

MINNEKOTAN

Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

No.70

August 2015

Message from the District Governor

08/01/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Sharon Scudder, District Governor

Henry Moore said, "One never knows what each day is going to bring. The important thing is to be open and ready for it." Now that we are nearing the time for our convention it is truly amazing how fast the time has come and gone. It is true that Kiwanians are the most flexible people I have ever worked with. You are ready, willing, able and always finding people to help. Thanks for all you do but we still need your help to plan the days ahead at the Kiwanis District Convention on August 7-9, 2015 in Grand Forks, ND. You can help by attending and bringing members from your club with you – you won't regret the time of sharing and learning to benefit your clubs. If you haven't registered, you can do so on site. Looking forward to seeing you.



As a reminder, we will be having our Fourth Annual Memorial Service to remember all the Kiwanians who have passed away this year. Please submit your club member's name to Denis Cornell at [Cornell.denis@gmail.com](mailto:cornell.denis@gmail.com) if you have not already done so. There will be a breakfast to follow for all registered Kiwanis members.

There are spaces between our fingers so that another person's fingers can fill them in. Have you worked on membership for your club? Bruce Klair has been working so hard with his Growth and Club Building teams to make Kiwanis Stronger for our Community and our Kids. Be sure and invite a friend to a meeting or a project to get them involved --- be sure to ASK if they are interested in supporting the community by joining Kiwanis. ASK, you will never know. Someone, DeWayne Hayes, ASKED ME AND I SAID YES – here I am-- Governor.

I would like to congratulate Al Vanderlaan for all his endeavors to seeking and securing a new Lt. Governor Elect Elect-for Region 5, his name is Wes Garcia and he worked hard to get Mark Nelson on Board as a new Lt. Governor-Elect to follow him. Outstanding, Al. Also he has been busy with opening up 2 new Reading Oasis and a new Watertown, SD Middle School – Keep it going, you and your team have been working hard.

Thanks to all the Lt. Governor teams for your hard work and reports regarding your

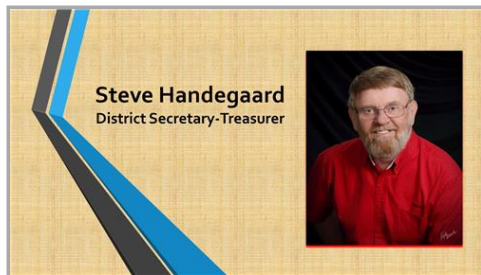
clubs. I have read interesting topics regarding the clubs and see their dedication to their clubs and community. I see their struggles and accomplishments and I know with your help and Kiwanis, they will do what is best for their club and communities in helping the children of the world.

Thanks to the Key Club who pledged \$3 million to Eliminate, we have reached \$91 million US. My, oh, my -look what kids can do. We need to support the Key Club and Circle K as they do so much volunteering and are always doing projects to support Eliminate and the community projects throughout the world. You can help the Eliminate program by bringing or sending your silent auction items to the convention.

We still have a lot of work to do for Outreach, Eliminate, Membership, Club Openings and sharing Kiwanis.....Let's finish the year with the pride of knowing that we looked for the way ahead and are further ahead now than before ---but we still have a way to go.

August Update

07/31/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas



District Convention: Our District Convention in Grand Forks, ND 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.

Kiwanis International Convention House of Delegates: You can view a summary of action taken on amendments presented at the Kiwanis International Convention in Indianapolis at the following link: [Click here](#)

Please note that the House of Delegates did approve a \$10 increase in the International dues. Starting October 1st the International dues will be \$52 per member.

Club Secretaries: Be sure that you have submitted all of your monthly online club reports for the 14-15 year. Remember that the September report (last report of the year) is due by October 10th, 2015. 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 2015-2016. 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 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 online Club Secretary Dashboard.

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

You, Your Club Budget and the Minnesota-Dakotas Education Foundation

07/29/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Denis Cornell

As your club plans for the new Kiwanis year beginning on October 1st, each club president should ensure that the Century Club Donation to the Kiwanis Minnesota-Dakotas Education Foundation is included as a line item in the club budget. Your Century Club Gift to the Minnesota-Dakotas Education Foundation provides funds necessary to continue building the foundation assets. Only the interest on the foundation assets is used toward scholarship awards. This year the Minnesota-Dakotas Education Foundation awarded 56 scholarships of \$865.00 to high school students planning to attend a college or university within our district.

