Message from the Governor

07/01/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Sherry Scudder, District Governor

I was happy to visit the Lead, SD Kiwanis Club and sing at the Assisted Living Home. Lead sponsors a growing Key Club, sponsored 2 new members while I was attending and has a growing Club Satellite. Congratulation on your growing membership. Dan Leikvold is a great Lt. Governor and helps loads with his Lead Club.

Returning from Kiwanis International Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana and celebrating the 100 year anniversary is a time I will never forget. A great time was had in fellowship, learning, sharing and fun. Hopefully you can get a similar experience from our District Convention coming up in Grand Forks, North Dakota on August 7-9, 2015.

The results of House of Delegates amendments and elections can be viewed on the Kiwanis International website Click here

We had about 55 delegates from MN-DAK but we were all spread out with coming and going to different workshops and events. We survived American Idol that were auditioning in our hotel and PopCon (Dressed up Characters) at the Convention Center too. In spite of a water leak flooding my room, I managed to make all the meetings, workshops and activities plus meet up with my fellow Kiwanians from MN-DAK.

Back to our business at hand. The Minnesota Dakotas Kiwanis District established the Outreach Program to help Key Club and Circle K District Boards financially. All outreach dollars are used by Key Club and Circle KI for travel to build new sponsored youth clubs, expenses to attend Kiwanis District Conventions, Kiwanis special meetings, supplies, and equipment above the sponsored youth budgets. The Outreach dollars are only used for our sponsored youth District Boards. No adult or Kiwanis member benefits from Outreach dollars. Kiwanis Clubs should send checks to Kiwanis District Office – It is usually in your budget so please mail your check immediately. A separate savings account has been set up for Key Club and Circle K and funds are recorded and dispersed when deemed necessary. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you. Check with your Secretary to make sure your check has been sent.

Congratulations to the New Builder’s Club in Sturgis. See the picture of a fine group of middle school kids. We are lucky to have them become a part of the Kiwanis Family. Thank you Debbie Looby for your continued support of the kids and their advisors. Also
thanks to Al Vanderlaan for working with the Watertown School to start a Builder’s Club, too.

Are you ready for District Convention? I am still lacking some talent submissions for Friday’s talent show. Don’t be shy. I know you are out there. Let’s make this talent show better than last year. Send me your names by July 9th, so we can get them printed in our program. Hurry, you are making me nervous...I need Acts from Regions 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7. If you have already submitted your act to me and I miss spoke, please email me at ShareKiwanis@gmail.com

We still have a lot of work to do for Outreach, Eliminate, Membership, Club Openings and sharing Kiwanis......Help me through the rest of my term. I will be truly grateful as I am now. See you at District Convention.

July Update

07/01/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas

Don’t forget to register for the Minnesota-Dakotas District Convention!! Registration is $160 until July 6. After July 6 registration is $185. You can register online and pay with your credit card or you can access and print a copy of the District Convention Registration form and related information on our district website at:  Click here

Thank you once again to Club Secretaries for submitting your Club Election Reports for 2015-2016. The reports were due June 1, so if you have not entered your information online, please do so ASAP! Please include email addresses. It is very important that we receive this information in a timely manner so that directories and mailing lists can be compiled.

Have a great summer and hope to see many of you at the District Convention in Grand Forks.

How to subscribe to MINNEKOTAN Newsletter: If you or someone you know does not receive the MINNEKOTAN Newsletter directly to your email address each month you can find a subscription link on our district webpage. (Highlighted in red)

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

CONVENTION CORNER

06/28/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Liz Lawrence-Ross

MNDAK KIWANIS DISTRICT CONVENTION-
CELEBRATING 100 YEARS
August 7-9, 2015 Alerus Center, Grand Forks, ND

Next Monday, July 6th is the deadline for reserving rooms at our guaranteed rates for
the 98th MNDAK Kiwanis District Convention in Grand Forks. Everyone who registers for the convention and reserves their room by July 6th will be eligible for prize drawings during the convention. Please see the list of available hotels on the MNDAK website now if you haven’t booked already.

And remember to register for the MNDAK Khorale by July 15th if you want to sing with them this summer; the only rehearsal (so attendance is mandatory) will be on Thursday evening before the convention starts. As of 6/28 we don’t have enough people so we’ll make the decision on July 15th.

