

MINNEKOTAN

Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

No.53

March 2014

Greetings from the Governor

02/27/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Judie Rosendahl, District Governor

Several big events are scheduled for the Minnesota Dakotas District in March. One is the Circle K District Convention to be held in Moorhead March 7-9. What a special event that will be with many Circle K members, advisors, and other Kiwanians attending. The Extravaganza on Saturday evening always is an enjoyable time spent together. The Region 2 Educational Conference will be held on March 29 in Fargo. Kiwanis fun, fellowship, and education are being prepared for all who attend!

The deadline for the special youth art project is fast approaching! March 15 is the date the drawings or paintings are to be in to me for President Gunter's art project for Eliminate. Have you collected any art work from the students in your school or SLPs? Please consider helping to raise funds for Eliminate through this process. If you have art work coming to me, would you please send me an email so I will know how this project is progressing? See my January Governor Message for details. [Click here](#) Thanks so much!



Is your club on the Distinguished Club path this year? There are seven criteria with six needed to qualify for Distinguished Club. The areas of excellence are:

1. Membership Growth-attaining the minimum of +1 in membership for any club at or above charter strength (15)
2. New Club Growth Initiative-sponsoring or co-sponsoring a new club
3. Leadership Education- your officers participating in Club Leadership Education
4. Conference Attendance-a club member attending a Regional Education Conference and a District Convention or International Convention
5. Local Community Service-providing service projects for the children of your community
6. Global Community Service-supporting the Eliminate Project and/or the Kiwanis International Foundation
7. Service Leadership Programs-sponsoring a Service Leadership Program or contributing to the District or International Foundation

I believe Distinguished Club can be attained by many clubs this year! Many clubs do most of those things on a regular basis and with just a little more direction, could accomplish at least six of them. Would you start now to make Distinguished Club your goal for this year? [Link to Distinguished Criteria](#)

As of the first of February, 56 clubs have a +1 in growth, 63 clubs have remained the same, and 34 clubs have lost membership. I want to thank those clubs that have added new members this year. I really appreciate your diligence in asking people to join your club! I want to encourage those clubs who have remained the same this year to ask people to join your club. With just a little more asking, you could be in the +1 category. See what you can do! For those clubs who have lost members this year, I would like to encourage you to start a membership drive and focus on attaining new members. If you need help to accomplish this, please feel free to contact your Lt. Governor or Tom Allen, the District Membership Director, for further ideas.

I want to thank each of you for all you are doing to grow your club which enables Kiwanis to reach more children in your community and in the Minnesota Dakotas District as well as around the world! Keep warm and hopefully by the next Minnekotan, we will be enjoying warmer weather.

March Update

02/27/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas



Club Bylaws: Just a reminder that the new Standard Form for Club Bylaws is available for online submission by the club secretary or club president via the KiwanisOne Club Management Software. All clubs are asked to adopt the new bylaws by September 30, 2014. Once submitted online, clubs can access their bylaws at any time to review them, create a new version, or download a PDF copy to print or share. Learn more and get started at [Click here](#) .

Member contact information: Now all members can update their own contact information and other information that is on record with the Kiwanis International database. If your email address, regular mailing address changes, etc. you can make those updates on your record at any time. Just go to the following link. [Click here](#) If you do not have a password you will be asked to create one. Give it a try. See if your information is up to date.

District Kiwanis Convention: Mark your calendars....the Minnesota-Dakotas District Convention will be held August 8-10, 2014 in Minneapolis. All clubs should be represented at this annual convention.

Club Officer Changes: If for some reason there is a change in your club president or secretary at any time during the year, be sure that your club promptly informs Kiwanis International and the District Office. These changes can also be entered online by the club secretary. Your club may miss out on important communications if we do not have the correct contact information.

Club Elections: Just another reminder that your club election report will be due June 1st. The annual election of club officers should be done at the club annual meeting as specified in the Standard Club Bylaws.

Kiwanis International Convention in Japan, July 17- 19, 2014: Remember the price of registration increases on April 1st, so if you planning to go register now. Kiwanis Clubs in good standing are allowed to designate two representatives to the House of Delegates. Of course, you do not need to be a delegate to attend, everyone is welcome! Information and online registration forms can be found on the Kiwanis International Convention website. [Click here](#) Besides registering, be sure to report your club's two International Convention delegates and two alternates to the International Office by April 30 on the Delegate Certification Form. [Click here](#)

District Kiwanis Tri-K Board Meeting: The meeting was held January 24 & 25, 2014. The minutes of the meeting can be found on the district website. [Click here](#)

Lt. Governor Education: The Lt. Governor Education Conference for the 2014-2015 Lt. Governor Teams will be held April 25-27, 2014 in Fergus Falls.

