

# MINNEKOTAN

Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

No.40

January 2013

## Greetings from the Desk of the Governor

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

I know that you are reading this in January, so I hope that all of you had a Blessed Holiday Season with your friends and family. May you all have a New Year that is rich in service to your communities.

The New Year is when all of us take stock of where we are and where we want to be. Your District Leadership is also "taking stock" as we work on a five year strategic plan for this District. Our current structure has been in place for 10 years, well past time for a review. I think that 2013 is a new beginning for us. We have a lot of teamwork ahead of us to pull it off. With five Governors over the length of the plan, it could be a challenge, but I have faith in our elected officers that they will commit to implementing this plan. The Board will have the opportunity to review and comment on it at our Tri-K meeting at the end of January. The final plan will be presented at the Annual Convention in Aberdeen in August. You will want to be there to hear about changes first hand.



One section of the plan deals with the Annual Convention. We are looking at some exciting changes that I think will make the Convention more inclusive and fun! I am challenging the Circle K and Key Club members to come up with some surprises for us this year in Aberdeen. You will want to make plans to attend now so that you don't miss the first year of our new format.

And, speaking of convention, our District Convention Director, Ann Backes-Dodge will be stepping down after this year. She has served us well over the last few years as Director. I want to thank her for her service in this challenging task. It can be a thankless job, which she performed admirably. If you are interested in this position or know of someone who might, please contact me or Steve Handegaard. I would really like to have this position filled immediately so that the new person will have the opportunity to work with Ann and the committee on this year's convention.

Now for my call to action this month. Just as we are developing new ideas and plans at the District level, the New Year should also be a time for clubs to look at and evaluate where they are as well. Boards should be asking questions like: Are our Service Projects still relevant? Are there some new needs in the community that we should be serving?

Are meetings designed to encourage attendance and participation and draw in new people? These are just a few examples and there are many more in the Club Assessment tools that are available. Don't be afraid to ask these questions of long time members, new members as well as members who may have left. You may be surprised at what you find!

Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy 2013!

## January Update

*12/31/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas*



### **Happy New Year and Best Wishes for 2013!**

**Email Addresses:** Club Secretaries- Please check your club member information database and make sure that we have the current email addresses for all members in your club that have one. You can update your club members' information through your online KiwanisOne Secretary access. The Kiwanis International database is where we access email addresses for the District Minnekotan Newsletter and other important communications. Email addresses change often, so please keep them as current as possible.

**Reminder:** All clubs are required to file the appropriate annual IRS tax form by February 15th. See the separate article in January Minnekotan.

**Governor Elect Candidates:** If you are interested in running for Governor Elect for 2013-2014, 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, 2013 to be included in the March issue of the MINNEKOTAN. Candidates can announce their intention to run at a later date, but may 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.

**Leadership opportunities:** If you are interested in being a future District Lt. Governor, Regional or District Chairperson, etc., please contact your Lt. Governor, other officer or myself. Each year the district is in need of interested and dedicated leaders. It can be a very interesting, rewarding and educational experience.

**Download International Convention Materials:** Need help promoting the Kiwanis International Convention in your club bulletins and newsletters? Check out the convention Web site at [Click here](#), 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 12-13 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. 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 25 and Saturday, January 26, 2013.

**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](mailto:secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org)

## District Educational Foundation Challenge- Unique Opportunity for All Members

*12/31/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Jeff McKinney*

For those who were in Kiwanis back in the late 90's when I was Governor this will come at a complete shock to you. For the first time in my Kiwanis membership I'm struggling with an article, this time for the District Education Foundation. For those who were around in the late 90's they will remember how Tom Horan and I joked about my articles being too long. Now I'm struggling. As I spoke to different Kiwanians trying to get ideas for this article I received plenty of advice but none stuck. I even had one tell me he thought the District stopped publishing a newsletter.