We are excited to announce that former Kiwanis International President Steve Siemens will give the keynote address at our convention on Saturday morning. He is a fabulous motivational speaker you don’t want to miss.

The convention program will be going to print soon, so if you or your business would like to place an ad in the program, now is your last chance. The vendor/advertiser application form is listed on the MNDAK website. See you next month in Grand Forks!

Liz Lawrence-Ross
MNDAK District Convention Director
bigsisterliz@yahoo.com

PDOA Citizenship Award

06/29/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bruce Klair

Each year the Past District Officers Association (PDOA) selects a person or persons from within the Minnesota-Dakotas District to receive the "Citizenship Award". Nominees are submitted by Kiwanis Clubs of the Minnesota-Dakotas District. The award recipient(s) will be recognized at our annual Minnesota-Dakotas District Convention in Grand Forks, August 7-9, 2015 on Saturday evening.

There is not a formal application. If your club wishes to submit a nomination, please:
1. Submit a nomination of a person or persons who have been a part of a heroic deed this past year (between July 2014 and June 2015).
2. Include a short description of the circumstances of the heroic deed, and any news clippings or other supporting information.
3. Include the name of your Kiwanis Club and President, a contact person with the contact information (preferably e-mail address) and the name of your lieutenant Governor and Region number.

The PDOA will inform the nominating Club if their nominee was chosen for the award. The nominating Kiwanis Club is responsible for the travel and lodging expenses for the recipient to attend the banquet at the District Convention. The PDOA will pay for the recipient's meal at the banquet.

This information must be submitted by July 10, 2015 to:

Bruce Klair, PDOA President
28269 180th Avenue Way
Red Wing, MN 55066

(651)388-4903
pbklair@bevcomm.net
Video of Kiwanis International Convention

07/01/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas

Following is a link to a 3 minute video with some highlights of the 2015 Kiwanis International Convention. Watch closely and you may see someone you know.

https://vimeo.com/132132424

(If this video does not open by clicking on the above link, you may need to cut and paste the URL address to your browser address line.)

There are hundreds of other videos on many other Kiwanis topics on the same website. I encourage you to browse the videos. You can just view them online or download them to your computer.

Thoughts from an International Trustee

06/28/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bruce Berven, International Trustee

I'm pleased and honored to be the Board Counselor for MnInn-Dak again next year - figure it's either I've done a pretty good job this past year, or I've got to keep coming back until I get it right!

Barbara and I certainly enjoyed our time at the convention last August, and I'm sure Grand Forks this year will be even better - and for us, it's only a 3 hour drive from Winnipeg. You won't want to miss Steve Siemen's keynote address on the Saturday - he gave one of the finest speeches I've ever heard at the K.I. Convention in Hawaii several years ago.

Hopefully many of you will have been in Indianapolis at our 100th Convention and Birthday Party with the 6,500 Kiwanians and SLP members, with the special emphasis on our extraordinary success for the Eliminate project.

Looking forward to seeing many of you in Grand Forks in August.

Bruce Berven
International Trustee
Kiwanis International

Eliminate is soaring

06/29/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bill Daugherty
Just starting to unwind from our International Convention in Indianapolis. It was good to see members from Minn-Dak present and participating. The good news involved the announcement that we now have pledges and donations amounting to $91 MILLION dollars. This is a good leap in our goal attainment.

Here in Minn-Dak we need to get our funds moving to UNICEF in order to save babies from the death at birth from tetanus. Please, a $1.80 will provide the shots and education to prevent this needless death from happening. IT IS OUR TURN lets do it now. Remember the 20% match of any model club donation that will assist a club in reaching its goal. Also, we have five years in which to complete our donation pledge.

Please lets celebrate at our District Convention in Grand Forks August 7-9. Hope to see you in ND!

**LETS KEEP IT GOING**

*06/28/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Chuck Schroder*

Our district goal for the International foundation this year is $31,857 and as of 5/31/15 we were at $21,846.16 and that means we are only $10,010.84 short of our goal with 4 full months to go. We can do it if we put our minds to it. A way that we can do this is having our members give $100 for our 100 years of Kiwanis. I can't think of a better way to help children and get a tax credit for it. You can also get a Hixson for $1,000.

