

# MINNEKOTAN

Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

No.67

May 2015

## Message from the Governor

*04/30/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Sharon Scudder, District Governor*

I have been so blessed this month by the opportunity to meet so many wonderful members in our district. My journey started in Chamberlain, SD in search of a Lt. Governor for Region 5. They have so many bright and upcoming potential people. Chamberlain does so much for their community. Sorry I missed your Roast Beef Fund Raiser. Kent, Al, Jeff and I were treated to lunch and had a wonderful program with two potential members sought.



My next adventure was Region 2's Education Conference in Wahpeton, ND. Region 2 was well represented. Due to Peter Larson's illness, Kent Hochgraber was the Master of Ceremonies. Lowell Disrud presented Club Leadership Education, which was well attended and many good comments were made on its value to the Presidents and President Elects. While some attended the CLE training, others participated in a Service Project by assisting the Clean Up at the Local Zoo. We had a wonderful lunch and off to Watertown.

I attended a Scholastic Book ceremony at the Boy's and Girl's Club, the first Oasis in South Dakota with several more planned in Watertown, SD. It seemed as if all the community was there, the Mayor, Congressional Officials, Lt. Governor, Al Vanderlaan, Stephanie Lowy Davern, Doug Sharp, I, the Children and many others came to support the new Reading Oasis. We had an exciting time and appreciate the commitment made by Mr. & Mrs. Sharp. The Sharps are interested in sponsoring most of the schools in the area. Al has been very busy organizing these projects together, visiting the clubs in his region and working to recruit a Lt. Governor- elect. Guess what - he did it. Welcome Mark Nelson from Aberdeen for accepting the Leadership position. We appreciate your Commitment.

Another day in Watertown lead Al, Stephanie and I to another Reading Oasis in a Christian School serving a variety of grades. Stephanie was able to design space for three rooms to be utilized to meet their needs. What a PRODUCTIVE TIME IN WATERTOWN, SD - 2 Reading Oasis with Scholastic Books and a New Lt. Governor-elect.

My GPS and I were off to Key Club DCON in St. Cloud, Minnesota. Of course I made a few stops on the way, keeping up my image of the POP- IN GOVERNOR. I first visited Willmar, MN and as usual their Club was great. Luckily I called Dennis as they had

moved to the YMCA that day. They treated me to lunch and had a wonderful program with the Director of the Chamber of Commerce.

I then traveled to Litchfield, MN and attended their noon meeting at the country club. What a wonderful club, a great program, a warm greeting and fellowship. Chris conducted a well-run meeting. Thank you for welcoming me and treating me to a wonderful lunch.

I finally made it to St. Cloud to begin my time with the Key Clubbers. All the Kiwanis Clubs that sponsor a Key Club have much to be proud of. I have never seen a group of Teenagers act as professional and respectful of one another as the Key Club members of the MN-DAK District. Nicole Bonfig, Key Club District Governor did a superb job with the members and performed her duties in a professional and timely manner. Thanks to Mary Beth and her assistance to help to carry out the agenda and allowed for a great time and fun. I was honored and fortunate to be asked to dismiss and install the new team of officers. I was sad to see members leave as many have graduated and happy to see the new members that have accepted the challenge for the up-coming year. To those leaving to go to college, start careers and other life pursuits, just know that you have left with dignity, good leadership skills and an array of friendships young and old. I hope if you go to college, you connect to a Circle K to continue your leadership opportunities and volunteering. If they don't have a Circle K Club, start one. Your skills from Key Club afford you the opportunity to start one with good leadership skills you have already learned. Good Luck Key Clubbers. I love you all!!!

In a blizzard, I continued my trip to Alexandria, MN. I sought out the Broadway Ballroom where their meeting was held. I found it next to a MALL. Anyway, I attended their noon meeting, was treated to a wonderful lunch, conversation and a great program. They have many great service projects and an excited group of members full of fun. Thanks for the opportunity to meet such nice members.