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

Registration Now Open for Key Leader 2014: A Life-Changing Leadership Experience

02/28/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Jason Stewart, District Key Leader Chair

Key Leader is BACK! The Minnesota-Dakotas District is proud to be bringing Key Leader back this May! This weekend-long leadership experience for high school students will be held May 16-18, at Camp Victory in Zumbro Falls, Minn.



Key Leader is a Kiwanis sponsored program that commits to helping young people discover their **HEART TO SERVE**, to **ANSWER THEIR CALL TO LEAD**, and to **ACCEPT THE COURAGE TO ENGAGE** in the world around them. Key Leader is open to students in grades 8-12. The event is open to Key Clubbers as well as non-Key Club members.

Participants begin by attending a Key Leader conference, which is a weekend retreat. Large and small group workshops, discussions and team-building activities take place over the course of the weekend. Students have opportunities to learn leadership skills that will help them to change their schools, communities, and world for the better. While exploring leadership in a whole new way, participants will make amazing new friends and have experiences they will never forget. Positive, ongoing interaction with other Key Leader graduates offers continuing reinforcement, encouragement and growth of leadership skills.

Since April 2005 Key Leader has served more than 21,000 students at 450 Key Leader events in 39 U.S. states, 5 Canadian provinces, Malaysia, Brazil, Cayman Islands, El Salvador and Singapore.

Registration is now open. To learn more and register your students, visit: <http://www.key-leader.org>. For questions, please contact Jason Stewart (jstewartcki@gmail.com) or Jim Probst (jimwstpaul@aol.com).

Serve and Protect the Children

02/13/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Ken Kohler, Dist. Youth Protection Manager



I need not inform you of the many troubling incidents which we have all read in the papers and have seen in the news of child abuse cases on all levels: sexual, mental and physical. To say these are unsettling reports, making us all cringe, would be an understatement. For Kiwanis International and the New York District, protection of our youth has always been of paramount importance and now even more so through a new Youth Protection program which is being introduced this year.

As Youth Protection Manager for the Minnesota/Dakotas District, it is my job to get the word out on the guidelines we are asking everyone of our clubs to follow to protect our kids. It is so important that Kiwanis with 300,000 youths who are part of our organization, are cared for with the proper adult supervision.

Some hard and difficult facts to consider as reported by ChildHelp (<http://www.childhelp.org>) an organization dedicated to the prevention and treatment of child abuse:

- A report of child abuse is made **every 10 seconds**.
- More than **90% of juvenile sexual abuse victims** know their perpetrator in some way.
- About 30% of abused and neglected children **will later abuse their own children**, continuing the horrible cycle of abuse.
- **14% of all men in prison and 36% of women in prison** in the USA were abused as children, about twice the frequency seen in the general population.
- Abused children are **25% more likely to experience teen pregnancy**.
- As many as **two-thirds of the people in treatment for drug abuse** reported being abused or neglected as children.

Kiwanis' motto is to "serve the children of the world." We must and will lead the way on the topic of youth protection. In the coming months, you will be hearing more and more on this topic as education is provided across the entire district to raise awareness and make sure we do all we can to ensure a Kiwanis youth's experience is safe. As a start, I encourage you to visit www.kiwanis.org and search under the words "youth protection." There you will find a plethora of materials to review including guidelines for protecting our youth. A good start is also to have background checks performed for anyone in your club who participates in Service Leadership Programs. You can find affordable solutions related to this topic at [Click here](#).

