Update from Kiwanis International- New Member fee changing

07/31/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Kiwanis International

Effective October 1, 2013, clubs will pay a fixed fee for each new member, regardless of the date the member joins Kiwanis.

The (International) new-member enrollment fee will continue to be $50 for each new enrollee. (Please note that this only affects the International portion of the new member fee. Our district will continue to use the graduated new member fee schedule that we implemented this year.)

Why is Kiwanis making this change? Kiwanis’ graduated enrollment fee has been in place since April 2010. When it was instituted, it was assumed that a discounted fee would help recruit many more new members later in the year. This has not been the case. Over the past three years, the number of new members added in the latter part of the year has remained the same as when the fee was a flat $50.

As a result of these findings, and with the desire to restore an important revenue stream and balance the budget without levying a dues increase, the fixed new-member enrollment fee will be reinstated for existing clubs.

Kiwanis clubs that add new members to their rosters before October 1 will continue to pay the graduated enrollment fee as follows: $18 in July, $12 in August and $6 in September.

For questions about this you can contact the Kiwanis Member Services Department at memberservice@kiwanis.org or 1-800-KIWANIS.

Change in Process of Counting End-of-Year Membership
Beginning October 1, 2013, Kiwanis International will allow clubs an extra ten days to make some adjustments to their rosters for the previous year.

Since 2006, Kiwanis International has published its official membership number based on the organization’s reported active members as of September 30, 2013, some of whom died or resigned their club membership during the 2012-13 year. However, clubs were then given until October 10 to delete members, which sometimes resulted in a discrepancy between a club’s roster and the number used by Kiwanis International to invoice the club. Through the years, club leaders have expressed concerns that they feel the September 30 number is not a true reflection of the number of people in their club.

In the interest of fairness, and to start our new Membership Campaign with a more accurate “start figure,” Kiwanis International will now account for member deletions that are reported by October 10 as part of the previous year’s membership total. This will be the final official membership count for the 2012-13 year.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT

07/29/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Chuck Schroder

The Kiwanis year is winding down, and there are only two (2) full months left. How time flies by, and it was just yesterday it seems that we were starting this Kiwanis year. However, there is still time for your club to participate in this year’s ANNUAL GIFT PROGRAM. In the last report that I have received, our district is at $2.88 pr. member. We need your club’s help to get this up and over $4.00 pr. member so we can help our SLP groups. If your club is one that hasn't sent in their money yet for this year, please do so NOW.

We are also in need of items at the convention for the foundations raffle. We do have some items already, but the more we have the better the chance you have to win. The tickets will be the same again this year at $10.00 each. Please let me know if you plan to bring an item. I (Chuck Schroder) can be reached at (605) 359-6088.

Again, THANK YOU ALL FOR WHAT YOU ARE DOING FOR KIWANIS AND THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD.

From the Desk of the Governor

08/01/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Cynthia Braseth, District Governor

We are on the countdown to convention. I hope that you are going to be there because we’re planning lots of fun and informative activities for everyone. Friday morning we have education sessions for club officers. Club Leadership Education will orient new club presidents to their role for the next year. Achieving Club Excellence is a session to jump
We start our business on Friday afternoon with an inspiring presentation from Holly Hoffman. She is going to share her experiences on Survivor and how she was able to be the last woman standing. Holly is also going to join us for our hands on service project at the Boys and Girls Club. There are lots of activities available so that you should be able to find something that you will enjoy doing. The finale for the evening will be dinner followed by games inspired by Survivor. There may even be an appearance by a true survivor! What more could you ask for huh? And that's just the first day!

Saturday, as always, is our workday with lots of reports and the House of Delegates where we will elect a new Governor Elect. We also have a bylaws change to consider that will allow us the ability to hold an emergency session of the board over the phone if we need to. Right now we do not have that capability and with the distances we have, it's difficult to get everyone together to discuss a single issue, and they do come up. It's also a day to recognize the good works of people throughout the district and meet up with old friends. There are several forums planned with something for everyone. I hope that you have more than one person coming from your club so you can get all of the information to bring back to your club officers and members. And finally, we will hold the second annual Memorial Service on Sunday to remember all of those who have died over the last year. If you have lost a member, make sure you send that name to Steve in the district office so that they can be recognized at the Service.

If you are bringing your family, Aberdeen has a whole host of activities for the kids. I invite you to visit the city website to plan for some added family time while you're there.

So, as you can see, this is going to be an exciting convention with lots of activities planned. I know that I'm hoping to see several friends I only see at convention and meet some new ones. See you all in Aberdeen!

August Update

08/01/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas

District Convention: Our District Convention in Aberdeen is just a few days away. Lots of preparation and planning has been happening to ensure that this will be another great convention. It will be a great opportunity to learn new ideas, meet new friends and enjoy great Kiwanis fellowship. I hope to see you there. Further information about the convention can be found in the MINNEKOTAN and on the district website.