A great way to recognize a club member or officer for outstanding service is to present them with a gift of a Joseph E. Messer Fellowship or a Vantine Life Fellowship from the Minnesota Dakotas Education Foundation. The Joseph E. Messer Fellowship is awarded for a contribution of \$500.00. The recipient will receive an attractive Foundation plaque, recognizing that person as a Joseph E. Messer Fellowship recipient. The Vantine Life Fellow is awarded for a contribution of \$100. The recipient will receive a Vantine Life Fellow Certificate, and a wallet card.

Individual members can also make contributions to the foundation for a Vantine Life Fellowship or a Joseph E. Messer Fellowship. The Joseph E. Messer Fellowship is open to any individual who contributes \$500.00 or pledges that amount with a \$250.00 first payment and a second \$250.00 payment within the following year. The donor then receives an attractive Foundation plaque, recognizing that person as a Joseph E. Messer Fellowship recipient. The recipients of these fellowships will have the satisfaction of knowing that their gift will produce interest-bearing income to provide scholarship funds for years to come.

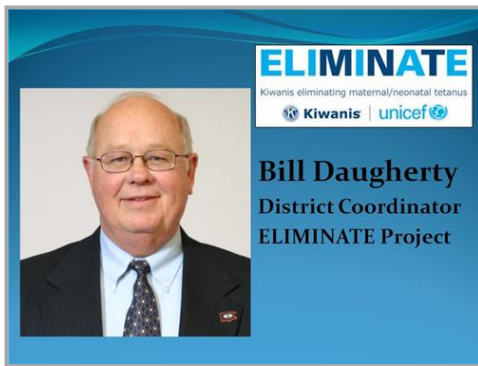
Memorial gifts to the Foundation can be given in any amount in memory of any person, and are not limited to Kiwanians and their families. This gift expresses the donor's respect and love of the deceased forever and adds to the scholarship funds. When you send a memorial to the Foundation include the name and address of the person to whom the acknowledgement is to be sent. The Foundation Secretary Treasurer will notify that person that a memorial has been received.

Donations to the Kiwanis Minnesota-Dakotas Education Foundation are truly gifts that keep on giving.



The Eliminate Project

07/29/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bill Daugherty



Next week we will be in Grand Forks, ND for our District Convention. I want you all to consider your ability to contribute to the Eliminate Project. At the Convention I will have forms and Zellers available for a \$1250 donation. There is also the Centennial Award available to celebrate the 100 year anniversary of Kiwanis. This award is based on a donation of \$1500. There will be forms available and pins to present for this effort.

I am hopeful that there will be some clubs willing to pledge being a model club. There is a 20% match available to any club pledging to be a model club. There is a five year window in which to complete the club pledge.

Another opportunity is available to members that pledge to save a baby a day for one year. That involves a pledge of \$1.80 per day.

As of July 16th our District has reached 50% of our \$3 million dollar pledge. Please consider donations to the Eliminate Project. As in years past we will have a silent auction involving items donated by clubs in the District. The club will receive credit for items purchased.

See you all in a few days!

A Note from the MN-DAK Director of Service

07/26/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Stewart Ross

As the MN-DAK Director of Service I am always amazed by what our Kiwanis Clubs and members do in the name of service for their communities and beyond. This past year, 27 Kiwanis Clubs in Southern Minnesota were part of a book project for the second year in a row. Due to the success of the first project, Tim Penny and his staff at the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) entered into agreement for year 2. Instead of receiving 5000 free children books from SMIF as in the first year, SMIF gave our clubs 10,000 free books. Year two was another great success with member participation in reading the books to young children and distributing them.



The final results were awesome indeed: 4,179 children under the age of 5 were read to by Kiwanis members during the project and 10,000 books were distributed to children, many who were disadvantaged and had few books in the home. There were 268 parents of these children contacted about the importance of reading to their children for later success in life. A grand total of 618 Kiwanis members in the 27 clubs who were located in the counties reached by SMIF distributed books and read to the children.