With a little ground blizzard and snow/sleet, I traveled on to Fergus Falls on my way to Bismarck. I had a wonderful visit with the Fergus Falls Club only to find out that Sturgis was not the first to hold a motorcycle rally. They had a rally at the Regional Treatment Center in 1918 and Sturgis Rally was founded in 1938.....got to travel to Fergus Falls to learn this????? Learned this through their very informative program. We sang, had lunch and learned some new processes their club performs. I enjoyed our time together. I also wanted to note that I was there a day before PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE DAY ON APRIL 22. **I wanted to take this time to wish Steve Handegaard, our District Secretary, a Happy Secretary Day – as it was once called. Thanks for being my right hand man. You are truly great to me and our District.**

Bismarck here I come in the snow but I did not want to miss your 25th Anniversary. I was happy to meet Grace Link, the only charter member left. Also, congratulations to Lillian Wilson and her team for hosting such a great event with cake and the interesting program. Thanks to all in attendance, Lt. Governor, Gary Ochsner, Lt. Governor-Elect, Wilfred Volesky, Past Governors Lardy, and Past Lt. Governor Vander Vorst and Lt. Governor Niewoehner. Sorry if I missed others. I would call the Bismarck Golden K, **Small but Mighty** as their participation in service and working in their club is normally 100% or they are finding out where their members are if not in attendance. Thank you for allowing me to share your special celebration. I could go on forever about the Bismarck Golden K but better head home.

Lt. Governor training is fast approaching and we are still seeking some Lt. Governor-elect positions. If you want a great opportunity to grow in leadership, meet new people and see the many service projects throughout the Regions, BE A LT. GOVERNOR. YOU WILL NEVER REGRET IT!!!!!!

Thank you to all the members who have made my experiences flourish with Kiwanis. I

hope to see you at District Convention in Grand Forks, ND on August 7-9, 2015.

## May Update

04/30/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas



**Call to Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Convention, August 7-9, 2015:** 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](#)

Again this year you have the option to register online or by US Mail. Online registration requires card payment. Look for the "Sign-Up" button at the above link. You can also find a listing of available hotel options.

District Convention registrations are due by July 6. Registrations after July 6 will incur an additional late fee.

**2015-2016 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.

**International Convention in Indianapolis:** As of this date we have 51 Kiwanians and 8 guests from the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District registered for the Kiwanis International Convention. Total convention registration is now at 4281. There is still time to register for the International Convention. You can register online or by paper postmarked no later than May 15, 2015. After that date you could still register on-site in Indianapolis. You can find all of the necessary forms and information on the Kiwanis International website [Click here](#)

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

## Kiwanis Weekend Backpack

04/14/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Stewart Ross

This is one of the most exciting Young Children/Priority One-Early Childhood

Development projects that your Kiwanis Club can do this year. Teachers from around the World have said that because of this project; children in their classes:

1. Have better school room test scores.
2. Positive behavioral classroom gains.
3. Decreased unexcused school absences.
4. Increased recognition of career paths.

First, your Kiwanis Club will have to pick a class room of children you will want to help. You need children that do not have a full meal of food on the weekend. They go home to a poor family on Friday, after school and probably have little to eat until Monday at school breakfast or lunch. A Headstart class would probably be good to start with for this project.

Meet with the Principal of the school and select the class for your Kiwanis Club to help. Count the number of children for each of the Kiwanis Weekend Backpacks.

Go to [www.branders.com](http://www.branders.com) and select a blue drawstring nonwoven Polypropylene Backpack for 79 cents each with the Club name and Kiwanis logo on it. Once you have the bags in your possession, you will want to fill them.

At your next Kiwanis Club meeting you will want to select the following items to fill the bag to be delivered on Friday by the Kiwanis Club to the classroom:

1. Quaker Oatmeal Pack-takes two minutes to prepare.
2. Apple Sauce – four ounces
3. Snack Pack- pudding
4. Blueberry Pop Tart
5. Kraft Macaroni & Cheese-two ounces.
6. Maruchan Instant Lunch-ramen noodles with vegetables
7. Apple or Orange

On Friday the Kiwanis member goes to the classroom and delivers the Backpacks for the weekend. On Monday, the Kiwanis member goes back to the classroom and picks up the bags to be filled by Friday for delivery. On the first week of delivery, you may want to take a marks-a-lot to put the name of each child on the Kiwanis Weekend Backpack.

