

MINNEKOTAN

Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

No.15

December 2010

District Governor's Message

12/01/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Lowell Disrud, District Governor

We are again in the busy holiday season with many activities and events to attend but it is also a time to reflect on the freedoms, blessings, and opportunities we have. It is also a time that can be lonely, depressing, and frustrating for those who are less fortunate. So it is a time of opportunity to serve others through Kiwanis. I thank each of you for the many hours you give ringing bells for Salvation Army, packing food baskets, giving gifts, and so much more. I hope that you are richly blessed by the hearts that you warm and the smiles that you receive as you volunteer and as you share those "Kiwanis Moments" with fellow members.



With all of the clubs' activities and service this time of year it is a great time to invite a prospective member to a club meeting or even volunteer with you on a service project. There are so many who would enjoy the friendships and opportunities they would gain by being a member of Kiwanis if they are just asked.

Thank you for doing your part in changing the world one child and one community at a time. You are making a difference.

Rachael and I thank you for your support and friendship and wish you the very best this holiday season.

Governor-Elect Training Conference

11/30/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Denis Cornell, Governor-Elect

"Lead-Develop-Grow" was the theme for the 2010 Governor-Elect Training Conference held in Indianapolis, Indiana during the week of November 3rd. I had the privilege of



representing the Minnesota-Dakotas District along with Governor-Elects from 49 other Kiwanis Districts around the globe. District Secretaries also joined us for part of the conference including our own Steve Handegaard.

International President-Elect, Alan Penn, set the agenda for the conference, stressing the need to grow existing clubs, build new clubs, improve the quality of the Kiwanis experience for new and existing members, and increase our commitment to service. We will focus on our core values and beliefs, as well as our branded programs. We will get back to the basics, build on our history and implement new approaches to growth and service. We will also support our foundations and the Global Campaign for Children. The result of these efforts will be more service to our communities and our districts, which will lead to more growth. I returned from Indianapolis with a renewed commitment to this great organization and a desire to make the Minnesota-Dakotas District shine in the world of Kiwanis.

As 2010 draws to a close our thoughts begin to turn to family, friends and the coming holiday season. As we think about our gift giving priorities, let's not forget those who are not as fortunate in our communities. The need is great in virtually every community. Please remember those in need this holiday season and be alert for opportunities to serve those who are suffering through tough times.

Nancy and I wish you a joyous and blessed holiday season and all the best for a terrific 2011.

CIRCLE K NEEDS YOU!

11/29/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Ann Backes Dodge

Since stepping into the Circle K Administrator's position in 1999, I have witnessed the genuine caring of our Circle K members. The number of service hours these college students make time for is amazing. Most have one or two jobs and full class schedules plus they are involved with other organizations. I have watched our Circle K Alumni start careers that involve helping others and they are still volunteering as they start their families. They are all true leaders.



April 1, 2011, I am stepping down from the Administrator's position. We need someone to step up to work with these amazing young leaders. If you are looking for an opportunity to improve your life tenfold by being inspired and feeling young again, this is the time for you. It will be a decision you will never regret and the friendships that you will make will be for a lifetime. I also promise to help with the transition and the sooner someone steps into this position, the more time we will have to work together. The first four years as Administrator, I was a single mother. My daughter went everywhere with me and she still talks about the experiences we had. I took a break to remarry and add a daughter to my family. The last five years have included my family traveling with me and again, we will not forget the experiences we have had.

Last week a very inspirational person in our community passed away. She was 40 years old, a mother of four children, a wife, a teacher, a daughter, a sister and a friend. Her husband wrote the eulogy and I still have it running through my mind.

He wrote, " God gave her time to teach us how to Grow in Faith, To Love Deeper, To tell each other that we love each other more, To have a positive attitude in any situation, To hug more, To dance, and mostly to Celebrate Life!!" Is this not what we as Kiwanians do every day? We need to set the example for our youth sponsored programs and show them how to celebrate life to the fullest.

If you are interested in the Administrator's position, have questions and would like to talk with me, I can be reached at 218-206-3406 or annbackes@hotmail.com. Let me know when a convenient time is to contact you.

In the Spirit of Service,
Ann Backes Dodge
Circle K Administrator
Minnesota-Dakotas District

December Update

11/30/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas



Greetings! The holiday season is upon us and it is a great time to get involved in Kiwanis service and help others in your community! We wish all of you and your families a very happy holiday season.

Governor Elect Candidates: If you are interested in running for Governor Elect for 2011-2012, please submit a picture and a short biographical sketch not to exceed 600 words, along with an endorsement from your home club, to the District Kiwanis Office, P.O. Box 735, Dalton, MN 56324 no later than February 15,

2011. Your information must be received by that date to be published in the March MINNEKOTAN. Candidates can announce their intention to run at a later date, but will not be able to have an article in the MINNEKOTAN or district website. Governor Elect candidates must be a Past Lt. Governor. The election will take place at the District Convention next August. A complete list of rules and regulations for district officer campaigns can be obtained from the District Office.