You Tube Video: Here is a link to a very interesting 10 minute video about the history of Kiwanis. It is very well done and I think you would enjoy watching it. Click here
Changes from Kiwanis International: We recently received communications that Kiwanis International has changed the fee to enroll new members effective October 1st. I have included more information in a separate article in the August MINNEKTOAN. Please note that this only affects the International portion of the new member fee. Our district will continue to use the graduated new member fee schedule that we implemented this year. Also, Kiwanis International will be changing the process of counting end-of-year membership for each club. I have also included a separate article about that.

Club Secretaries: Be sure that you have submitted all of your monthly online club reports for the 12-13 year. Remember that the September report (last report of the year) is due by October 10th, 2013. When you use the monthly online reporting system you will not be asked to submit a separate annual report.

Thanks again to Club Secretaries for submitting the Annual Club Election Reports for 2013-2014. The reports were due June 1, so if you have not submitted your information online, please do so ASAP! We are still waiting for some club election reports! Please include email addresses whenever possible. It is very important that Kiwanis International and the District Office both receive this information in a timely manner so that directories and mailing lists can be compiled. When filed online and the report automatically goes to both Kiwanis International and the District Office.

Don’t get lost! The club locator (Click here) on the Kiwanis.org website is one of its most used functions. Prospective members and current members who are relocating use the search function to find a club in their area. But if your club doesn’t have a valid postal address, site visitors won’t be able to find you. Don’t get left off the map! Club secretaries, make sure your club’s address is valid and up to date via the Secretary dashboard at www.KiwanisOne.org/login.

Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office Contact Information:
Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office
P.O. Box 735
Dalton, MN 56324-0735
Phone: 218-589-7581        Email: secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org

Eliminate Project at District Convention

07/31/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bill Daugherty

Just think, in a few days we will be gathering in Aberdeen, SD for the District Convention. There will be two forums on the Eliminate Project. Primarily it will provide updated info on how the Project is doing and also there will be information on becoming a Model Club. We are at 22 Model Clubs now and our goal is to have 30 Model Clubs by September 30th. Check with your club and come to the Convention with the authorization from your club to become a Model Club. I will have the appropriate forms to send in to the Eliminate Project.

There will be a number of Zeller fellowships available for donation. By filling out the
form and giving a check for $1250 made out to the Kiwanis International Foundation with Eliminate Project noted on the Memo line you will be given your Zeller award at the Banquet Saturday evening. Please consider this as a donation that will be a great help to your individual club and the Eliminate Project.

Clubs are encouraged to bring an item for a Silent Auction for the Eliminate Project. The funds donated to the Silent Auction will be credited to the Club that made the donation. There is also a raffle of a Terry Redlin print that is framed and ready for display. The cost of a raffle ticket will be $25.00.

**Kick up your heels for Kiwanis**

*07/28/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn*

Mark Lindquist is a member of the Fargo South Point Kiwanis. Mark is on a whirlwind heel clicking trip. Mark has clicked his heels in many states on his latest travels. His goal is to do this in all 50 states. On his current trip he was in St. Louis where he auditioned on the show "Voice". He was not successful in getting on the show this year, but in his own words, "it's only 364 days until I try again".

Now for all of you district Kiwanis convention attendees, be sure you are in the convention hall at 1:00 pm on Friday as Mark will open the convention with his rendition of the "The Star Spangled Banner". Maybe if we are lucky, we will see another heel click????

**District Convention- Still time to register**

*07/31/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, Dist Sec/Treas*
If you have not yet registered for the District Convention, we can still get you in!

Just a reminder that online registration and further information can be found on our district website.  Click here

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**Service Director Column**

*07/23/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Stewart Ross*

The end of another Kiwanis year is fast approaching. New club officers will be installed in a couple of months. It is also a time to look back on the previous year and ask some important questions:

1. Did your club supply enough varied opportunities for members to do service for the community and beyond?
2. What percentage of members worked on at least one service project? Would your club be stronger if that percentage was higher?
3. Are the service projects for the club relevant for the community?
4. What new service areas were identified over the past year? Is there a plan to add a new project in the near future?
5. Have your club members taken an evaluation yet to prepare for the new year? If so, what findings were there that might aid the club in its strategic plan?

We know there are many clubs that don’t have strategic plans and simply attempt to do the same projects as the previous years. The problem with this strategy (if one can call this a strategy) is that it leaves no room for change. Especially for clubs that tend to not bring in many new members, it is key to explore how the community is changing. Perhaps there are new arrivals to your town that either know of people who need aid or are in need of aid themselves.

Often clubs become insular and backward looking. The best clubs are always looking for new opportunities to do service. And they are willing to end some projects and start new ones when it makes sense to do so.

