

MINNEKOTAN

Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

No.44

May 2013

From the Desk of the Governor

05/01/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Cynthia Braseth, District Governor

Maybe spring has sprung? It's hard to tell because I'm sitting here looking at a frozen lake. Maybe we'll get one day of spring before summer starts.

Since my last column, I have attended my last Regional Conference in Region 3. The conference was well attended even though many of us drove on snow and ice to get there. We had a full day of education and fellowship, and I highly encourage anyone who has not attended a Regional Conference to go next year. They are well worth your time.

We also just finished a weekend of training for Lt. Governors who will be serving in 2013-2014. It's a weekend crammed full of information; but we also had a great time! I know that our team for next year is off to a great start and the district is in good hands. A huge Thank You goes out to our Director of Education, Loreena Luetgers for another fantastic learning experience.



To continue my review of the strategic plan goals, Goal #3 is Service Growth. Our goal is to develop a hands on service project at the convention in Aberdeen, SD.; and to develop and implement a District-wide Service Project over the next three years. For the convention, we are planning several projects at the Aberdeen Boy's and Girl's Club. In addition, THINK DIAPERS....more to come on that.

We have not had a District wide service project for several years. The challenge was to find a project that anyone could do regardless of physical ability, and that all clubs could participate in if they wish. Stewart Ross, Director of Service, has been working with the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation which is headquartered in Owatonna, MN to begin a pilot project in southern Minnesota. This Foundation will provide books to southern Minnesota clubs (that is the region they serve) to use to read to groups of children, and provide a book to each child at the end. We all know that kids will listen to the same book many times so this will encourage reading to continue at home. Our plan is to start in Southern Minnesota, expand to the rest of Minnesota next, then to South Dakota and end in North Dakota in 2015. The books for Southern Minnesota have already been delivered. Stewart is making visits to those clubs to explain the project and begin implementation. The best part about this project is that we are going to work with

other Foundations throughout the District so that costs of the books are covered for everyone.

One last thought, if you have not registered for the International Convention in Vancouver in June, please consider doing that. It's a great experience and located in one of the most beautiful cities in North America. I would love to see you all there.

Registration for the District Convention is also now open online. Check it out!!

May Update

04/30/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas



Call to Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Convention, August 9 -11, 2013 in Aberdeen, SD.: The Official Call to Convention letter will be sent by U.S. Mail to all Kiwanis Club secretaries the first week in May. The mailing contains the registration/delegate certification form and other information. You can also access and download the same District Convention Forms and Information on our district website at [Click here](#)

New this year for District Convention- You now have the option to register online. Online registration requires card payment. Look for the "Sign-Up" button at the above link.

District Convention registrations received by July 1 will qualify for a drawing for one District registration refund. The winner will receive a refund check at the end of the Delegate Session on Saturday, and must be present to win. Both On-line and paper registrations will be included in the drawing. Registrations sent/entered after July 15 will require an additional LATE FEE of \$25 (total of \$155).

2013-2014 Club Election Report Online: Club secretaries should submit the results of club elections through the online reporting system as soon as elections are completed. Due date for the club election report is June 1st. The online election report is ready to go, so you can submit any time. It is very important that this information is received in a timely manner so that directories and mailing lists can be compiled by Kiwanis International and the District Office.

District Kiwanis Foundation and Past Governors Meeting: The District Kiwanis Foundation Board and Past Governors Meeting will be held on May 10-11 in Fergus Falls.

International Convention in Vancouver, BC: As of this date we have 37 Kiwanians and 9 guests from the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District registered for the Kiwanis International Convention. There is still time to register for the International Convention. You can also get all of the necessary forms and information on the Kiwanis International website [Click here](#).

Check out the digital magazine editions: Just a reminder that the latest editions of Kiwanis-family magazines can be viewed online by clicking on following links: [Kiwanis Magazine](#), [CKI Magazine](#) and [Key Club Magazine](#)

How to subscribe to MINNEKOTAN Newsletter: If you or someone you know does not receive the MINNEKOTAN Newsletter reminder 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

Club Leadership Education: Online vs. Classroom

04/29/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Loreena Luetgers

Have you asked, "**Why** should I attend a Club Leadership Education session instead of taking it online?"

