

MINNEKOTAN

Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

No.29

February 2012

Kiwanis International Council

01/31/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Denis Cornell, Governor

Two weeks ago Nancy and I had the privilege of representing the Minnesota-Dakotas District at the Kiwanis International Council meeting convened in New Orleans, LA. This was the first International Council meeting held in six years. For the first time the District Governors from North and South America, Europe and Asia, the Kiwanis International European Federation and Asia Pacific Committee leadership, the Circle K International and Key Club International Boards, the Kiwanis International Board, the Kiwanis International Foundation Board, as well as District Secretaries and Kiwanis International staff were all in attendance and involved with the council.



At this meeting we worked on updating the Kiwanis International club bylaws to ensure that they are meeting the needs of our clubs in today's environment. We also endorsed a number of items for the Kiwanis International Board to consider, many of which will be brought before the delegates at our international convention this summer. We also endorsed a number of items for the KI Board to consider for additional action.

An update on The Eliminate Project was presented. Over 8 million dollars has been raised since the campaign kickoff at our convention in Geneva in July 2011. As a comparison, in the first year of the IDD campaign only 1 million dollars was raised.

We witnessed the rollout of the brand new Kiwanis app for iPhone and Android phones. You can download the app from iTunes or from the Android Market. Check it out and keep up to date on Kiwanis activities.

Many of the partners and guests attending participated in service projects, making over 500 bookmarkers and 100 tied fleece blankets for children in the New Orleans area. Books were collected from all attendees to be distributed to Children's Hospital in New Orleans.

The Kiwanis International Board approved an extension of the early bird registration fee for this year's convention from February 15th to March 20th. This will enable you to promote the convention at your meetings in the next two months. We are counting on

delegates from every club in MN-DAK to campaign for the election of our own Stewart Ross as the next Kiwanis International Vice President at the Kiwanis International Convention to be held in New Orleans, June 28th to July 1st. Registration is quick and easy by clicking on the convention link [Click here](#) . For all avid golfers attending the convention, there will be a "Taste of New Orleans Golf Outing to Support The Eliminate Project" on Monday June 25th at the Lakewood Golf Club in New Orleans. The Lakewood Golf Club is one of the sites for the 2012 US Open Qualifier. Check it out [Click here](#) . The registration for this golf outing can be downloaded here [Click here](#)

I started off this article by saying that Nancy and I had the privilege of representing the Minnesota Dakotas District in New Orleans. It truly is a privilege to represent all the great Kiwanians in this district. YOU are making things happen in your communities and around the globe through your service. There are many, many hours of service being accumulated all around this great district each and every week. You are, "Letting them know us by our service".

On the Kiwanis Blog this week an article was posted by Lanton Lee, a Kiwanis International Area Director, which is a great measurement tool to plan and evaluate your service projects.

How to Make a Service Project Meaningful For Everyone

By Lanton Lee

For service to have value and meaning there are five critical elements that must be included in the design and direction of all community-service projects.

1. Community Voice

Community voice is essential if we are to build bridges, bring about change and solve problems. Every Kiwanis club should make sure that the voice and needs of the community are included in the development of its community-service projects. We can accomplish this by conducting a community analysis on an annual basis. Learn more about the community analysis.

2. Orientation & Training

Orientation and training are important first steps for any community-service experience. Information should be provided for Kiwanis members about the community, the issue and the agency or community group. This can be done by inviting a representative to present a program at a club meeting before the service project.

3. Meaningful Action

Meaningful action means that the service being done is necessary and valuable to the community itself. Meaningful action makes members feel like what they did made a difference in a measurable way and that their time was well used. Without this, members will not want to continue their service, no matter how well we do with the other four elements.

4. Reflection

Reflection is a crucial component of the community-service experience. Reflection should happen immediately after the experience to discuss reactions, share stories and explore feelings. Reflection is also a good time to present additional facts about the issues and thus dispel any stereotypes or an individual's alienation from service. Reflection should place the experience into a broader context. This can be done at the club meeting following the service project.