Club Donations to Outreach: Special thanks to all of the clubs that contributed to the Outreach Program during 09-10. We look forward to seeing your contribution again in 10-11. Most Kiwanis clubs include this as an annual budget item. Dollars given to the Outreach Program are used by Key Club and Circle K District Boards to build new Key and Circle K clubs, to attend Kiwanis District Conventions and Kiwanis special meetings, and to acquire needed supplies and equipment. Our Circle K and Key Club District Boards are very busy and active. They need our financial support. Checks can be made payable to Kiwanis Outreach and mailed to me at the District Office.

Download International Convention Materials: Need help promoting the Kiwanis International Convention in your club bulletins and newsletters? Check out the convention Web site at www.kiwanisone.org/convention, where you'll find information about the convention as well as helpful downloads such as logos and ads.

Online Monthly Club Reporting: Since our online reporting is so very important, I would like to once again review the process for the 10-11 year. Your club should be submitting your monthly club report online by the 10th of the following month. Your Lt.

Governors, District Officers, District Office and Kiwanis International are able to view your reports without you having to send any additional emails or hard copies. Among other things the online monthly reports will again be the official basis for selecting the Distinguished Club Awards for 10-11. If you have any questions, please give me a call or send me an email.

Tri-K District Board Meeting: Kiwanis, Circle K, and Key Club District Boards will meet in Fergus Falls, MN on Friday, January 14 and Saturday, January 15, 2011.

Check out some of our other District event dates on the District Website -----
[CLICK HERE](#)

Thanks again for all your great work in Kiwanis!

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A BIG KIWANIS THANK YOU!

11/24/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

Thanksgiving can mean many things, and for me, it means many many thank yous to all of the Kiwanis Family. The honors, memorials, thoughts, prayers, and cards will never be forgotten as so many of you responded to the death of my beautiful partner of nearly 55 years. Pat and I were and always will be a team and it is so hard now to think about the lack of my partner for so many years.

As we enter into this wonderful time of the year, I hope to be able to return many blessings and thanks to many of you for all you have done for me and my family during this past month.

On June 6 of this year Pat entered the hospital with double pnemunia and just never was able to shake it and as her condition worsened, it was apparent that she probably would not be able to shake this illness this time. We did have a few weeks when it was possible to converse wth her, and she fought a great battle. The battle was not to be won, on this earth, so now Pat can be pain free, and continue the work she still had left to do.



Thanks again, and blessings to you all.

Larry Rittgarn

Minnesota Dakotas Education Foundation

11/27/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bill Lardy, Foundation Vice President

For many years the Minnesota Dakotas Foundation has been giving post secondary



scholarships to graduates of high schools in communities with Kiwanis Clubs. No doubt the scholarships are very much needed as there are always many more applications for the aid than the Foundation can award.

For the school year 2010-2011 the Foundation awarded 54, \$750 scholarships (totalling \$40,500) to students in every region. The Foundation, with assistance from Kiwanis International Foundation, as well as the Past District Officers association, funded 7 other scholarships. For the previous year each scholarship was for \$800; the year before that, \$850. For the 2011-2012 year the Foundation expects each scholarship to be worth \$700.

As you see the amount for each scholarship has been dropping due to the decreasing value of the portfolio.

Hopefully the financial markets have turned the corner and will continue their recovery but additional contributions are necessary as well if we look forward to increasing the amount of each scholarship in the years ahead.

Many of you are aware that the Foundation encourages clubs to be a Century Club participant by contributing \$100 or more each year to the Foundation. For the last year, 2009-2010, less than 15% of clubs donated to the Century Club Program. Club funds can be taken from either the service or administration fund. Please accept my challenge to your club to make a contribution to the Foundation for 2010-11 Kiwanis year.

In addition, keep the Foundation in mind as a way to honor club members, out-going officers; or to memorialize dedicated Kiwanis, family members or friends. The help you give to our graduation seniors now will pay benefits to all of society for years ahead. Thank you for your consideration.

K - Family Retreat

11/29/2010 - Division: Division 07 - Submitted by: Diane Johnson & Kristie Anderson

1st ANNUAL K FAMILY RETREAT

Sponsored by Region 7

Feb 4-6, 2011

Stewartville, MN

This weekend will be an opportunity to get to know ALL the sub groups of the Kiwanis Family:

K Kids (Gr 1-5)

Builders Club (Gr 6-8)

Key Club (Gr 9-12)

Circle K (College)

Aktion (Adults w/disabilities)

Kiwanis (Adults)

- 2 nights lodging, 5 meals, Snacks, Service Projects, Workshops
- Leadership Activities, Guest Speakers, Entertainment
 - Outdoor Activities, FUN---FUN---FUN



- Each Club is invited to share a service project that will be finished throughout the weekend by all K-family members

REGISTRATION FEES

Kiwanian, Circle K, Aktion (Fees/person)

