these students that they are part of the Kiwanis organization. Shout it to the sky! Put signs up at meetings and other functions of the Key Club. Make T-shirts for the members with Kiwanis emblazoned on the shirt!

I understand that it is important that these students are learning to do service, but it is equally important for recruitment of new club members that folks in the community understand who sponsors these high school service clubs. I assure you, if your club is a good sponsor of a Key Club you are doing a remarkable service for your community. Based on my chance meeting of a mother of a Key Clubber today at the Mall of America, it is long past the time that we need to make clear to everyone we can that Kiwanis sponsors Key Clubs. In fact, maybe it is time to always refer to them as Kiwanis Key Club. That would help greatly to get the word out. I hope the next time I run into a mother of a Key Clubber she will tell me how proud she is that her daughter is in KIWANIS....not just a Key Club!

Region 2 Governor's Visit & Educational Conference

03/29/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Region 2

The 2014 Region 2 Governor's Visit & Education Conference was held Saturday, March 29 at the Son's of Norway building in Fargo, North Dakota with Kent Hochgraber, Lt. Governor presiding.

The program included presentations by David Odette, Past Lt. Governor; Judie Rosendahl, District Governor; Bill Daugherty, District Eliminate Project; Steve Handegaard, District Secretary/Treasurer; and Courtney Taylor, On to Japan Chair.



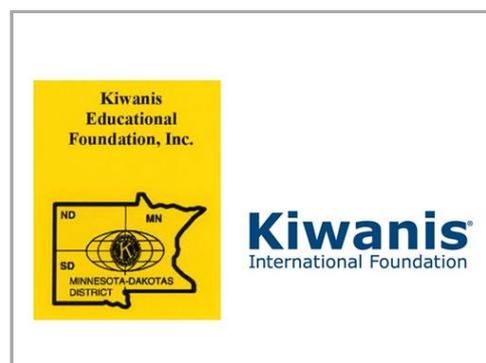
Following the noon lunch participants were able to attend a (CLE) Club Leadership Education session led by Bill Lardy, Past Governor. Others participated in the Stuffed Dolls project coordinated by Peter Larson, Lt Governor Elect.

A silent auction was held with all proceeds going to the ELIMINATE project.

(Photo: Governor Judie Rosendahl and her husband Myron during the doll stuffing project.)

Kiwanis Foundation Updates

03/29/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: District & International



Scholarships To Be Presented

by Jean Collins, District Educational Foundation

Throughout the Minnesota Dakotas District of Kiwanis many high school seniors are eagerly waiting to hear if they are a winner of the more than 60 scholarships that will be presented by the Minnesota Dakotas Kiwanis Education Foundation. The \$815 scholarships will be a great help to the winners in their educational plans.

The monies for the scholarships come from the financial earnings of the MN-Dak Education Foundation. Additional funds that increase the Foundation base funds come from a variety of sources. Clubs can become Century Clubs by donating \$100 each year to the Foundation. Recognition of members can be made by gifts of \$100 for a Vantine Fellowship or \$500 for a Meeser Fellowship. Often a club will

make a Memorial gift to the Foundation in memory of a deceased member. These gifts are a great way for Kiwanians to continue serving young people forever. Please consider being a part of the Foundation through one of these methods. With costs of education increasing; scholarships are an important way to help students meet their financial needs.

You Can Make a Difference

by E. Charles Schroder, KIF Chairman

I think Spring is on it's way, the birds are singing and most of the snow is gone (in my yard) the school year is getting short and here we are in April. This is a busy month for Kiwanis and Kiwanians. We have Kiwanis One Day, Key Clubs have their convention along with Circle K and the Kiwanis International Foundation has The SKIP-A-MEAL program.

Every April, Kiwanians and their families, friends and coworkers take part in Skip-A-Meal by passing up a meal (or bring a meal) instead of going out. They then GIVE the cost equivalent of that meal to the Kiwanis International Foundation. These gifts help them extend the Kiwanis impact to children at home and around the world.