The **online version** of CLE requires an hour and a half to complete while you're sitting comfortably at home. A **classroom session** requires three to four hours as well as travel. So, why should I spend more time traveling plus session time?



Here are the **differences**. Online session is good, but it only gives you the facts that you need. However, a classroom session gives you the opportunity to share ideas with other club members. There are **ideas** shared about **fundraising** and **service projects**. Participants share what works for their club and maybe what hasn't. A club officer may have a question about their club and another club officer helps them find the answer. When club officers don't attend a CLE, the officer is letting their club "down" and it eventually hurts the club with membership and succession planning. The feeling of belonging to a global organization becomes more evident when you meet other club members and are unified by *Serving the Children of the World*. Guess what? We even make friends with other Kiwanians at a CLE.

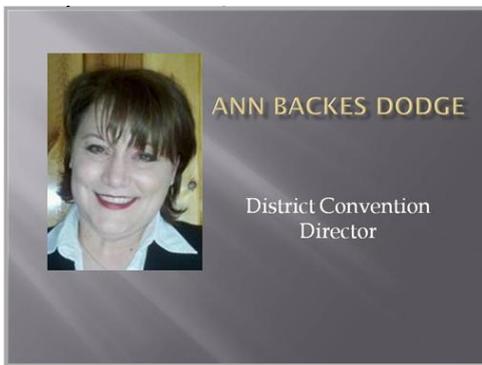
So, compare the four hours to the hour and a half. The **difference in time is what you have in sharing as well as learning**. Is that available online? Definitely not. **Register today** for a CLE near you. It is something that is worth your time. The sessions are listed on the website.

96th Annual Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District Convention

04/22/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Ann Backes Dodge

The 96th Annual Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District Convention's opening session is Friday, August 9th, 2013, at the Ramkota Hotel in Aberdeen, South Dakota. It will be the start of celebrating "Kiwanis-The All American Family" as well as the successes our clubs have had this last year.

Holly Hoffman, the last woman standing and the last member of The Espada Tribe on



Season 21 Survivor Nicaragua, will be our keynote speaker. Holly was born and raised in Eureka, SD and graduated from Eureka High School. She attended Northern State University after graduation. Holly and her husband, Charlie, manage a cattle ranch in north central South Dakota. Charlie also serves as a representative in the State Legislature. They have raised three children, who have all attended South Dakota Universities. Holly travels through out the United States making appearances and speaking to various organizations and schools. She is also the

author of *"Your Winner Within."*

We will also have an All District Service Project on Friday afternoon. Plus, the weekend will be full of educational forums, general sessions, and entertainment as well as time to socialize with old friends and make new ones.

May 1 is when our district mailing will be going out to the club secretaries and we will have all convention information on the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District website. Make sure to start planning now to have someone from your club participating in this convention. Looking forward to seeing you in Aberdeen!

Celebrating Kiwanis-The All American Family,

Ann Backes Dodge
District Convention Coordinator
Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District

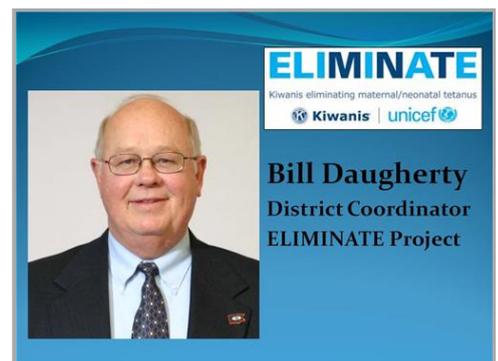
Model Clubs Are Happening

04/27/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bill Daugherty

The Eliminate report for April is out there in cyberspace somewhere. So this month I'll cover two months activity. Hats off to the Sioux Falls Club and North Suburban St Paul for joining the ranks of the model clubs in the District. That amounts to a pledge of \$75,000 from Sioux Falls and \$18,000 from North Suburban St. Paul.

Just this past week the Hibbing club has joined the ranks of the model clubs with their pledge of \$21,000. Also reporting in was the Governor's own club, Grand Forks Sun Risers. Their pledge is in the mail.