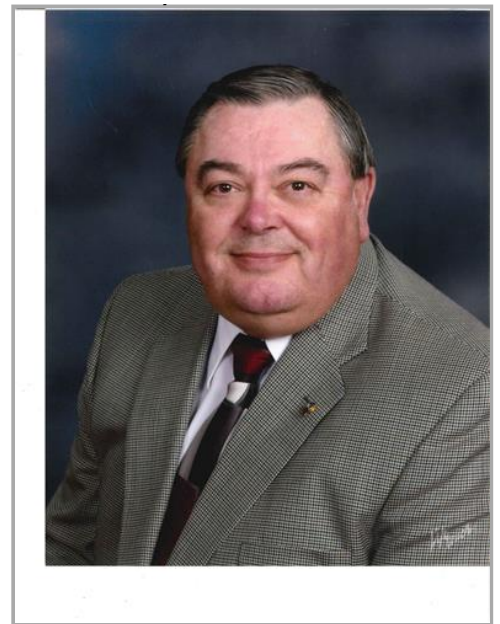
Let us all as Kiwanians commit ourselves to proactive protection of our youth. So, much good that we do can become undone by not paying close attention to this topic. Worst yet, a child's life could be irreparably damaged forever.

Kent Hochgraber Announces Candidacy for Governor Elect

02/21/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Kent Hochgraber

I would like to announce my intention to seek the position of Governor Elect for the Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International for the Kiwanis year of 2014-2015.

I joined the Fargo Kiwanis in February of 1994. Since that time I have served as the Treasurer from 2000 to 2014. I have been very involved in many of the financial decisions of this club and I am asked quite often, well how did we do that years ago. That means I have worked with 14 Presidents and have found they each have something great to bring to their position. Our one big Project is the annual Kiwanis Pancake Karnival. We feed around 20,000 people that day and have been recognized in the Guinness World record for the most pancakes served in an 8 hour period. I have served as the main financial person for that event for the past 5 years. It is around a \$100,000.00 gross event.



Three years ago when our Lt Gov. Elect moved from Fargo and left us with an open slot, I decided to volunteer. Having finished that term and the Lt. Gov. for the past two years, this has been one of the most rewarding positions I have had. I have met so many great Kiwanians as I visit the chapters in Region 2. I wouldn't mind doing this position for a couple more years. However, one must move on and make room for the new leaders coming up.

My leadership experience has given me the opportunity to work with others and build teams to help solve problems and build relationships. I own the franchise for Business Network International for North Dakota. I have owned this for 15 years and my main position is to build and maintain chapters around the state of North Dakota.

Recruiting is very familiar to me. I also served as President and Vice-President of our Sons of Norway in Fargo for 3 years. I owned a professional recruiting firm and recruited Physicians for Clinics and Hospitals in the US. I was president of an Insurance company for 2 years and completed the sale from a Mutual company to a Stockholder company. I farmed for 10 years after my father passed away very suddenly of a heart attack. When I farmed I was vice-president and treasurer of the North Dakota Soybean Association. All of the positions have given me the real life experience to work with PEOPLE and to work as a strong Team Member.

I have an associate degree from North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton, the experience of the school of Life which I feel is worth more than money can buy. I have been married to my wife Marjory of 43 years and we have three GREAT daughters.

I see great needs in this Kiwanis position. 1. To work on membership especially for the clubs that are below 15 members. 2. To continue the work with the Minn-Dak Strategic Plan. 3. To develop a plan to bring more of our Circle K members into our clubs or help them start a new club. This is great potential we are not capitalizing on.

I ask for your SUPPORT at our District Convention in August in Minneapolis and look forward to meeting and visiting with each of you about my vision for 2014-2015.

Achieving an Excellent Club

02/24/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Loreena Luetgers

Our district has many good clubs that are working hard helping the youth and communities. The clubs also work to maintain their membership and also add new members. Sometimes we are so busy doing the same things every year that we don't



take the time to step back and really look at our club as a whole. As you may know, every year our district is losing members and we become frustrated because we can't maintain the membership or get new members.

We, as club leaders and members, should want to look at our club and see where we could improve our club's membership and success. So, how do we improve our club and where do we get help? Kiwanis has the best program developed, the Achieving Club Excellence (ACE) workshop.

This is how the ACE program works. The club can select a three to four hour time to have the members get together. The ACE workshop is held for all club officers and members to learn how to go from a good club to a great club. The more attendees from your club, the more you will take back to the other members of your club. Also, the more enthusiastic you will be to work together to improve the club.

Members will learn how to:

1. constructively evaluate your club on a whole;
2. plan for your club's future success;
3. inform members and keep them active and engaged;
4. enhance your member's experience;
5. and help you to know how to recruit and retain members.