Twice a year our foundation awards grants in support of our common mission-to serve the children of the world. We partner with clubs, districts and district foundations on important projects they support. Has your club applied for a grant and has the district applied? Grants are made possible through the generosity of our members and clubs with their annual gifts to the Kiwanis Children's Fund.

The Children's Fund supports grants to your clubs, to our district and to our district foundations as well as Kiwanis-family programs like Key Club and Circle K. Has your club sent in your $10.00 pr. member donation? When clubs and individuals make a gift to the Kiwanis Children's Fund, five percent of that gift comes directly back to our district as a grant. Last year we got over $1,500.00. These grants support the district donor recognition activities at one major conference annually and we do ours at the district convention.

The next deadline to apply for a Kiwanis International Foundation grant is November 15 with funding decisions will be made at the board meeting in January or February of 2016. So let's make every effort to reach the $10.00 pr member goal and reach our district goal and help make Governor Sherry a distinguished governor.

**MINNESOTA DAKOTAS DISTRICT EDUCATION FOUNDATION**
As I write this article I am mourning the loss of a good friend and fine man who was killed in a farm accident on Saturday June 20th at his farm. The day after, when he and his family should have been celebrating Father’s Day, the family was planning a funeral. Jim was married to my cousin which is how I came to know him. Together they had 10 children.

He was a person committed to helping others, with strong principles and deep-seated convictions. While he was not a Kiwanian what he stood for made him a Kiwanian at heart. To honor his memory and, in a sense, to continue his work I am making a contribution in his name to the Minnesota Dakotas Foundation. The funds I contribute will be added to the foundation’s endowment and kept in perpetuity, with the interest earnings used to support the 50 plus scholarships awarded each year. The effect, as I see it, is that Jim’s concern for and his commitment to help others will continue as long as the foundation exists.

The loss Jim’s family and I are experiencing is not unique. Throughout the 3-state district there are countless others who are dealing with the death of loved ones and looking for ways the one they loved will continue to serve. Dear Readers, I ask and encourage you to consider doing as I have. The gift you give the Foundation honors your loved one and provides assistance to deserving high school graduates within the district. What better legacy could there be?

To 1915 and Back Again

06/30/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Courtney Taylor

Downtown Indianapolis had a busy last week of June. Detouring around the American Idol bus and weaving through costumes for Indy Pop Con were attendees of the 100th Kiwanis International Convention.

Workshops were condensed with shorter sessions, a greater number of speakers, and a discussion hall for Kiwanians to speak directly with the speakers following each presentation. Topics included service, finances, membership, and more. Delegates debated online voting, dues increases, and other amendments, and they elected four officers to the KI Board of Directors. Click here

Unique to this year’s convention were the Indianapolis Indians baseball game and the Next Century Gala. Ticket-holders spent Friday waiting for the game to be canceled due to weather. Things dried up in time for dinner and the game, but not a moment after the fireworks finished, the rain returned. The Next Century Gala included entertainment by Sister Sledge, Up With People, and the Sugar Creek Big Band.
Whether attending for education, delegation, or celebration, Kiwanians from all corners of Minn-Dak returned home with satisfied minds and overflowing bags of resources and treats. If you would like to join in the future, mark your budget for Toronto in 2016, Paris in 2017, and Las Vegas in 2018.

**Club News**

**Key Club International Convention**

*06/30/2015 - Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Katie Stevenson, President*

From June 22nd through the 28th, nine members of the Fridley High School Key Club along with their Kiwanis advisor, headed down to Indianapolis for International Convention, or ICON. There, the delegates participated in workshops, voted for their new International Board, heard from speakers and celebrated their amazing year as the world’s largest student-led high school service organization.

In addition to celebrating their service, Key Clubbers from all across the world came together with adults and college students to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Kiwanis International. The K-Family was excited to welcome many international faces to the stage as they looked back upon the last century of “Serving the Children of the World” and made plans for another hundred.

While at ICON, Fridley received recognition for one of their signature service projects in two different categories. Fridley placed 2nd in both the Major Emphasis Project contest and the Single Service Project contest for their work this past year in stuffing and sewing 400 dogs and dolls, making of 200 T-shirt sling bags and sending them to orphanages in Africa, a project in which they partnered with the JAMS Ladies of Minneapolis. They also received a plaque in recognition of their status as a Distinguished Diamond Level club. This is the highest award that can be given to any club, and this is Fridley’s 13th year receive the distinction.