Due to the success of the second year of this book project, SMIF has agreed to again donate 10,000 books to the same clubs. The books were delivered recently to the SMIF warehouse and we will soon be distributing them to clubs. The clubs involved in the project from region 7 are: Spring Valley, Stewartville, Rochester Daymakers, Rochester

Sunrisers, Rochester Noon, Lake City, Red Wing Dawnbreakers, Red Wing Noon, Red Wing Golden K, and Winona Sunrisers.

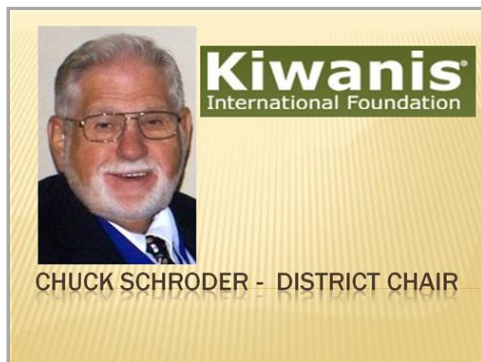
Clubs from Region 6 involved in the project are: Austin Early Risers, Austin Noon, Albert Lea Day Breakers, Albert Lea Golden K, Albert Lea Golden K II, Albert Lea Noon, Owatonna Golden K, Owatonna Noon, Mankato, Blue Earth, New Ulm, St. Peter, Fairmont, Fairmont Uptown, Faribault and Faribault Golden K. Thanks to these clubs for taking on this important project!

For those of you attending the MN-DAK District Convention in Grand Forks in a few day, please remember to bring diapers (especially larger sizes). As we have done the past two years, we will donate the wall of diapers to a local shelter. The Director of the Shelter is excited to know of our project and will be in attendance at the Saturday luncheon to receive our massive donation. There is still time for your club to send a box of diapers or send a check to cover the cost of diapers we will purchase at the convention and place into the diaper wall. Of course, we also encourage individual members to bring boxes of diapers too! If it seems like too much to bring along, why not stop at a Grand Forks Target or Walmart and purchase them after you arrive!

We hope clubs in our district continue to work to develop a signature service project that no one else in your area does. Nothing puts your club on the map better than a signature project that the community knows about. It helps the excitement level of the club increase and also helps in recruiting new members to the club.

HAS YOUR CLUB APPLIED FOR A FOUNDATION GRANT?

07/26/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Chuck Schroder



Does your club have a project that you could use some help with funding? Well why not think about the Kiwanis International Foundation Grant Program? You can visit Kiwanis.org/foundation/grants for detailed information about the grant program including the online application, or have your club representative stop by the foundation booth at the district convention and visit with me and pick up an application.

We have had several grants given to clubs in our district in the past few years. But you won't get one if you don't apply. This is why it is so important that clubs contribute to the annual club gift program. At the present time we are only \$6,856.34 from reaching our goal as a district. If 6 individuals or clubs would obtain a Hixson for \$1,000.00 we would make our goal. Remember the district receives 5% back of whatever is given to the foundation. This past year we received over \$1,400.00 back.

The Annual Club Gift continues to be an important program within the Kiwanis International Foundation. Annual Club Gifts go to the Kiwanis Children's Fund and support the grant program. Clubs receive recognition for any size gift to the foundation. We encourage clubs to become a Today Club. When an individual gives to the foundation, not only do they get credit, but their club, region and district also get credit. Did you know our foundation qualifies for corporate matching gift programs? If you make a gift to our foundation, your employer may double or triple your donation. You can learn more on our website at kiwanis.org/matchinggift.

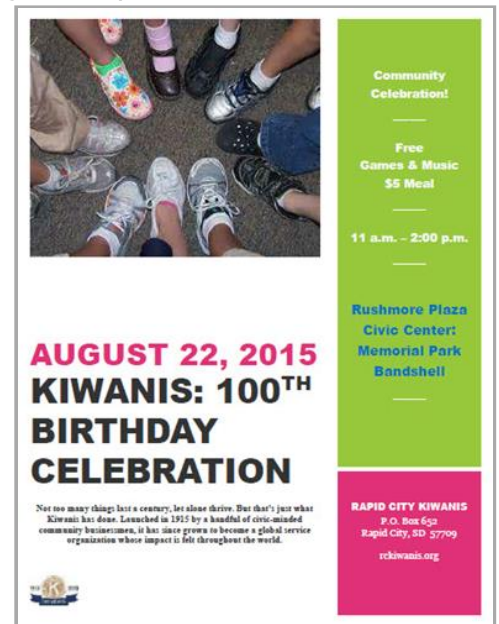
Thank You all for your support of the foundation and the Children Of The World.