We all know how important the Foundation is to our students both in high school and some colleges as they further their education. Higher Education is expensive to say the least and every little bit helps when it comes to paying for it. While our scholarships are not the largest

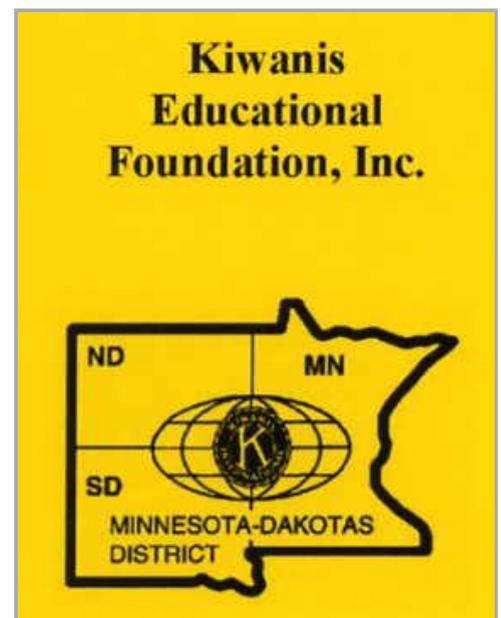
given they are appreciated none the less. The only way we can make scholarships bigger is by raising more money. Here is a challenge, for each Minn-Dak member who emails me their name and club by January 31, 2013; I will donate \$5 to the foundation. My email address is [kiwaniscares@sio.midco.net](mailto:kiwaniscares@sio.midco.net). Let's see how much money we can raise for the foundation, and also prove to people that the District newsletter is alive and well!

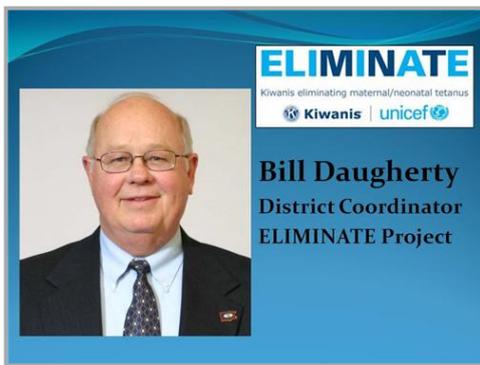
## Eliminate Project

*12/29/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bill Daugherty*

The World Wide Reporting day is set for January 16th. I will be calling in to discuss our District and our efforts with Randy Delay, the Eliminate Project Chairman. We will be talking about our plans for the upcoming period as well as our accomplishments during the past few months.

Our District has been doing a great job and continues to excel. We do need to finish the process of ensuring that each club has a club coordinator to work with the divisional coordinators established in each Region. I hope every President and club will address





this position during the next few days and let me know the contact information of their club coordinator. Email me at [pugowner@sio.midco.net](mailto:pugowner@sio.midco.net) with this vital information.

By January 7th we will received the latest donor reports. This will include donations from Nov. 16th through Dec. 16th. I expect our number to be over \$500,000. We now have NINE model clubs and a goal of 20 more for this year, ending September 30, 2013.

## Kiwanis Service

*12/21/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Stewart Ross*

From Stewart Ross, MN-DAK Kiwanis District Director of Service:

As we begin a new year (even though our Kiwanis year is now  $\frac{1}{4}$  over) I hope every Kiwanis Club in the MN-DAK District steps back and looks at how well they are serving their community and beyond. It is easy to fall into the typical syndrome of doing what we did because that is what we have done. We all know the danger of this kind of thinking. Instead of spending time periodically looking at how our Kiwanis clubs are serving, we simply do the same things done the previous years. Change can be difficult in Kiwanis as in any area of life.

I am often reminded in Kiwanis of a thought credited to Sydney Harris: "Our dilemma is that we hate change and love it at the same time; what we want is for things to remain the same but get better." We can also learn from the words of Elliot Estes (former General Motors president): "If something has been done a particular way for fifteen or twenty years, it's a pretty good sign, in these changing times, that it is being done the wrong way."

Over the past few months, the MN-DAK Executive Committee (plus our Directors) have held two retreats in looking at how our district is working (and not working). One of the goals of this group is to look at necessary changes that make sense in a changing society. We often hear folks state that they are happy to keep the status quo. However, in the world today keeping the status quo will lead to becoming regressive. We must change in order to stay ahead of the fast passed changes occurring around us.

So what does all this have to do with Kiwanis service? In one word, a lot! (I guess that is actually two words!) How many of our clubs currently sponsor a Service Leadership Program such as Key Club, Circle K Club or Aktion Club? Of those who do, how many are doing a good job as the sponsor? How many clubs make service the centerpiece of what they do? And have significant physical service projects that help members learn to become Kiwanians through an emotional excitement in helping others. When did your club last try a NEW service project?