If I had a magic wish for all of our clubs in MN-DAK it would be that they help educate members about service, find exciting and varied service projects for their members, and work to develop the spirit of helping others. Service is the lifeblood of any Kiwanis Club, that is why we call ourselves a service club!

We hope to see representatives from your club in Aberdeen at the district summer
We will do service at the convention for the Boys and Girls Club of Aberdeen. Please join us as we make a difference for hundreds of Boys and Girls.

Be a Part of the Scholarship Program

07/25/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Jean Collins

Each year the MN-Dak Kiwanis Foundation presents scholarships to 55 deserving High School Seniors. The funds for these scholarships come from the financial earnings of the total funds of the Foundation. To keep our funds growing it is important that each Kiwanis Club yearly donates $100 to the Foundation and become a Century Club member. Other ways to keep our funds viable is to honor members of your club with a Vantine Life Fellowship which costs $100. Another honor for $500 is the Messer Fellowship. Many people and clubs will honor a Kiwanian who has died with a Memorial gift to the Foundation; since only the earnings on our funds are used for scholarships, this is a special legacy for that member.

Whatever money is donated to the Foundation is a valuable asset to see our Foundation grow each year. This year we gave scholarships of $850 and would like to see them grow to $1,000. Please consider some kind of gift to the Foundation.

Club News

Kiwanis Dakota Royal Charity Draft Horse Show

07/30/2013 - Club: Sioux Falls West - Submitted by: Craig Thompson, President

Sixty massive draft horses strutted their stuff at the Kiwanis Dakota Royal Charity Draft Horse Show in Sioux Falls in late June. Ten “hitches” from four states came together for the first annual competition sponsored by Sioux Falls Kiwanis West, a small club of eleven members with big ambitions and results to show for it.

President Craig Thompson highlighted the organizational
efforts of the Chair Houston Haugo, himself a prize-winning draft horse competitor. The show has been a much considered dream of the club, this year successfully coming together and yielding about $10,000 for children’s charities. Volunteers from the Sioux Falls Downtown Kiwanis, South Sioux Kiwanis Club and Kiwanis West friends totaled a staff of eighteen to handle the two-day event. The club is continuing to dream, hoping to make this an annual competition.

"The Eliminator" visits North Hennepin Kiwanis Club

07/30/2013 - Club: North Hennepin, Minneapolis - Submitted by: Gail Heyda, Region 7 Lt. Gov Elect

The "The Eliminator, Robert ‘Bob’ Burlison , KURE2013, was welcomed by the North Hennepin Kiwanis club, St Louis Park Kiwanis club, the North Suburban St Paul and the North Suburban St Paul Golden K Kiwanis club at a club meeting on Friday, July 26, 2013. The North Hennepin club was the 42nd Kiwanis club meeting in the 35 states Bob has visited in his motorcycle ride to all 50 US states to serve the ‘Eliminate’ program of MNT through the International Kiwanis organization.

Bob’s presentation of his bike ride and all the visits to Kiwanis clubs was very entertaining and send a great message of the commitment to the worldwide service project to eliminate ‘maternal neonatal tetanus’. His stories shared the importance of reaching Kiwanis goal through communication and education of the project. All club members enjoyed Bob’s visit and the chance to get to know him.

Minnesota Dakotas District and Region 7 have embraced this worldwide project and participate with many ‘pledged Model Clubs’ with more to come. In the five years the Kiwanis organization have committed to meet the goal of raising $110m to “Eliminate” MNT, we are well on the way with 28 countries to help. Our thoughts are always with the mothers, children and families that will benefit.

Thanks to Bob for the time he shared with us. We wish him a continued safe journey. We look forward to seeing him accomplish his 50 state visit goal.

(Photo by Lou Michaels – 7-26-13)

SIOUX FALLS EAST CLUB HAS TEMPORARY CHANGE

07/29/2013 - Club: Sioux Falls East - Submitted by: Chuck Schroder, Secretary

Sioux Falls East Kiwanis club will be meeting at the Pizza Ranch at 3809 East 10th St. in Sioux Falls. This is due to the renovation of Cherry Creek Grill. This change will be only for the month of August, 2013. If there are any questions, please contact Chuck Schroder, Club Secretary at (605) 582-6363.

Hendricks Kiwanis Club Invites New Members

07/20/2013 - Club: Hendricks - Submitted by: Julie Hogie

The Hendricks, MN Kiwanis Club maintains the community informational board
messages. The most recent posting promotes the local business community as well as inviting new members to join our club. Hendricks is a small town of 700 people, but is fortunate to have a thriving business community as well as a thriving Kiwanis club.

Minot Golden K, sponsors Park Bench

07/18/2013 - Club: Minot, Golden K - Submitted by: Richard Sabol, Sec

Members of the Minot Golden "K", (ND) are shown at the Roosevelt Park Zoo, sitting on the Park Bench donated by the club. The zoo is now open after the devastating flood of 2011.