Club News

Centennial Celebration Planned

07/27/2015 - Club: Rapid City - Submitted by: Vern Hagedorn, Secretary

The Rapid City, SD club is planning a huge celebration to recognize the Kiwanis Centennial on August 22 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Something is being offered for every age in the Memorial Park Band Shell. There will be something for everyone. There will be a variety of activities for youth, a display of club projects, and information on Kiwanis. Music appropriate to the 1920's will be played. Since this is noon time event, a light lunch of a pop, hot dog or burger, and a bag of chips will be available for a modest cost. The event is open to the public, and fellow Kiwanians who want to celebrate with us.



New Marketing Idea Implemented

07/27/2015 - Club: Rapid City - Submitted by: Vern Hagedorn



Karen Pearson, President Elect of the Rapid City club, has developed the trifold boards shown in the attached photo as part of a new marketing technique. The boards serve two totally different purposes. The marketing purpose is to show the service projects of our club, as demonstrated at our Pizza Ranch fundraiser. The second function is for use at our weekly club meetings. The Kiwanis and Centennial logo are removed on the center panel. Progress is shown under each of the service project logos. As an example, the

total amount donated to the Eliminate Can is changed weekly. The service hours given to upkeep of the Kiwanis Mary Hall Nature Park is updated monthly, etc. This is an idea which you may want to adopt in your club.

North Dakota State Fair Parade

07/23/2015 - Club: Minot, Golden K - Submitted by: Richard Sabol, Secretary

The Minot Golden K participated in the 50th Anniversary North Dakota State Fair parade.

Numerous members, children and grandchildren rode on the float and handed out candy to many people along the parade route. This is one of the many ways the Golden K gives back to the Minot area.



Zeller presentation to Jim Noehl

07/23/2015 - Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn



Fargo South Point Kiwanis secretary Larry Rittgarn is shown presenting a Zeller award to honor a very good Kiwanian that has been so loyal to the organization. James (Jim) Noehl, is being honored with a Zeller award for all of the support he gives each year, plus all of the years he has been involved.

Jim has been a member of 3 clubs and served each of them very well, by serving in the officer position of most of them as well as being a Past Lt Governor of the Minn-Dak District. Jim now resides in Texas in the winter months, but still finds time to help with all of the spring, summer and fall activities of the South Point Club.

Over the past years Jim has provided 40 or more back packs each year to needy children at Madison Elementary school, as well as working on many of our fund raising and service projects. Jim not only donates many dollars to the projects but is also very instrumental in the actual work being done in our club.

We wanted to honor Jim with the Zeller award to let him know how much he is appreciated. This is the second Zeller to be awarded by the South Point Kiwanis club to deserving people in the Fargo community.

Jamestown Kiwanis Club Donates Items to Summer Parks Program

07/22/2015 - Club: Jamestown - Submitted by: Janna Bergstedt

Members of the Jamestown Kiwanis Club recently donated 100 items to the Jamestown

Parks and Rec summer parks program. In commemoration of Kiwanis International's 100th anniversary, the club is donating 100 of various items throughout the year. Brandon Gange, park program supervisor, was in attendance to accept the gifts on the Parks & Rec's behalf. The summer parks program offers free supervised activities for children ages 6-12 at Meidinger, Nickeus, McElroy and Leapaldt Parks. Some of the activities include arts, crafts, hiking, fishing, and biking.



Other donations included:

- 100 canned goods for the food pantry – February
- 100 personal/hygiene items for Community Action – March
- 100 Pancake Day tickets to local law enforcement - May
- 100 ice cream bars for the Kiwanis/Rotary Camp Rokiwan for kids – June
- 100 games & toys for Park & Rec - July

Future months include (for kids in need, organization TBD):