Single \$185

Double \$105

Triple + \$85

Key Club Members:

\$85/person

Fri Only (4:00-10:00)

\$15/person

Sat Only (10:00 – 10:00)

\$25/person

K-Kids/Builder Club

Sat Only (10:00-4:00)

\$10/person

***For more information and a registration form, please email
Kristie Anderson: elandkris@juno.com

**Limited space - register by Jan 15th to ensure a spot

The Eliminate Project: Learn about MNT

11/29/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard



In this, the education phase of The Eliminate Project, Kiwanis-family clubs are encouraged to learn about maternal/neonatal tetanus: the reality of this disease, the mothers and babies in countries affected by MNT and the funds needed to distribute vaccinations to the millions of mothers at risk. Use these opportunities to

educate yourself and others about this global campaign for children:

- Sign up for The Eliminate Project e-mail updates [CLICK HERE](#)
- Become a fan of The Eliminate Project Facebook page [CLICK HERE](#)
- Watch videos and read other resources on the [CLICK HERE](#)
Resource page [CLICK HERE](#)

Plan now for Kiwanis One Day

11/29/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard

One day each year, all members of the Kiwanis family around the world join together for one day of global community service. There are no boundaries. And there's no limit to

what you and your club can do for children, for your community, for the world. In 2011, Kiwanis One Day is April 2. What will your club do?

Also, will you win? Contest deadline for 2011 is February 15. Review resources and contest entry via a link at [CLICK HERE](#) .



A NEW YEAR WITH A NEW BEGINNING OF A BIG FIRE

11/21/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Chuck Schroder



This is a new year with a new beginning. Let's show the world that this district can build a big FIRE by reaching our goal of \$5.00 pr. member in the annual club gift campaign. Now is the time for us to step up and do it. Has your club got a line item in it's budget for the KIF foundation at \$5.00 pr. member or one at \$100.00 for the district foundation? If not, why not? These two items need to be the first items listed. They are the ones that help the youth of our district and the young people around the world.

As the International President has said many times, we need to build fires and big ones so that we can get the job done. We were short of our goal last year, but that's water under the bridge. You and I can make a difference by participating in the in the Annual Club Gift Campaign. Thanks for all you are doing for Kiwanis. **"TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN"**

Chuck Schroder,
KIF District Chairman

Club News

FRIDLEY KEY CLUB COMPLETES OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

11/28/2010 - Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Chloe Johnson

The Fridley Key Club had another hugely successful Operation Christmas Child Project this October-November. Key Clubbers made 167 shoeboxes for children in other countries, this year those in northern Europe.

This annual project demonstrated the Key Club motto: "Caring; Our Way of Life" by helping children in need and involving other students in a project that changes children's lives. Project Chairs Cassie Thielen and Chloe Johnson organized and advertised the

project around the school. They brought awareness to the Key Club members, Fridley students, high school staff and sponsoring Kiwanis Club members in making boxes filled with toys, coloring books, crayons, candy and more. When all shoeboxes were received, project chairs, Key Clubbers and adults made sure all boxes were filled and followed the guidelines for them.



On Saturday November 20th, the Project Chairs and Key Club President Ali Sandberg loaded all boxes into two vans and went to KTIS radio station, the collection site for Operation Christmas Child in the Twin Cities. Because of the exceptional number of shoeboxes, Jake Summers from KTIS radio station interviewed the three delivery people live. They told him how many boxes the Key Club made and why they are involved in this project every year. Operation Christmas Child is a great project for involvement. The project leaves the Key Clubbers with a warm filling.

Chloe Johnson, Project Co-Chair and Club Secretary
Fridley High School Key Club
11/26/10

FUN AT FALL RALLY

11/15/2010 - Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Ali Sandberg



Seven Fridley High School Key Clubbers plus Advisor Crzy Mry Bowen and Gene Burns attended the MN-Dak Key Club Fall Rally in Fergus Falls, MN on November 6 and 7. Those attending participated in workshops. President Ali Sandberg and Secretary Chloe Johnson presented a multi-media presentation about last year's award-winning service project "Caring Baskets". Vice President Will Earley participated in a essay and speech contest "What do you like best about Key Club."

Eric Hatch, a previous Board Member of the MN-Dak Key Club District, presented the Key Note speech. He stressed the importance of not letting the garbage that happens in our lives overwhelm us. He shared numerous events in his

life that he overcame.

Key Clubbers spent the evening in swimming, playing various games and making homemade ice cream in plastic bags. Crzy Mry Bowen, with the assistance from the Fridley Key Clubbers, led the ice cream making workshop. All dressed in flamingo outfits and helped members put half and half, sugar, vanilla flavoring, ice cubes and rock salt in their two plastic bags. It was a messy but fun workshop!

It was a great weekend. The workshops trained us in Key Club Officer duties, gave us new ideas and charged us to move forward with our duties.

Ali Sandberg, President
Fridley High School Key Club
11/12/10