Your Kiwanis Club might want to include an instruction guide in each Kiwanis Weekend Backpack that tells about the project, why the backpack is to be returned on Monday mornings for pick-up by the Kiwanis member and how it will be refilled by Friday evening at the end of class to take home for the weekend by the child.

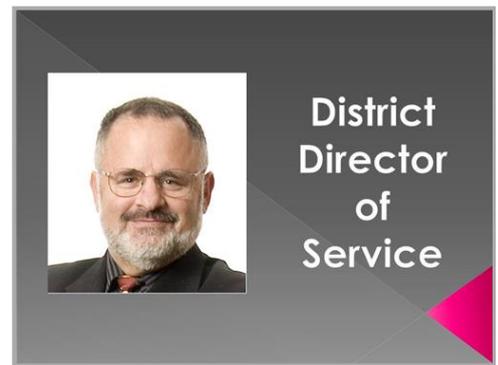
Here is a way to include your Key Club in collecting the items, involve your community, Walmart, K-Mart, Target, Dollar Store, etc in this project. Once a month you might want to include a small book for the child to keep.

Should you have questions, please contact Young Children/Priority One-Early Childhood Development International Committee Chairman- Neil Simmons at [nfsimmons@bellsouth.net](mailto:nfsimmons@bellsouth.net).

## Key Leader Camp

*04/30/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Deb Looby*

Don't forget to send your young leaders of your communities to Key Leader Camp. Friday afternoon, July 9th thru Sunday noon, July 11th these young people will learn





how to be future leaders. Dakota Frontier Camp is not only a rewarding experience but is located in the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota so make it a family vacation as well!

Registration is easy! Simply go to [www.key-leader.org](http://www.key-leader.org) and register. Camp fees are \$250.00 with \$100.00 paid by the district for the first 60 registered who register using the passcode. You must use the following passcode when registering to receive the \$100 scholarship. Passcode is: **MNDAK15** Also be sure to hit the redeem button after entering the code or the \$100 will not be taken off. Remember that these young people do not have to belong to any Kiwanis family.

Send nurses and cooks and counselors as well!

See you at camp!

## Builders Club Celebrates Early Eliminate Week

04/26/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Nancy Cornell

Kingsland Jr. High Builders Club in Spring Valley, MN held Eliminate Week in March instead of May. May was going to be too busy.

Posters were made and placed around the school. Daily announcements gave information about the Eliminate Project and all students in grades 7 - 12 saw an Eliminate video. A Hat Day was held which raised \$136.00. Students paid \$1 to wear a hat in school.

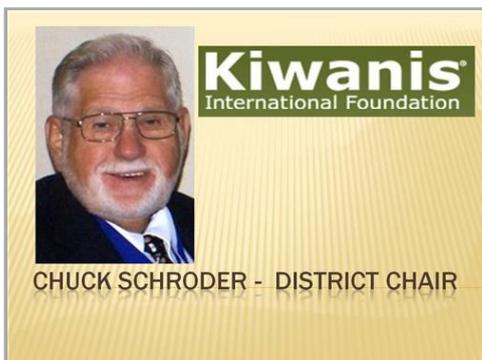
Prizes were given for the most patriotic, most creative and wackiest.

Builders Club had fun promoting the Eliminate Project and felt pleased with the results. There is still time for your Builders Club to hold an Eliminate Week before school is out. For more information about Eliminate Week go to [click here](#).



## YOU CAN CONTINUE TO HELP

04/25/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: E.Chuck Schroder



We are moving right along with our donations to the KI foundation and we are playing a very important part in helping the children of the world. But, there is a lot left to do and we can help do it. I will be covering ways this can be done and it is very easy.

1. Has your club participated in the SKIP A MEAL program? If not, Why not? It is so easy, all you have to do is pass the basket around during a couple of meetings and have the members drop in what they normally would spend for lunch. Another way to do it is

have a meeting where you bring a lunch and pay what you would for your lunch that day at the meeting. Send this money into the Kiwanis International Foundation and your club will receive a nice banner patch, but the big thing is you helping the children of the world.