So many times we attend a workshop and then take the materials home to gather dust. This is a workshop that is successful for maintaining your membership and helps you to recruit members. So, you have a good club. Do all of the members believe it is a good club? The time your club takes to participate with an ACE workshop will be invaluable. Kiwanis is giving us so many tools to help our club, all we need to do is utilize them.

The district has two facilitators, Stewart Ross (507.304.1624 stewart.ross@mnsu.edu) and Loreena Luetgers (507.372.2011 or luetgers@knology.net), who will provide the materials, give of their time to work with you and want your club to become great.

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On to Japan!! Register Now

02/26/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Courtney Taylor, On To International Convention Ch

As you continue to stay bundled against the cold, think ahead to warmer days in the capital of Japan. Tokyo in July typically hovers around 26 degrees Celsius or 80 degrees Fahrenheit with plenty of humidity. Chiba, which lies east of Tokyo, is one of the twenty most populated cities in Japan. Outdoor activities in that area include the Chiba Zoological Park, the Chiba Marine Stadium, and a variety of parks.



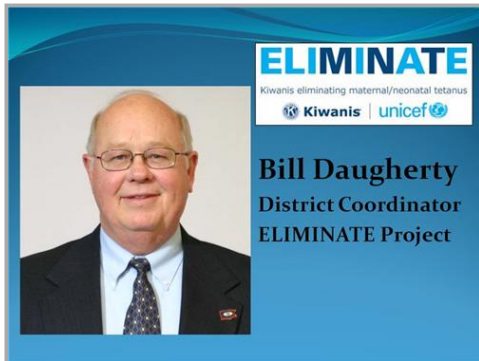
Before you get too excited about walking along Makuhari Beach, be sure your paperwork is in order. If you have not already done so, check the expiration date of your passport. A visa is not required for a visit shorter than 90 days, but your passport must be valid through the

entirety of your trip. Double check what travel documents you may need for tours before and after the conference, particularly if you will be entering another country.

Registration prices for the convention will increase at the end of March. If you have questions about the hotels or interest in connecting with a roommate to minimize travel costs, please contact your On-To-International-Convention Chair at CourtneyKiwanis@gmail.com. Stay tuned next time for an introduction to the Japanese language - jaa mata!

The Eliminate Project

02/26/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bill Daugherty



The Eliminate Project is picking up steam as we head into the stretch run to 2015. We have just added two more clubs to our Model Club pledge list. They are Mankato and Rapid City Westside. The Mankato club pledge is \$82,500 based on their membership. Rapid City Westside's pledge is \$19,500. It is good to see more activity on the horizon as other clubs are in position to declare their status as Model Clubs in the near future.

We must continue this effort so that we can meet our goal of \$3 million in donations and pledges by June of 2015. We have now passed \$1.2 Million. Please encourage your members to consider Zeller or Hixson fellowships to increase our giving to the Eliminate Project. There are 25 countries left to declare themselves free of the effects of maternal and neonatal tetanus.

News just received: The Red Wing Golden K has joined the model club brigade as of a vote at their Board meeting. They are 49 members strong. This makes our model club number, including the 100K club in Fargo, 27 clubs. There is room for more, please join the team.

ARE YOU MAKING A DIFFERENCE??

02/26/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Chuck Schroder

We are at one third (1/3) of our district goal for the annual gift program. Our goal is \$30,600 and we are at \$11,348. So we have to keep on track and have the clubs and individuals continue to make their contributions. Remember when an individual makes a gift, it counts for your club and this goes for buying a Hixson or Tablet of Honor and Leadership Society. These all count for the club. REMEMBER, 5% of this money comes back to the district for our use.



Let me remind you and your clubs, that the deadline for grant applications for this term is April 15th, Applications postmarked by that date, will be reviewed by the foundation board at their July board meeting. Requests can be submitted by clubs, districts and district foundations. The next deadline is November 15th. In 2012-13 the Kiwanis International Foundation had a spectacular year. Thanks to our donors, the foundation awarded 124 grants to support Kiwanis projects and events filling the resource gap that might have otherwise held back clubs and districts.