5. Evaluation

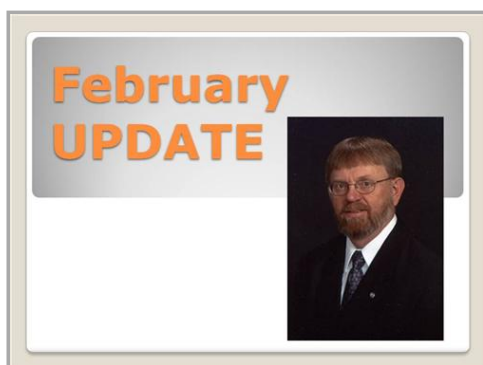
Evaluation measures the impact of the member's experience and the effectiveness of the service in the community. Members should evaluate their experience and agencies should evaluate the effectiveness of the members' service. Evaluation gives direction for improvement, growth and change. Quality community service should challenge members to educate themselves about the issues surrounding their involvement, so they might better understand and work with communities. Each effort must be designed with the intent of creating long-term solutions, while ensuring independence, mutual education, dignity and respect for all.

Adapted from the Campus Outreach Opportunity League (COOL)

Let's continue to "Let them know us by our service." And remember to have fun!!

February 2012 Update

01/31/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas



Governor Elect Candidates: If you are interested in running for Governor Elect for 2012-2013, 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, 2012. 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 in St. Cloud next August. A complete list of rules and regulations for district officer campaigns can be obtained from the District Office.

Lt. Governor Elect Candidates: We are still in need of Lt. Governor Elect Candidates for 2012-2013 in some regions. Contact your current Lt. Governor if interested. The Lt. Governor Education program will take place April 27-29, 2012 in Fergus Falls.

Reminder about Kiwanis Clubs & IRS filing requirements:

All organizations, including all Kiwanis clubs must file the appropriate annual IRS tax form. The form used depends on your annual gross receipts. See separate article for more details.

Tri-K District Board Meeting: Kiwanis, Circle K, and Key Club District Boards met in Fergus Falls, MN on Friday, January 27 and Saturday, January 28, 2012. Minutes of the Kiwanis District Board meeting will be viewable on our district website soon. I will also include a link to the minutes in the March issue.

Club Elections:

It is not too soon to begin thinking about election of club officers for 2012-2013. Just a reminder that your club election report will be due June 1st.

District Annual Audit: The Annual Audit of the Minnesota-Dakotas District Financial

Accounts for the Kiwanis year 2010-2011 was recently completed by Westberg Eischens, PLLP, Certified Public Accountants of Willmar, Minnesota. The report is on file at Kiwanis International and the District Office.

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

Changes for Club Leadership Education

01/24/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Loreena L. Luetgers

The Kiwanis year is progressing and we are already planning for the education of next year's Kiwanis leaders. Club Leadership Education will be held this spring for club officers and members. CLE is a requirement for the club officers. It is very valuable to help officers learn about Kiwanis, attain knowledge and learn leadership skills for their position.

Each club secretary will receive a letter this month concerning the upcoming CLE sessions. There is also included an education proposal that the District Board approved for Club Leadership Education in the future. The CLE session changes are basically the following:

1. There will be no charge to the club or participant to attend the session;
2. The only expense will be the cost of the participant's meal;
3. The club can reimburse the participant for the cost of their meal; and
4. The presentation expenses will be paid from the District Budget.

The District Education Committee felt strongly about the need to help clubs to send their officers and members to CLE without a cost. Therefore, all members in the district have contributed to paying for this educational opportunity and the club doesn't have the burden of this expense.

The District Education Committee felt strongly about the need to help clubs to send their officers and members to CLE without a cost. Therefore, all members in the district have contributed to paying for this educational opportunity and the club doesn't have the burden of this expense.