I know that many make New Year's Resolutions at this time of the year. I know I plan to lose more weight this year...sound familiar?! Might I suggest that each of our Kiwanis clubs do some reflection and spend time analyzing the service they are currently doing.



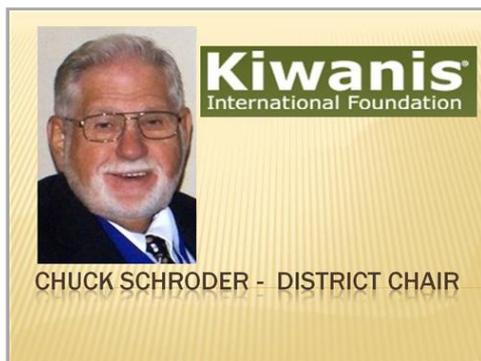
Are there new projects that might make sense in your community? Are you doing the same things over and over only because change is difficult? What would a meaningful new service project do to rejuvenate your club? Is there a new need in your community that is looking for a group like Kiwanis to help with? Has your club helped with the Eliminate project eliminating Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus throughout the world?

Once the new strategic plan for our district is approved at the January board meeting in Fergus Falls (assuming it will be approved by the board) we will be able to share some changes that can greatly improve our district. Many of these new ideas is in the area of service. No change is more important than making service the glue that holds us together in Kiwanis. No change is more important than taking on new service for our community, our country, and our world.

## LET'S MAKE IT HAPPEN

*12/28/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Chuck Schroder*

We are starting a New Calendar Year and we have a chance to make history for this district this year. We need to try and get every club involved in the annual gift program by giving at least \$5.00 pr member. The Foundation's goal is \$6.00 pr member, but if we do the \$5.00 we will make history for this district. So let's all make sure that our clubs participate.



There is a real need out there for our help as Kiwanians. With the diasters that have happened and the devastation, our International Foundation was there to help. We are going to be looking at our Key Club and Circle K scholarship applications soon and we are going to be one short from last year because we didn't reach the \$4.00 mark. This is why it is so important that we have our clubs contribute to the Annual Gift Program. It is up to you and I to get the job done. **THANK YOU ALL FOR WHAT YOU DO FOR KIWANIS.**

## Reminder to all Kiwanis Clubs- IRS Filing due Feb. 15th

*12/31/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas*

Just a reminder that all Kiwanis Clubs must file the appropriate form with the IRS by February 15th.

If your club's gross receipts is \$50,000 or less you are required to file the IRS' electronic postcard Form 990-N. (The definition of gross receipts is any and all income to your accounts, even if it is an in-and-out item.)

If your club's gross receipts normally exceed \$50,000 and up to \$200,000 you are required to file Form 990EZ.

If your club gross receipts are greater than \$200,000 then you must file Form 990.



Failure to file for three consecutive years could result in revocation of your tax exempt status.

For more information about these forms and IRS requirements, visit the IRS website [Click here](#)

## **Kiwanis One Day**

*12/31/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas*

Each year, Kiwanis clubs around the world join in a day of service. In 2013, Kiwanis One Day is April 6.

It's a global effort, but it's made of personal commitments.

After all, Kiwanis One Day consists of the involvement of Kiwanis club members around the world. It begins with your club's participation. It extends to the impact you have on



your community. And it results in an international spirit of service that inspires people worldwide.

There will be no limit to what you can do—and no boundaries on your spirit of fellowship. In fact, your efforts will be echoed by clubs in communities all over the globe.

Start planning today for Kiwanis One Day.

Want to know how your club can participate? Here is link to more information: [Click here](#)

## **International Resolutions and Amendments due February 15th**

*12/31/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Kiwanis International*

Any Kiwanis Club or district, as well as the Kiwanis International Board, may submit proposed bylaw amendments and resolutions. In order for proposals to be considered at the Kiwanis International Convention this coming summer in Vancouver, they must be submitted by February 15th, 2013.

Resolutions relate to service matters and usually call attention to a social concern.

An amendments is a change to the Kiwanis International Bylaws regarding administrative issues of Kiwanis International and its clubs.