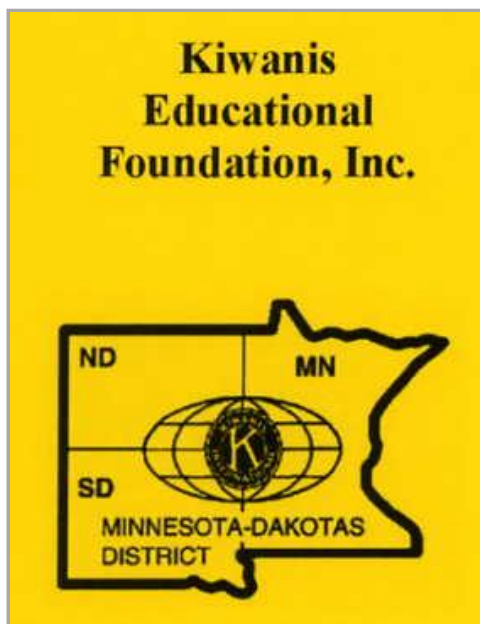
In January, our foundation launched a new monthly communication piece with grant project updates, planned giving information and tips, updates on The Eliminate Projects, donor profiles and a lot more. If you would like to be included on this list, please email the foundation at foundation@kiwanis.org

Do you and your club know about corporate matching gifts? If a donor makes a gift to the Kiwanis International Foundation or a district foundation, their employer may double or triple their money. Learn more at www.kiwanis.org/matchinggift

Until next time, keep those gifts coming and let's hit our goal.
Chuck Schroder, KIF Chairman

District Educational Foundation Scholarship Reviews

02/21/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bill Daugherty



Scholarships...that's what we are all about. Every year at this time Kiwanians throughout the District in each Region review scholarship applications. Each Region has a team of three members reviewing the applications from a different region in order to rank the applicants on six different criteria. The criteria involve academics, school activities, community service, need, the Applicant letter, and a letter of recommendation.

This year we will be awarding 70 scholarships of \$815. There were 170 applications submitted so the judging will be tough. It is a great time of the year to be involved with the District Foundation and being a part of the purpose of the Foundation. We grant scholarships to students that will be considered incoming freshmen in schools in our District this Fall.

The rankings are to be sent to Jack Zierdt, Secretary/Treasurer of the Educational Foundation on or before March 28, 2014.

Club News

Henry Sibley Key Club helping fellow students

02/26/2014 - Club: West Saint Paul - Submitted by: Jim Probst

Food For Thought Backpack Program
By Gabrielle Dunlop

At my high school, Henry Sibley High School, students come from a variety of different socio-economic backgrounds. It is very diverse, which is one of the things that I love about it. Unfortunately, this also means that there are quite a few students who struggle financially from day to day.

Last year, my Key Club and our school's social worker decided to deal with this problem. We decided to start a program that we had seen in other schools, where we would pack backpacks with food, and then deliver them to students in need each Friday. The idea was that the students would have some extra food to get them through the weekend. We were so excited to start this program that we decided to name it Food For Thought, but at first there was a lot of work to be done!



First, we made a menu of food that we wanted to include in the backpacks. We made three different menus to add some variety. Each week includes a breakfast item, snack, fruit, vegetable, lunch item, and dinner item. We added up how much one backpack full of food would cost, and we came up with \$10.

We decided to start off with ten families, because we wanted to make sure we could manage it. That meant we had to budget for \$100 dollars per week. We then began to save up money. We held a bake sale at my church and wrote a grant letter to a local company which raised a total of \$1,200 for this program. The backpacks were donated to us, which helped a lot.

After that, we talked to our school administrators, and found a room we could use to store the food. Our social worker also found ten families who qualified for the program, and informed them about it. We don't know who they are, in an effort to make it as confidential as possible.

Finally, we were ready to buy the food! Once a month, we go to Walmart and buy the food for the different menus, and then we store it in the storage room. Each week, we pack the backpacks, and then give them to the social worker. The students come to her office on Friday to pick them up. On Monday, they give the empty backpacks back to her, and it starts over again. One thing I would have changed if I were to do the program differently is I would have gotten it started sooner. At first I was intimidated by this big task, that I tried to put it off. But now that it is in motion, I know that it was just a matter of starting it.

This program took a lot of work to get started, but now that it's up and running, it's great! It is a really good feeling to know that we are helping people each week.

Golden K Kiwanis Satellite After School Valentine Party

02/25/2014 - Club: Sturgis Golden K - Submitted by: Deb Looby

Sturgis Golden K Kiwanis Satellite Club enjoyed an afternoon providing a Valentine party for the Sturgis Elementary After School Program. Members read books, played games, entertained and handed out treats to about 45 children.