Each club will be contacted in the next few months with the date, time and place of the CLE sessions in your region. If you and/or your club have any questions in regards to the CLE changes, please contact me. We look forward to providing you with the information and skills that will help you in your leadership roles.



Loreena L. Luetgers
Director of Education

Ph: 507.372.2011

Email: lluetgers@knology.net

New Orleans Convention Registrations Wanted!

01/26/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Mary and John Dierbeck



Dear Kiwanis Friends;

Time is of the essence to register for the Convention. The early bird registration deadline has been extended until March 20 to get the \$195.00 rate. However we encourage you to register by February 15th if possible. It's critical that we get a great turn out to support Stewart Ross and his campaign for Kiwanis International

Vice President.

To do that, every vote is important. Once Stewart is elected he will go on to be International President for Kiwanis's 100th Anniversary in 2015. This would be a wonderful thing for our MN/DAK District and for Kiwanis.

New Orleans is a fabulous place to visit and close enough to drive to if you have the extra time. Everything you need to know as well as ideas for fun activities can be found on the Kiwanis.org website. [Click here](#) You can also download registration forms and delegate forms.

As the chairs for the Convention, John and I hope you will join us this June 28th to July 1st.....let's rally in our lime green T-Shirts and flashing trombones for Stew! [Click here](#) for **T-shirt order form**.

Link to Stewart's Campaign website:
<http://stewforkiwanisvp.artisteer.net/>

Clubs respond to Eliminate Project

01/29/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bill Daugherty

Clubs throughout the Minnesota-Dakotas District are responding to the need for club chairpersons to shepherd the Eliminate Project in their club over the next 3 years. Where there are Divisional coordinators your club will be or has been contacted about this important part of the volunteers needed to successfully Eliminate MNT in the World.

Let's all get behind this and coordinate our efforts to save mothers and babies from Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus. Clubs can also contact me via email at Billdaugherty@Yahoo.com with the name of their chairperson and some contact information. We need the information before **March 15th**. Thanks to all of you that have already responded.

Show your Support for The Eliminate Project In Style

01/29/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Denis Cornell, Governor

Pictured are Governor Denis and First Lady Nancy Cornell wearing The Eliminate Project tie and scarf designed by Jennifer Wolff, wife of Kiwanis Capitol District Governor, Jeffrey Wolff. The Capitol District is selling the ties and scarves as a fundraising effort for The Eliminate Project.

The tie is 58" long and the scarf is 36" square. The price is \$25.00 for each item. The Eliminate Project will receive \$10.00 of the cost for each tie or scarf sold. Show your support for The Eliminate Project in style.



Download the order form [Click here](#)

Stewart for Kiwanis International VP T-Shirts

01/31/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Jack Zierdt, Campaign Committee Chair

We hope that you will be able to join us at the Kiwanis International Convention in New Orleans June 28 to July 1st.. There will be extra excitement for our district this year as our very own Stewart Ross runs for International Vice-President.

As part of the campaign activities in New Orleans our district will rally for Stew in our lime green T-Shirts! Place your order now!! T-shirts will be delivered to you at the convention in New Orleans.



T-shirt order form [Click here](#)

T-shirt photos [Click here](#)

Kiwanis Smart Phone APP

01/29/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas



Do you have a smart phone? Check out the new Kiwanis International app. It is free to download to your phone. To see more [Click here](#)

Annual 990 Filing Reminder

01/01/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Kiwanis International

Beginning in 2008, some organizations in the United States that were not required to file tax returns with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)—including Kiwanis clubs—have a new filing requirement: the electronic postcard Form 990-N [CLICK HERE](#)



To file the electronic Form 990-N, you'll need your club's:

- official name
- mailing address
- website address (if applicable)
- employer identification number (EIN)
- annual tax period date
- a statement that annual gross receipts are still normally \$50,000 or less.

Previously the threshold was \$25,000 or less but for years ending after December 31, 2010, that amount was increased. Because Kiwanis International and most clubs operate on a fiscal year (October 1–September 30), the current year filing will be for the tax period that begins October 1, 2010, and ends September 30, 2011, with a filing due date of February 15, 2012.