For more detailed information about submitting International resolutions and amendments [Click here](#)

## **Submit an Article About Your Club Project or News**

*12/31/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas*

News Submission Form	
News Details	
News for	<input checked="" type="radio"/> District <input type="radio"/> Region <input type="radio"/> Club
HeadLine	<input type="text"/>
News Image	<input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Select"/>
Submitted by	<input type="text"/>
E-mail	<input type="text"/>
Date	<input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Calendar"/>

Clubs are encouraged to submit articles to the electronic MINNEKOTAN and the District Website

Communicate with membership- inform, educate, motivate, recognize, share ideas

Article topics:

- Topics included in the MINNEKOTAN should be of general interest to members across the district or region.
- Clubs are encouraged to highlight service projects and successful fundraisers or other significant events. Short and sweet articles with one good (close up) action photo. Anyone can submit the article online.

Tips for submitting an article:

- Go to the new district website "NEWS" menu - Here is the link [Click here](#)
- Enter the requested information- Select "District News", "Regional News", or "Club News", etc..
- Be sure to select current "date" and "year".
- Your "Headline" should give the reader a very good idea of the content/purpose of the story/article, but as short as possible.
- Submit a photo if desired. One photo per article.
- Type your text into the editor box. It is best to type the text directly into the online submission page. Avoid cutting and pasting text from another word processing program. (If you do cut and paste, be sure to insert as "plain text".)
- Shorter and sweet is better! Less than 500 words recommended. Avoid repeating information that can be found elsewhere on the KI or district website. Share links when appropriate.

Articles due:

- Generally due 3 days prior to the end of the month to be included in the Monthly MINNEKOTAN Newsletter.

## Club News

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### In Case You Missed the Article

12/31/2012 - Club: Granite Falls - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard



Following are some links to videos and more information about the project.

VIDEO: Kiwanis Holiday Lights display at Sibley Park

[To view video CLICK HERE](#)

Snowy blanket makes holiday lights look brighter

[Click Here](#)

New light display draws estimated 5,000 vehicles first weekend

[Click Here](#)

Spear: Holiday Lights bring back tradition

[Click Here](#)

A thousand hours for a million lights: Kiwanis seeking volunteers to help erect extensive holiday display

[Click Here](#)

A successful year

[Click here](#)

Lights out! After 39 days and 100,000 visitors!

[Click here](#)

## **NE Kiwanis Holiday Party**

*12/21/2012 - Club: Northeast Minneapolis - Submitted by: Emma Broos*

Twelve Fridley High School Key Clubbers and Advisor Bowen assisted at the NE Kiwanis Holiday Party in the Minneapolis Armory on Wednesday, December 12. This annual party is held for challenged children in the metro area. Over 175 children plus their caregivers attended.

Key Clubbers participated in face painting, working carnival games, helping serve lunch, dancing with the children, distributing Santa bags and providing cleanup. The Teddy Bear band was a big success. Children dragged Key Clubbers onto the floor to dance with them.

Fred Lee, the Fridley Key Club tiger mascot, was a big hit. He was mauled and petted by the children. Several of them tried to feed him some of their food but he had a plastic tongue and teeth. The food did not go down!

The young attendees look forward to this event as well as the Key Clubbers. The festive atmosphere with clowns, cookie monster, U of M mascot, and Timberwolves mascot as well Fred Lee and Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus make it an enjoyable event for young and old alike. It was fun to see how easy it is to put a smile on a young child's face.

Emma Broos, Freshmen Representative  
Fridley High School Key Club



## **Kiwanis Santa Claus**

12/19/2012 - Club: Northeast Minneapolis - Submitted by: North East Minneapolis Kiwanis



The attached picture was taken at the N.E. Kiwanis Christmas Party for challenged kids. Santa is member Stan Sroga. The club has held the party for 25 years in a row. Stan Has been Santa for all but the first two years. He also visits other children and nursing homes in the month of December.

## Watertown Officers Inducted

12/19/2012 - Club: Watertown - Submitted by: Tim Oviatt

The 2012-13 slate of officers at the Watertown, SD Kiwanis Club were inducted on December 17 after weather cancelled previous attempts for Chuck Schroder to make the trip from Sioux Falls for the ceremony. Pictured left to right are: Jeff Anderson, Kiwanis board member; Matt Nelson, new board member; Chuck Schroder, District Chair of the Kiwanis International Foundation; Karyl Somers, treasurer; Jeff Dunn, president; and Brad VanMeter, president-elect. Not pictured are new board member Matt Sawyer and secretary Rita Wiese.