Minnesota Dakotas will now have 17 Model Clubs. We are well on the way to reach Governor Cindy's goal of 30 model clubs by the end of the Kiwanis year. Let's all make an effort to see that it happens. If we can a few more in the next two weeks we could reach \$1 million pledged. We are well over \$758,000 as of April 16th. The next report should hit the email trail on Monday the 29th of April. The World Wide Report Day is May 23rd.



District Kiwanis Citizenship Award

04/24/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Darlene VanderVorst

TO ALL KIWANIS CLUBS IN THE MINNESOTA-DAKOTAS DISTRICT:

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 Aberdeen, August 9-11, 2013 on Saturday of the convention.

There is not a formal application form. 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 2012 and June 2013).
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.

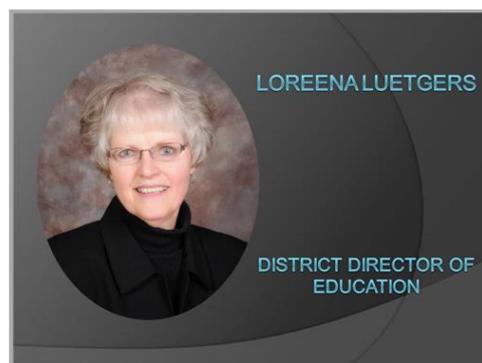
The information must be submitted by June 30th, 2013 to:
Darlene VanderVorst, PDOA President
P.O. Box 342
Mandan, North Dakota 58554
701-663-3653
sales.kndr@midconetwork.com

Traveling on the "Kiwanis Leader Ship"

04/23/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Loreena Luetgers

The president of your Kiwanis Club greets you, a new member, at the meeting and gives you a brochure to go on an adventure that you have never experienced and is promised to be a trip of a lifetime.

The brochure describes the trip to begin on a small boat with you and just one other person and along the way your trip will be continuously upgraded to a first class cruise. Oh, by the way, your travels will be with a club member that you know, Sinawik.



Most trips need some preparation, even before you receive the boarding pass, so this one is no different. Sinawik will be helping you to learn about Kiwanis before you board the "Kiwanis Leader Ship". Why? So you will be prepared to really enjoy the trip, all the way to the upgraded first class cruise.

Sinawik will answer your questions, explain and teach you things on a weekly basis at your club meetings. You will learn about service leadership programs and working with the youth, foundations, scholarships, volunteering for service projects and fundraisers, helping young children in the community, serving on a committee to plan events and even as the chair, getting to know the club members, observing the club leadership, recruit new members, read the Kiwanis magazine, and view webinars on the international website to learn more about the organization and leadership opportunities. Having Sinawik take you to a Regional Conference, District Convention and an International Convention will have you motivated to take your cruise trip.

Months go by and Sinawik believes you are ready to pack your bag and begin your journey. Your boarding pass on the small boat down the beginning of the Mississippi River is the opportunity to serve on the board of directors and experience the workings of the club. As the months again go by and the river becomes wider, Sinawik can see that you are ready for more adventures.

Someone asks if you would be willing to step into a larger boat and be the vice president to president-elect and eventually become the president of the club. Okay, you think you are ready for that as you have two years to prepare for the president's position. Sinawik knows you can do it and encourages you to take a Club Leadership Education class. Now, you are learning more about Kiwanis than ever before; leadership skills, board and meeting agendas, parliamentary procedure, how to work with members, club functions, communications, club elections, planning and setting goals, bylaws, club incorporation, and so much more.

The "Kiwanis Leader Ship" is docked and ready for you. Your trip of a lifetime is about to begin. As you have completed being the president-elect and now president of the club, you are even more challenged to the wide ocean of more opportunities. Then, the Lieutenant Governor visits your club and approaches you to consider the position. He explains that it is a three year commitment, the responsibilities, the education that is presented and also tells you that it has been an exciting position helping other clubs in his region. He also tells you that he has met many people and made many new friends. Should you do this? Of course you do. You want to continue the trip of your lifetime on the "Kiwanis Leader Ship" to maybe becoming a district governor or international officer.