* Refer to the IRS website [CLICK HERE](#) to see if the ruling applies to your club.

*Tax-exempt organizations with January and February filing due dates will have until March 30, 2012, to file their annual returns, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) announced.

The IRS is granting this extension of time to file because the part of the e-file system that processes electronically filed returns of tax-exempt organizations will be off-line during January and February.

The agency stressed that the rest of the e-file system will continue to operate normally and urged all individuals and businesses to choose the accuracy, speed and convenience of electronic filing.

In general, the extension applies to tax-exempt organizations whose normal filing deadline is either Jan. 17 or Feb. 15, 2012. Ordinarily, these deadlines would apply to organizations with a fiscal year that ended on Aug. 31 or Sept. 30, 2011, respectively.

The extension also applies to organizations that already obtained an initial three-month filing extension and now have an extended filing deadline that falls on Jan. 17 or Feb. 15, 2012. The majority of tax-exempt organizations will be unaffected by this extension because they operate on a calendar-year basis and have a May 15 filing deadline.

The extension applies to affected organizations filing Forms 990, 990-EZ, 990-PF, or 1120-POL. Form 990-N filers will not be affected. No form needs to be filed to get the

March 30 extension.

To avoid receiving a late filing penalty notice, a reasonable cause statement should be attached to the tax return. If organizations receive late-filing penalty notices, they should contact the IRS so that these penalties can be abated. The IRS encouraged these organizations to consider either e-filing early -- before the end of December -- or waiting until March to file electronically.

Region Star Awards

01/31/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Colleen Hyde, District Director of Administration



Rationale: There are many Kiwanians in our district who serve their clubs and their communities with unwavering commitment who are never recognized. This award is an opportunity for clubs to acknowledge those efforts by nomination, and to publicly recognize and honor them before their peers at the district convention, should they receive the award for their region. Another goal is to motivate Kiwanians to attend a district convention to either receive this award or to support a fellow club member as he/she is honored for this award. A final goal is to encourage "regional pride" centered on each year's award recipients.

Process: Each club in the district is allowed to nominate ONE member for the award each year. **The deadline date is APRIL 1st.** (Note: this is a change from last year!). Each region determines their own process to select ONE Kiwanian for the award from that region. *(The Lt. Governor of each region must submit regional winner to Colleen Hyde by April, 15, 2012.)*

Clubs are to submit written justification as to why the member selected deserves to be the "Regional Star" for their region. To download

NOMINATION INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMAT - [Click here](#)

It is important to point out Kiwanis work but any service completed by the individual will also be considered. Work over their entire Kiwanis career should be considered, not just the current Kiwanis year. Included is an essay of no more than 300 words maximum which summarizes and describes the nominee's accomplishments. These summaries will be printed for each region's winner and distributed at the District Kiwanis Convention. Examples of last year's winners' summaries can be found on our district website at: [Click here](#)

Criteria for Award: All currently paid members of the Minnesota Dakotas District are eligible for the award with the exception of current club presidents, current immediate past presidents, current presidents elect, current vice presidents, current governor and current Lt. Governors. District board members that don't fit the above description ARE eligible for the award. Please note: club secretaries and treasurers ARE eligible for the award.

Special Note: If possible clubs are encouraged to pay for the winning "Regional Star's" district convention registration and/or motel-travel expenses. Perhaps the club could send the member as one of their official delegates. The district will furnish the award itself which will be presented publicly by the governor at the district convention. Those selected for the award will be strongly encouraged to attend the convention to receive the award in person, and will be asked to submit a digital photo (head shot) in jpeg format, higher resolution (at least 500 KB).

Club News

Kingsland Jr. High Builders Club Offers Tech Expertise to Adults

01/29/2012 - Club: Spring Valley - Submitted by: Nancy Cornell, Kiwanis Club of Spring Valley, MN



By Gretta Becay

The Post-Bulletin, Rochester MN

SPRING VALLEY — At a small table in the media center at Spring Valley High School on Saturday, an older gentleman and a younger lady sat with heads bent over a Nook Color.