- 100 school supplies - August
- 100 hats & mittens - October
- 100 books - December

photo: L to R - Back row: Katie Ryan-Anderson, Michelle Ascheman, Rob Keller, Tim Burchill, Jan Barnes, Lindsey Vogel, Sandy Franke, Clarence Mittleider, Tim Perkins, Norman Winkelman, Si Liechty, Janna Bergstedt, Teri Nauta. Front Row: Alissa Hanson, Krysten Perkins, Angela Martini, Jason Gruebele, Brandon Gange, Park Program Supervisor, Amanda Thrift, Sharon Caine, Don Caine, Martha Liechty, Joyce Bentz, DeLette Winkelman, Don Bentz

Partaking in Stillwater Traditions

07/21/2015 - Club: Stillwater Area - Submitted by: Judy Gulden



Stillwater Kiwanis and Key Club helped by a few swell family fans were part of the annual community celebration and parade called Log Jam this year. What a blast we had! We offered "Log Roll", a game of chance for all ages before the annual Downhill Derby on Friday afternoon, July 17. Our event was entertaining for everyone - real fun in the sun. Then on Sunday, July 19, we were an entry in the celebration's wrap-up, the annual parade. Our Kiwanis Banner preceded our hardy parade walkers escorting members that were riding in a Scooby Doo van. The van was recognized by all the kids

watching the parade. Other members watching the parade cheered on their Kiwanians by ringing a cow bell, and a LOUD horn and calling out, "YEAH KIWANIS. It was great fun to get members of both clubs together, and we were proud to partake in the town's celebration.

Kiwanis North Suburban Golden K of St. Paul Celebrates 200th Blog on website

07/13/2015 - Club: North Suburban Golden K, St. Paul - Submitted by: Ric Soderstrom, Sr.

About four years ago the Kiwanis Club of North Suburban Golden K of Saint Paul board of directors undertook a project to upgrade their website (WWW.GOLDENKAYER.ORG). They felt it needed a new fresh look and something to help generate enthusiasm for the club and attract new members. The cornerstone idea to make it a living and changing site was the addition of a weekly blog. This idea was particularly appealing because this club meets every Tuesday for social, business and education. That turns out to be 50 blogs a year given the club takes time off for Christmas and New Year's weeks, so 200 blogs turns out to be four year's worth of meetings, speakers and some insights into the personality of our club.

The club prides itself in having an ongoing outside speaker come in each week for one hour to provide the club with information on a wide range of topics with a concentration in learning about what is going on in the community and the world to develop programs in support of the children – the main focus of this club. Over the last four years we have had numerous speakers on child and family services, YMCA community programs, rehabilitation of abused children and training teachers in Afghanistan, but also politicians such as John Marty, Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Lorie Skerven Gildea and Secretary of State Mark Ritchie. We also focus on problems that seniors face – diseases, staying active and handling fraud.

The weekly blog has become a staple in maintaining a current events calendar, a platform to highlight some of the member's vacations, grandchildren and special events in their lives, and acts as an archive and roadmap of the past to help show how the club is changing and exploring new ideas through the continued education provided by the weekly presentations. The weekly blog has been good for our club and might just serve as an example other clubs might find interesting, especially if they have an active website and a writer or two willing to take notes at meetings and work to post the activities after each meeting. It sure seems to work for our club and posting the 200th blog on June 30, 2015 is a testimonial that Kiwanis clubs can add value to their club through the Internet too.

Submitted by Ric Soderstrom, Sr. of the North Suburban Golden K Club of St. Paul. Ric is currently the Vice President of the club, and writes the weekly blog with occasional help from others in the club. Larry Feldsein does the weekly posting and acts as Webmaster for the site.

36th Annual Over 90s Luncheon

07/01/2015 - Club: Watertown - Submitted by: Tim Oviatt

Watertown, SD Kiwanians hosted their 36th Annual Over 90s Luncheon for the area's most senior residents on June 9th. With several more than 100 years old, 113 guests and their caregivers or drivers joined Kiwanians on Lake Kampeska for lunch, some laughs and singing several patriotic songs as well as a few old favorites. The program



featured the director of the local historical society and county museum, who shared fun facts and figures from the 1940's and early 1950's when the guests were entering adulthood. Events ranging from WWII, fashion, popular foods, transportation to the advent of television kindled many memories for the guests. A Kiwanian sat at each table with the guests, gathering facts and history on each one and then shared the information as the mic was passed around the room. While Kiwanis of Watertown's focus is primarily on serving our youth, this annual "Over 90s Affair" is one event members look forward to continuing in the future.