Is this fact or fiction? Fact! Each of us could or should be a Sinawik and mentor just one member in our club to learn about Kiwanis. We could prepare them for leadership roles and we would have educated members become club leaders. Also, the club would have members willing and prepared to become district officers. Mentoring members is a fun experience and of vital importance for a strong healthy club. Have you met Sinawik? Are you Sinawik? Do you have a Sinawik in your club? Sinawik is 'Kiwanis' spelled backwards and Sinawik is the person who keeps Kiwanis moving forward.

Yes, take a trip on the "Kiwanis Leader Ship", the trip of a lifetime; you won't want to miss it.

This article is to help clubs mentor every member for a leadership role as it is our responsibility.

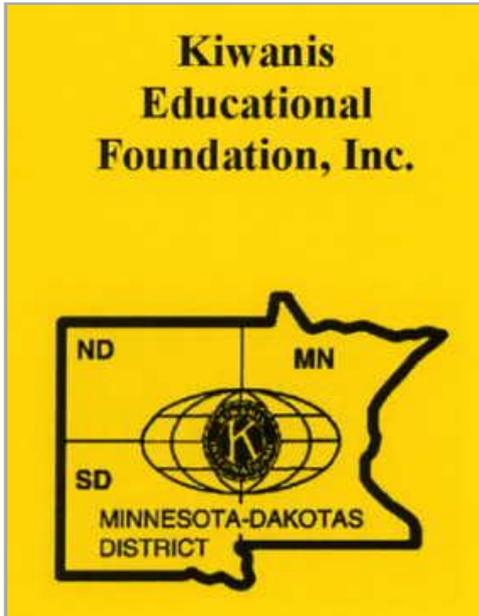
Educational Foundation Scholarships Awarded

04/26/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Jack Zierdt, Secretary/Treasurer Kiwanis Education

Congratulations!! On behalf of the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District Educational Foundation I would like to congratulate the students that are the recipients of the scholarships from the Foundation. This year, as in past years, the judges had a tough time selecting the winners from the many very deserving highly qualified applicants.

We awarded two scholarships to the top two students in each of our seven regions. Along with these scholarships we also awarded forty-one designated scholarships throughout the district. In order to continue to fund these scholarships in the future and raise the amount of the awards we need everyones help. We use only our interest income to fund our scholarships each year. Remind your club officers that the Century Club donations annually help us support our District's Educational Foundation Scholarship program and urge them to send in their funds on an annual basis.

In order for us to continue doing the matching scholarships with the Kiwanis



International Foundation and the Kiwanis Educational Foundation we need to have clubs continue to support the Kiwanis International Foundation annual gift program. This spring we were able to match three scholarships for the Minnesota-Dakotas Circle K District and three scholarships for the Minnesota-Dakotas Key Club District.

Along with the above mentioned scholarships we are also awarding one scholarship for a student from Fargo North High School that is going in to music. This is a special limited dollar and time commitment scholarship as a memorial from gifts that honored Pat Rittgarn.

If your club had a scholarship winner it would be nice if the student(s) and parents could be recognized and honored at one of your upcoming club meetings this spring.

Again, Congratulations to the winning scholarship winners!!

We Are Moving Along

04/27/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Chuck Schroder

I have just returned from Kiwanis International Foundation District Chair Training and received a lot of information. Some of it was real good and some news wasn't, but all of us have to move ahead with change and the new programs. More on this at a later date, but for now we have to concentrate on the present.

We are moving in the right direction in the annual gift program. We are up over \$2.50, but we have a long way to go. There are so many clubs in the district that have given in the past, but have not sent in their funds for this year as yet. We need to get those into the foundation as soon as we can, because the NEED IS THERE. We are only able to fund 1 out of 5 requests for grants to help clubs with their projects, and we are getting requests to help with flooding and storm disasters. Step up to the plate and find out if your club has given, and if not, why not, and then get it done. I have only had one person call me with a donation for the raffle at the district convention. We need all that we can get to have a great raffle.



CHUCK SCHRODER - DISTRICT CHAIR

Thank you all for the job and support you have given to the Children Of the World.