The Skip-A-Meal program allows the clubs to be creative. Some clubs' members simply skip or brown bag the meal at a club meeting and then make their gift. Other clubs put together an event or activity that includes their friends, community and coworkers. For instance, some clubs attract donations at a storefront booth or neighborhood event.

Join the Kiwanis family by skipping just one meal during the month of April. With Skip-A-Meal, you support Kiwanis International's mission of SERVING THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD - by helping to fund GRANTS from our foundation to Kiwanis clubs and districts. It's another way to extend your Kiwanis impact and help change children's lives today.

WAYS TO GIVE

- 1. Donate online for Skip-A-Meal
- 2. Download a gift/pledge form to donate by mail or fax

DOWNLOADABLE RESOURCES

- 1. Skip-A-Meal table tents
- 2. Skip-A-Meal placemats and Ideas

Report your success at Skip-A-Meal@Kiwanis.org.

Thank you for your continued support for THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD.

District and International Conventions

03/30/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by:

Travel Tips- Kiwanis International Convention

by Courtney Taylor, On To International Convention Chair

Just as the Kiwanis website suggested after you completed your early-bird registration, you should take a look at tours before purchasing plane tickets. Remember that the date will change on your way to Japan - don't buy a plane ticket for Wednesday automatically thinking that'll be perfect to catch opening session on Thursday. Also take note of the airport(s) through which you will be arriving and departing. Some airlines offer better prices if you use both airports, but don't get them mixed up! Keep an eye on the flight times. Are you comfortable arriving in a foreign country that late at night? Can you handle waking up early enough to catch the train toward the airport on the way home? If you have options with the same price when choosing flights, take note of the layovers. What a shame it would be to miss your big flight into Tokyo by just a few minutes or to get caught in a line at immigration when you're so close to that last flight home.

Bon voyage, or as we'll say in Tokyo, ichiroheian o inoru!

District Convention Corner

by Liz Lawrence-Ross, District Convention Director
bigsissterliz@yahoo.com

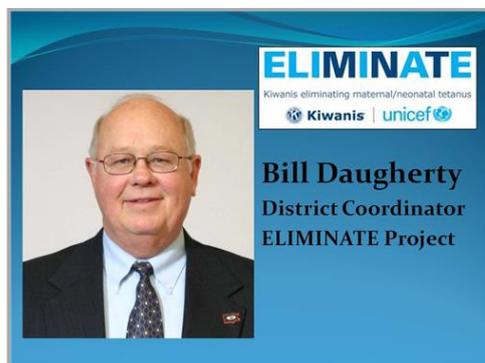
MNDAK KIWANIS DISTRICT CONVENTION August 8-10, 2014
Minneapolis Marriott Southwest

Mark your calendars now so you don't miss this great event! The committee is looking forward to seeing all of you there. Each month we'll post more information about the convention as it becomes available here in the Minnekotan and on the district website.

Only 4 months left until the convention, so please contact me sooner than later if you have any ideas or suggestions for the convention, or if you would like to be on the convention committee. Happy Spring MNDAK!

The Eliminate Project

03/27/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bill Daugherty



The Eliminate Project has just hit the \$50 million dollar mark in donations. In Minn-Dak we have reached \$1,256,733 dollars as of Mar 23rd. That is 42% of our \$3mil goal. We now have 81% of our clubs donating to the Project. Four more countries are now in validation surveying to determine if they have Eliminated Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus. Seven more countries are going to begin the immunization effort in the next few months (April and May).

Begin thinking about a Silent Auction item to bring to the District Convention in Minneapolis August 8-10. Last year 52 items were donated to the silent auction last year. Over \$1800 was forwarded to The Eliminate Project credited to the donating club. We also had a raffle of a Terry Redlin print that raised an additional \$800 plus dollars.

Clubs need to send in their accumulated funds to the Eliminate Project. Without the dollars the immunization program slows down until funds are available. Clubs are starting to strongly consider becoming Model Clubs. As you all know a club has five years from the date of declaration to reach their donation amount.

Thanks for all we have done now let's finish strong in the next 15 months.