2. Our goal was to find people in each region to become a Hixson Fellow. When you do this, you and your club both get the credit for the donation. For \$1,000, which can be given over a two (2) year period, you will be a Hixson for ever. It would be also a great way for your club to honor someone in the club or in the community. Your Lt. Governors all have applications and they also are on Kiwanis International Foundation web site. This would also help the the district and governor Sherry to reach our goal. This is also a tax deduction. It's something to think about.

3. This is the 100th year anniversary of Kiwanis. Why not give yourself and the Kiwanis International Foundation a Birthday gift. By giving a \$100.00 gift to the Childrens Fund in the Kiwanis International Foundation, you would be helping the children of the world and you would be getting a \$100.00 tax deduction. It is a win win situation. Lets all join in and help make things happen. Lets give to the Kiwanis International Foundation TODAY.

## **Educational Foundation Scholarships Awarded**

*04/24/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Jack Zierdt, Secretary/Treasurer Kiwanis Education*

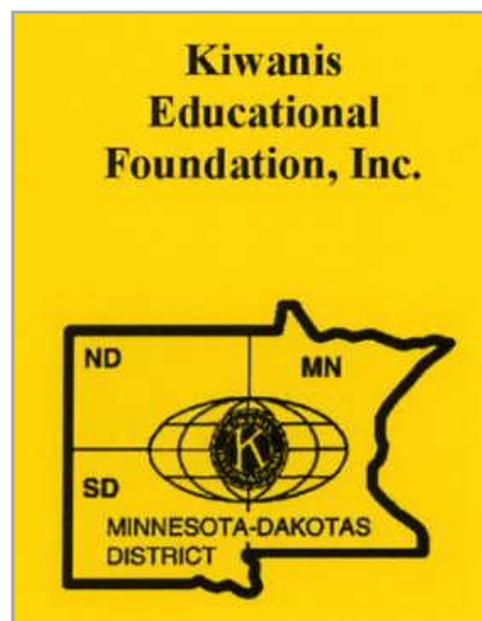
The annual scholarship application and judging process for the 2014 – 2015 senior class of the students in the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District is complete. The students that were selected to be recipients of an \$865.00 scholarship for the 2015 – 2016 academic year have been notified. The acceptance forms have been sent back from the majority of the winners. Some declined the scholarship as they have decided to go to school outside of the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District Boundaries. We have offered the scholarship for the ones that were declined to other recipients and are awaiting their acceptance.

A cover letter and a copy of the letter to the winning recipient(s) was sent to the Kiwanis Club President that was named on the application form encouraging the club to honor the winning recipient in some fashion at a club meeting. The administration or counseling department of the student's high school was also sent a cover letter and copy of the winning student's letter.

We awarded 51 scholarships this spring to graduating seniors. There were some high schools that have Designated Scholarships that did not send in any scholarship applications this year so those scholarships were not awarded. The Board of Trustees of the Foundation will discuss this at their meeting on the 1st of May and decide if we will add those monies, not spent, into the total of interest earnings for next year or if we will offer extra District At-Large scholarships next year.

We thank the Kiwanis Clubs of the District for their help in distributing the scholarship materials in early November and in honoring the scholarship recipients once they are selected.

## **Places to see on your way to the International Convention**



04/29/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Courtney Taylor

Of the "1,000 Places to See in the U.S. & Canada Before you Die," eleven are in Indiana. A few are best enjoyed outside of summer, but here are a few that might catch your attention if you happen to be visiting the Hoosier State around the end of June.

Whereas Columbus is known for its contemporary architecture, Madison and New Harmony are the best to visit for 19th century architecture. If your focus is food, check out Wolf's Bar-B-Q in Evansville. By showing up a day early for the convention (and skipping the preliminary activities that Kiwanis is offering), you can also see the Blue Angels in Evansville as part of ShrinersFest 2015.



Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, the birthplace of ecology, is for anyone hoping to enjoy the state outdoors. Mount Baldy is great for hang gliders, and the Indiana Dunes State Park welcomes hikers, bikers, and horseback riders. For something a little closer to Indianapolis, drive to Parke County, known for its collection of covered bridges.

Last but not least, if you don't dare venture out of the capital, keep the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on your list. We'll be a month too late for the big races, but you can still enjoy the Hall of Fame Museum.

## Convention Corner

04/28/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Liz Lawrence-Ross

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

Only three months until our district celebration of 100 years of Kiwanis. Your club secretary will be receiving the packet of convention materials in the mail in a few days. Please take time to review and share them with your club. The information will also be posted on our district website. [click here](#)



The deadline for registration and reserving rooms is July 6th. There are multiple hotels you may stay at, so please check the separate list of hotels. We are excited to announce that former Kiwanis International President Steve Siemens will give the keynote address at our convention. He is a fabulous motivational speaker you don't want to miss.

We are also excited to announce that since we've had many requests to bring back the MNDAK Khorale, they will have an encore appearance this year. There will be a separate registration form for this in the packet also.

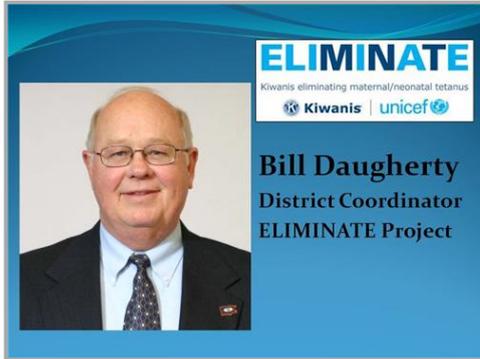
Happy Spring MNDAK!

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

# The Eliminate Project

04/25/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bill Daugherty

One more country has been validated as having eliminated Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus. Mauritania in West Africa joins the UNICEF list of countries eliminating MNT.



There are 24 countries left in eliminate this scourge.

Minn-Dak clubs have been involved in this world wide Kiwanis effort. 88% of our clubs have donated and we are at 48% of our goal of \$3Million. In reviewing the last donor report it seems that there are a number of clubs that need to send in the funds they have already pledged and collected for the effort. The dollars do nothing in our banking accounts, the money needs to get to UNICEF in order for our campaign to be a success.

Clubs need to increase their efforts to raise funds as we push to complete our pledge amount. Hope you will all consider doing that little extra to assist.

Congratulations to the Aberdeen Club of Region 5 as they join our list of Model Clubs. We now have 29 Model Clubs and 1 \$100,000 club.

Any club pledging to be a model club now has a 20% donation provided to the balance plus five years in which to complete the pledge. Thank you!!

## Club News

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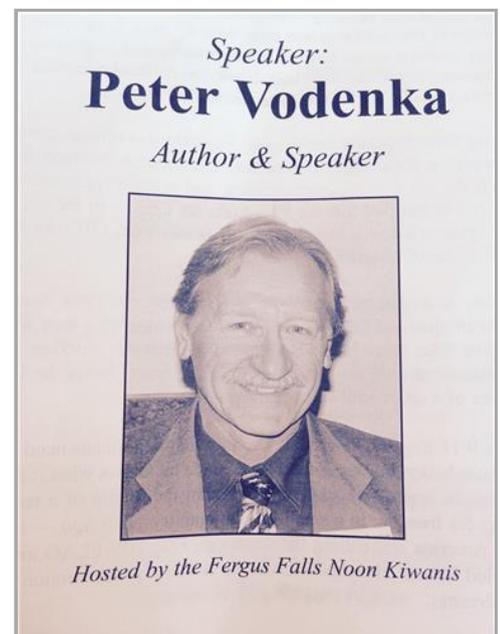
### Fergus Falls Community Prayer Breakfast

04/29/2015 - Club: Fergus Falls - Submitted by: Fergus Falls Noon Kiwanis

The Fergus Falls Noon Kiwanis Club sponsored its annual Fergus Falls Community Prayer Breakfast on Wednesday morning, April 29th. The event is open to the public and over 200 people attended.