Yours In The Spirit Of Kiwanis,

Chuck Schroder

Region 3 Conference, Saturday, April 13th

04/14/2013 - Division: Division 03 - Submitted by: Mark Johnson, Lt. Governor 2012-2013



Region 3 held its annual conference and Governors Visit on Saturday, April 13, 2013. Opening with the presentation of the colors by Grand Rapids Boy Scout Troop 4041 followed by a prayer from Will Backes from the Grand Rapids Noon Club.

The 35 members in attendance, representing 10 different clubs in the Region were treated to a variety of presentations throughout the day. Dr. Scott Mescher, past Lt. Governor, and Joe Hesch, past Lt. Governor and past Governor did a great presentation on the Eliminate project. Ann Backes Dodge gave an update on the District Convention in August along with a testimonial on what Key Club, Circle K, and now Kiwanis has meant to her.

Governor, Cindy Braseth, talked about the Strategic Plan for the District, covered the Distinguish Club Criteria, and the importance of Service to our Children and communities. Lt. Governor, Mark Johnson, gave a membership update for Region 3 and talked about the goals for the Region along with some miscellaneous items.

The Conference was adjourned at 2:00pm with the retirement of the colors by Boy Scout Troop 4041.

Club News

Fargo South Point Kiwanis Club honors

04/26/2013 - Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

The Fargo South Point Kiwanis Club was honored at a reception for various organizations that are involved in the Adopt A School program.

Mary Ann Berg and Marlene Saar, co-presidents of the club along with Larry Rittgarn secretary, attended the function and received their recognition.

Carol Johnson, director of the Fargo Public School Foundation was the emcee for the event, and is also a member of the Fargo South Point Kiwanis Club.



Fargo South Point Kiwanis club has been associated with the Madison school for 13 years and continues to support many programs in the school.

One of the most successful and on going programs is the B U G program. Each year this program gains momentum in the school, and on May 8 the club will again host an honors breakfast for many of the students, and their parents.

All of the staff of Madison School are also recognized at that event, due to their hard work to make it all possible.

Other programs the club do during the year is provide sweat pants for emergency needs, school supplies, back packs, as well as warm winter clothing.

Several of the members also read to students on a regular basis, and our speakers each week sing a reading book that is then donated to the school library for the students to take home.

Eliminate Recognition

04/22/2013 - Club: Mandan - Submitted by: Darlene VanderVorst



The first Walter Zeller award was presented at the Mandan Noon Kiwanis Club. The award, which was presented to Marvin Miller, long time Kiwanian and past president of the club was given at a local club meeting by Club Eliminate Coordinator, Barb Bakken and Regional Eliminate Coordinator, Darlene VanderVorst.

Marvin who is a local business man is actively involved in his church, served on boards for various charitable organizations, the Chamber of Commerce and the local Christian radio station. He is married to wife, Wendy and they have two sons and two daughters, three grandsons and another grandchild is expected by the end of the year.

When Marvin was confronted with the need to raise funds to save the lives of little children he was challenged to do his part, knowing that his contribution would make a difference in the lives of many mothers and babies.

For Marvin it is not about the medallion, the certificate or the pin, it is all about following your conscience and God's call upon his life.

Congratulations to Marvin and may your example touch others in your club and in other clubs to get involved with the Eliminate Project and save lives.

Easter Party for Early Headstart Children

04/21/2013 - Club: Rapid City - Submitted by: Tom Allen

On March 28th the members of the West Middle School Builders and their advisor, along with liasons from Rapid City Downtown & Westside Kiwanis Clubs, held an Easter Party for children in the Rural America Initiatives Early Head Start program located on the Soo San IHS grounds.

The Builders Club members had constructed cute baskets from gallon milk jugs during previous meetings, stuffed them with grass and sponsored a "Hat Day" to raise funds for the candy and small fuzzy toys for the children. Approximately 30 baskets were

distributed after school and lots of chocolate covered faces and smiles ensued. A great time was had by both the small children and the Builders Club members.



Kiwanis One Day in Fargo Moorhead

04/18/2013 - Club: Moorhead - Submitted by: Peter Larson



For Kiwanis One Day, April 6, 2013, the Moorhead Kiwanis Club decided to perform an indoor service project due to the traditional weather in Fargo Moorhead making an outdoor event problematic. Our project was designed to include work that could be performed by all Kiwanis family members and friends. We cut out, machine sewed, stuffed with fiberfill, hand sewed and packaged 100 Kiwanis Dolls for the Children's Miracle Network at Sanford Health.