Club News

Kingsland Builders Club Coin War

03/29/2014 - Club: Spring Valley - Submitted by: Nancy Cornell

The Kingsland Jr. High Builders Club of Spring Valley, MN recently sponsored a "coin war" with the elementary school. A few twists were added, like donate a dollar and wear your pajamas to school. \$900.00 was raised for Food for Kidz, Region 7's southern area Kiwanis One Day project organized by the Stewartville Kiwanis Club. Way to go kids!



1st Place Team: We Throw Underhand (WTU)

03/25/2014 - Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Nicole Varichak



Pictured Left to Right: Ian Minchow, Joe Gorman, Tyler Frid, AJ Fredrickson (crouching), Nick Rathke, Mitch Bernards, and Connor Gorman

Fridley High School holds an annual Dodge for Darfur tournament. This year it was on March 10, 2014, a non-school day for the students. Dodge for Darfur is where the students play in a dodge ball tournament by paying \$10 per person. The money raised is sent to Darfur to alleviate the struggles still being experienced in Darfur.

This year 8 teams were created. The teams were split into 2 different pools for pool play. After pool play, it went to bracket play. Each game consists of three 5 minute rounds, and the team with the best 2 out of the 3, wins. In the championship game, 5 rounds were played. (Best 3 out of 5) During the championship game, it was almost an easy win for the team Blue Balls with winning the first 2 rounds of the game easily. After a huge and inspirational pep talk from the "manager," AJ Fredrickson of We Throw Underhand (WTU), there was a huge turn of events. WTU came back and won the next 3 rounds, taking the championship game, winning a first place trophy.

Charter club member and newest Kiwanis member

03/24/2014 - Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

This past weekend the members of the Fargo Rough Rider Kiwanis Club and the Fargo South Point Kiwanis club sold tickets and also did the cooking for the Special Olympics

annual pancake day.

During the event there were several hundred people enjoying the stacks of cakes and wonderful sausage, and another special event was taking place in the kitchen.

In this photo, is pictured Rande Knudson (left) and Walt Meidinger (right).



You may wonder what the special event was here.....

Rande is the newest member of Kiwanis as she joined the Fargo South Point club about a month ago, and Walt happens to be a charter member of the Rough Rider Kiwanis club which chartered in 1972.

Wonderful to see the newest member and a member with over 40 years of service standing side by side at a fund raising event for Special Olympics.

Roughrider Country Kiwanis Club

03/21/2014 - Club: Rough Rider Country, Dickinson - Submitted by: Ninetta Wandler

The Roughrider Country Kiwanis Club had a mini fundraiser in conjunction with their banquet where we raised \$370.00.

Kiwanis Member of the Year was our Secretary Patrick Hope, also awards were Jason Jacobs and Paul Bonicelli for the Builder Award.

We also were involved with the selling of Herberger's Community Days tickets where we raised \$470.00 and we are awaiting an additional check from the corporate store for participating in the event.

We are working on the After the Prom Party which is our 29th year of sponsoring this event, and with the support we have received from the community it will be another successful event.

Ninetta Wandler
Kiwanis Club President

SW Minnesota Clubs Work Together to Raise Funds for Food For Kidz

03/03/2014 - Club: Lakefield - Submitted by: Dale Cuperus

Food For Kidz has held an annual "bagging event" in Lakefield, Minnesota for the past 9 years. Nutritiously balanced meals are bagged for distribution throughout the world. The Lakefield and neighboring Jackson Kiwanis clubs have donated funds to buy some ingredients for the meals and provided members to help with the bagging process.

March 2, 2014 a Chili Cook-off was held to raise money for this annual bagging. For the past few years the



Lakefield and Jackson clubs have also furnished teams to the fundraising Chili Cook-off event. A friendly rivalry has developed to the point where a traveling trophy was established this year and other neighboring clubs were invited to participate also. While no other clubs accepted the offer this year the invitation will be extended again next year.

\$1700 was raised and a team from Lakefield took the trophy home for 2014. However, the score was close with only one vote separating the top 2 teams.