Following the induction of officers Schroder reviewed the role and purposes of the Kiwanis International Foundation, which includes the funding of grants and scholarships that support clubs, projects and initiatives both locally and around the world. During the past year grants totaling \$493,000 that affected 129,000 children and youth were awarded in 11 countries and 12 American states. Schroder also reviewed the Kiwanis partnership with UNICEF to work to eliminate MNT – maternal and neonatal tetanus – in 40 targeted third world countries. MNT, which kills one baby every nine minutes in affected countries, is preventable with just three doses of a vaccine costing less than \$2 that protects mothers from MNT and passes the immunity on to their children.

## Hendricks Kiwanis Club honors long-time physician & Kiwanis member

12/15/2012 - Club: Hendricks - Submitted by: Julie Hogie



Dr. LeRoy Mueller, a respected member of the Hendricks, MN community who served the area as a dedicated physician for 43 years, passed away on December 8, 2012 at the age of 75. Along with his involvement in numerous community activities, he was a member of the Hendricks Kiwanis Club for 49 years, and a past president. Members of the Kiwanis Club maintain the community announcement board on an on-going basis, under the watchful eye of Rev. Bob Neff. Honor and thanks to Dr. Mueller was respectfully expressed on the community board recently. Dr.

Mueller is survived by his wife Gloria, who is also a current Kiwanis member, and four children.

## **TEETER TOTTERING FOR ELIMINATE**

*12/05/2012 - Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Katie Stevenson & Isabelle Nocton*

The Fridley High School Key Club sponsored a 74 Hour Teeter Totter Marathon (TTM) which ran from 4 pm on November 29 to 6 pm on December 2. This event raised funds for the Kiwanis worldwide project, the elimination of Maternal Neonatal Tetanus by the year 2015. The marathon was held in Kiwanis Advisor Crzy Mry Bowen's family room.



Key Clubbers signed up for two hour shifts. They kept the teeter totter moving throughout the days and nights of the event. While teeter tottering members watched CDs, talked, danced and sang to juke box music, spray painted t-shirts for an upcoming dance, played games on Xbox and tried out funny movements on the teeter totter. One person, who was extremely tired, lay down on the teeter totter and used her hands to push up off the floor. Another sat side saddle. Still another, who is a gymnast, tucked her knees to her chin and swiveled around to the beat of the juke box music. Of course, participants ate goodies throughout this event.

Each year Key Clubbers repaint the teeter totter so participants can write a new set of names and artwork on the teeter totter. This year Co-Chair Katie Stevenson used puff paint to write Kiwanis, Key Club and the Key Club logo on the teeter totter before the event. The teeter totter participants spent time looking at the names, drawings and artwork. Sometimes one can find a new love affair written on the teeter totter!

This year was special as seven Roosevelt High School Key Clubbers, nine Kiwanians, two advisors and two neighbors visited and participated. Each donated a \$5 donation and took a turn on the teeter totter. Several Kiwanians took pictures and videos to put on Face Book and our sponsoring Kiwanis Club blog. One 86 year old Kiwanian had a great time going up and down. He remembered calling the teeter totter a see-saw in his youthful days. Crzy Mry performed what she called a double fanny pirouette. She spun around on her fanny two times while teeter tottering. This event was filmed for their Kiwanis Club blog.

The Club raised \$842.00 for the Eliminate Project. A baby dies every nine minutes from this disease in developing countries. For \$1.80 worth of injections medical personnel can save a baby. The Fridley Key Club saved 468 babies while having fun.

Katie Stevenson, TTM Co-Chair  
Isabelle Nocton, TTM Co-Chair

## **Operation Christmas Child**

*12/04/2012 - Club: Buffalo - Submitted by: Jean Hafften, Secretary*

With the holidays approaching Buffalo Kiwanis is executing "Operation Military Child".



With budgeted monies, private donations and some creative shopping the Buffalo Kiwanians are ensuring that the families with one or both military parents deployed get a little help with the Christmas shopping. The number of kids has nearly doubled from last year to 70 leaving the tiny club of just 13 members a lot of work to do.

Despite the unexpected number of kids the club went right to work ensuring that each child from newborn to eighteen gets at least two gifts. Club members donated wrapping paper and tags and nearly 3 hours of a "wrap-a-thon" on December 4th after their regular meeting. There still are a few last minute items to pick up but the first shipment of gifts went out.

Buffalo Kiwanians wish to thank our military moms and dads and a special thanks to the kids for sharing their parents with our nation. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and wonderful New Year.