Thirty three of us gathered at the Moorhead High School cafeteria at 9 AM. Key Club members from Moorhead High School and West Fargo High School joined Circle K members from Concordia College to work with Kiwanis members from the Moorhead Kiwanis Club, Vikingland Kiwanis, and Fargo South Pointe Kiwanis. We had a great time working together and finished the day with a pizza lunch.

Ten Kiwanis Dolls have already been used at Sanford Health. The Child Life Specialist are using these dolls with children for medical play sessions. They use them as teaching dolls and let the child express their feelings and understandings about the treatments that they are experiencing. Both the child life specialist and the kids are enjoying these great dolls.

If your club is interested in this great service project check out this link to the KiwanisOne web site: [Click here](#)

Duct Tape a Teacher

04/17/2013 - Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Courtney Leon

Fridley High School Key Club raised awareness for Children's Miracle Network by holding a Duct-Tape-A-Teacher event this April. This event allowed students to pay \$1 or more for a piece of duct tape which was used for taping one of two volunteer teachers. Each teacher was supported by a chair against a beam the lunchroom.

The goal was for the teachers to be taped to the pole without any other support at the end of 20 minutes. Whoever held best after their chairs were removed won.

100% of the proceeds from this event went to Children's Miracle Network. With generous



donations from students and staff, the Fridley High School Key Club raised over \$150.00.

Courtney Leon, Co-Chair
Fridley High School Key Club

Club Project for Battered Women and Children

04/12/2013 - Club: Northern Dakota County Golden K - Submitted by: Evelyn Fisher

Our whole club participated in preparing an evening meal at the Lewis House for battered women and children in Eagan, MN. We prepared two hot dishes, salad, rolls, cookies and cupcakes, and beverage for thirty people. We also gave them 18 pair of pajamas for infants to teens, and several healthcare products. We will be doing this again in the fall.

St. Anthony Aktion Club Raised an Astounding \$1081.00 for Food Share Minnesota!

04/09/2013 - Club: Saint Anthony - Submitted by: Mary Dierbeck, Club Advisor

Feeding the hungry and more is happening with our Aktion Club in St. Anthony Village.

In response to our February Program from Little Kitchen Foodshelf, our Aktion Clubbers raised \$1081.00 and collected almost 300 lbs of food. Pictured are the proud smiles of Julie, Steven and Missy who collected funds from friends at their Group Home. Two other members, Chad and Paul, with the help of Dianne Sparks at Culvers, sold Minnesota Food Share certificates to customers for a week and raised a significant amount.

Food and funds were also donated by Marudas Print Services, where Mary Dierbeck is employed. Minnesota Food Share has promised a match of some of our donations to our selected foodshelf, Little Kitchen in NE Minneapolis. Little Kitchen serves many homeless people who have few resources for help.



Other projects we have going are a table at the Self Advocacy Conference on April 27th which will be held in St. Paul. Our Aktion Club members have prepared a slide show and posters and hope to get interested new members. We are growing and have 19 members. At our May 7th meeting we will decorate bird houses for Mother's Day. The bird houses are being donated by Kiwanis member Mike Hamann.

Mary Dierbeck and Dianne Sparks, Advisors

Good Friday Inter-Club Breakfast

04/01/2013 - Club: North Suburban, Saint Paul - Submitted by: Lou Michaels

The Annual Kiwanis Good Friday Breakfast was held on March 29th at the Frist Lutheran Church in Columbia Heights, Minnesota. Over 90 Kiwanians attended this annual breakfast. The North Suburban Saint Paul club had four members that attended the breakfast; President Bob Henkes, Donna Burger, Annette Jones and Lou Michaels. A prayer was given by Lyle Root of Anoka Club. Music was performed by Bill Strom and



Gordon Gaitbright. The message of Good Friday was given by Rev. Kory Kleinsaser of the Waite Park Wesleyan Church Minneapolis, MN.