“How do you download games onto this?” he wanted to know.

Other students waited at the street entrance to escort people with questions about their laptops, MP3 players, mobile phones, cameras, and other portable electronic devices to the room. Once there, they signed in and students started helping them.

The event was a community outreach project of the Kingsland Builders Club, the middle school club sponsored by Kiwanis International.

The event was meant to bring together people who had electronic devices with which they needed help and clever students to assist them with their questions.

Denis Cornell, district governor of the Minnesota Dakotas District of Kiwanis and his wife, Nancy, past president of the Spring Valley Kiwanis, were at the event.

“You always think of Kiwanis helping children, but this time, it’s children helping adults,” Denis Cornell said.

More than a dozen adults attended the help session, said Jennifer Dessner, head of Community Education at the Spring Valley School District, who coordinated the school district’s participation. Eleven students were there to answer questions.

During a lull, students Kailey Link, 12; Courtney Fate, 13; Ericka Kolden, 13; and Kellyn Webster, 12, answered questions about their interest in computers and electronic devices.

Are they particularly interested in computers; are they geeks?

No, they said, their favorite classes are art and history. They just "picked up" their knowledge. All four students have had a computer in their home with access to the

internet as far back as they can remember.

They've had some kind of mobile phone since they were in grade school. "Back when there were no keyboards and there was just a number pad to text with," they said.

While the conversation continued, they casually pulled out their phones, slid or flipped out miniature keyboards and tapped out messages using their thumbs.

Can they type on a regular keyboard without looking at the letters?

No, they said, but they easily tap out messages with only their thumbs on tiny 'Qwerty' keyboards built, ironically, with letter positions designed more than a century ago to slow down fingers so keys wouldn't jam old-fashioned typewriters.

Their phones are on 24/7, the girls said, unless they're in school or asleep.

Does anything scare them about electronic devices?

They all agreed; downloading stuff.

A woman came into the room with her digital camera and a laptop and wanted to get the two to interface.

Another asked about an unwanted icon on a smart phone.

Two individuals brought in an MP3 player and an iPod; both were seeking help downloading music.

What else do they do in the Builders Club?

"We raise money for the tetanus project," the girls said. Nancy Cornell explained it's the Kiwanis project to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus in 38 countries around the world.

Suddenly Kolden's face lit up, "Angry Birds," she said.

From the table with the older gentleman and the younger lady, the perky theme music from the popular game was emanating from the Nook Color.

Fargo South Point Kiwanis Club

01/25/2012 - Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

Fargo South Point Kiwanis club conducted a guest day at their regular club meeting on January 25, 2012. Members were encouraged to invite good prospects to attend this meeting, and there were 14 prospects invited.

6 prospects attended the meeting, and several South Point members related in 3 minute presentations some of the main focus point of the club, both fund raising and service projects.

The membership committee consisting of Carol Johnson, Larry Rittgarn, and Joyce Olson handled the correspondence and Marlene Saar, and Mary Ann Berg (co-presidents) worked up the program for the day.

The club and its members feel this will be a very successful day, and plan to follow up now to get the prospects signed up and installed as new members of the club.

Tines for Troops

01/19/2012 - Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Fridley Key Club

The Fridley High School has been hard at work supporting the troops who remain overseas. As a part of the annual Tines for Troops project, the club has made 350 valentines full of ribbon, lace, hearts, stickers, puff paint and dollies. The club had 29 volunteers come to workshops both before and after school to work on making the cards, each with a personalized greeting such as "Thank you for your service to our country." When one key clubber was asked about why they were devoting their time to this project the young man responded, "These service men and women are risking their lives for our freedom, it is the least I can do to show them a little love on Valentine's Day!" The kids seemed very thankful for the chance to support the real heroes of America.