Traveling to and from Indy with their fellow Columbia Heights Key Clubbers and the rest of the Minnesota-Dakotas district, Fridley had a great time at ICON. Proud of their recognition on the international stage, but even more proud of the many lives they have touched in the past year, Fridley Key Club has been inspired to continue to service their home, school and community.

**Photo:**

Front row Left to right: President Kati Stevenson, Treasurer Nic Fite

Middle row left to right: V. President Katrina Mraz, Secretary Reiley Johnson
Greetings fellow Kiwanians,

Hope you are having a great summer even though it is flying by very quickly. The Roughrider Kiwanis Club sponsored the 20th annual Safety City program, we had over 60 children participate in the program where they learned about lots of different safety issues, such as bicycle, fire, farm, and many more. A huge thank to fellow Kiwanian Becky Byzewski for heading up the program again. We would not be able to pull it off without her. I also want to thank the other members that helped set up and tear down our little city that has buildings, streets and of course street signs. They are Jason Jacobs and his 4 sons, Ken Leggate, Tom Wyckoff with his daughter, Paul Bonnecelli, Becky Byzewski and her 2 grand children and the teachers of the program. Thank you one and all. Without your assistance we wouldn't have had another successful year.

Until next time,
Ninetta Wandler
President

Success with Mayor's Prayer Breakfast

On Thursday, May 7, 2015 the Mandan Kiwanis hosted their annual Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast to the largest audience in many years. The prayer breakfast is the Club’s way to meet the goal of “giving primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life”. This event gave us the opportunity, along with many community members, to reflect on the health of the spiritual side of our lives. The Mayor of Mandan spoke about the highlights the City of Mandan has experienced during the past year and a special speaker presented a spiritual message to participants.

This year the spiritual presenter was Kathleen Wrigley, who is the wife of the Lieutenant Governor of North Dakota. Ms. Wrigley had a very courageous and inspiring presentation about her difficult childhood while living in Philadelphia, the murder of her brother who was a law enforcement officer and her own personal health struggles. She shared how her faith kept her moving forward during some very depressing times during her life. She also shared how valuable it was for her to believe in a higher power that helped her look forward to the future and the hope of a better life. Most participants left the event realizing the value of faith when faced with personal struggles in our life.
Special Olympic dance hosted by Fargo South Point Kiwanis Club

06/24/2015 - Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

May 29, 2015 once again brought 100's of Special Olympic athletes together. The occasion was the Special Olympics games held each year in Fargo. On Friday night there is always a dinner and dance for all who are in attendance. The number varies from year to year but can range from 350-525 athletes.

The Fargo South Point Kiwanis club has hosted this affair for over 10 years, and once again this year the gym was decorated by club members and hosted by many of the members. This is a wonderful evening for everyone involved.

Kiwanis of the Turtle Mountains Sponsor Child I.D. Program

06/23/2015 - Club: The Turtle Mountains - Submitted by: Clint M. Reinoehl

Members of the Kiwanis Club along with the Bottineau County Sheriff's Department work together to provide a free Child I.D. Card for parents at the Bottineau County Fair in June. The parents were provided with a card that contained all of the pertinent information about their child including a photo and fingerprints. The identification cards were provided free of charge.

Fargo South Point Kiwanis club and exciting new developments

06/20/2015 - Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

Fargo South Point Kiwanis members are very excited and proud to report that we have been working with the University of Jamestown / Fargo campus. The F/M air show on July 25-26 will be a great time for us all as 10-11 of the Jamestown students will be joining us to work as volunteers at the show. This is what we hope will be the beginning of a long term relationship. More about this in next months Minnekotan.

Partnering with F-M Ambulance

06/08/2015 - Club: Lake Agassiz, Fargo - Submitted by: Kristi Engelstad

The Lake Agassiz Kiwanis was proud to partner with F-M Ambulance Service to donate over 70 helmets to Madison Elementary School in Fargo, ND. Many students at Madison may not have another way of receiving a helmet – they are one of the lowest income school areas in Fargo. Lake Agassiz Kiwanis and F-M Ambulance Service hope to promote safety through the donation of these helmets. The helmets were delivered just in time for students to use them this summer!

Pictured are Don Martin (FMA), Ann Ham (LAK), Bobby Olson (Madison School Principal),
Norma Swanson (LAK) and Bob Monson (LAK).