This year's guest speaker was Peter Vodenka. In June of 1983, Peter and his wife, four-year old daughter and two-year son, defected from behind the Iron Curtain of communist Czechoslovakia. In the middle of a cold, rainy night, they ran for their lives across the border while being chased by guards with dogs and automatic weapons. After a long and difficult journey Peter is now a successful businessman. Peter feels strongly that Americans need to be reminded how lucky they are to be free.

You can see more about Peter and his family at his website [Journey For Freedom](#)



## Kiwanis Celebrates 100 Years

04/27/2015 - Club: Devils Lake - Submitted by: Colleen Batton

Click on following link to view article in Devils Lake Journal.

[Devils Lake Journal article- click here](#)

## Grand Rapids Noon Club

04/27/2015 - Club: Grand Rapids - Submitted by: Susan Jordahl-Bubacz

Grand Rapids Noon Club meeting. Speaker: Grand Rapids Mayor, Dale Adams. Pictured with the mayor our officers (l to r) from the Greenway Key Club, Grand Rapids Key Club, and ICC Circle K. Of the student clubs sponsored, missing was Greenway Builder's Club officers. (Stayed back for school testing.)



We had a special meeting to celebrate Kiwanis Membership Month. It was a packed house! We engaged the whole club in new ideas, we talked about membership, made lists of possible prospective members with contact info. We incorporated marketing and how we could do a better job of selling ourself and mission at the events we do. And, we talked about fund raising and engaging our members to be active.

An active and engaged member is a happy and fulfilled member! They are seen, heard and feel part of the team! There was cake, balloons, and great door prizes for those with the most number of possible members listed!

## Watertown, SD Kiwanis Partner for Launch of First Reading Oasis in the State

04/27/2015 - Club: Watertown - Submitted by: Tim Oviatt



The first Reading Oasis in South Dakota was unveiled last month at the Boys & Girls Club of Watertown. The Oasis is a joint project of the Watertown Kiwanis Club and Scholastic Book Fairs along with funding from the Watertown Community Foundation (WCF) that was received from Watertown residents Doug & Lynn Sharp. In establishing the fund at the WCF, reading was to be one of the fund's support focus'.

Kiwanian and District 5 Lt. Governor Al Vanderlaan has worked with Scholastic Books for the past eight months to establish the state's first Reading Oasis. "The ease and speed of setting up Watertown's Reading Oasis is due to

the Sharp Family's generosity," said Vanderlaan, adding "even Scholastic Books was impressed that this is the first Oasis established through the funding of a private donor." Other Oasis around the country are mostly funded through school districts.

Watertown's Reading Oasis features bright colors, soft bean bag chairs, a listening center with audio books and approximately 1,200 books ranging from picture books to the sixth grade reading level. Over time, the books will be given to young readers and the Oasis will be replenished.

Liz Christianson, executive director of the Boys & Girls Club, observed the steady use the Reading Oasis has received. "It's a step forward in literacy, bringing families, schools and the community together to support literacy development for Watertown's children," she observed. "Launching the Oasis shortly before summer vacation will reduce the impact of reading loss between school years," added Christianson. Several hundred kids visit the Boys & Girls Club daily.

Plans are already underway for a second Reading Oasis to be established at the Watertown Christian School when school opens at the end of the summer. Donors Doug & Lynn Sharp along with Watertown Kiwanis and Scholastic Book Fairs are excited about the program growing and its bottom line: more books reaching more kids. "The Reading Oasis story in Watertown has just begun," observed Vanderlaan.

Photo:

Conducting the official ribbon cutting of the new Reading Oasis at the Boys & Girls Club of Watertown are, left to right, donor Doug Sharp, Kiwanian and District 5 Lt. Governor Al Vanderlaan and donor Lynn Sharp.

## **2015 Kite Fly Kiwanis Club of St Louis Park Region 7**

*04/25/2015 - Club: St Louis Park - Submitted by: LTG '13-'14 Gail Heyda*

St Louis Park Kiwanis club held the annual Kite Fly on Saturday, April 25, 2015 at Louisiana Oaks Park, St Louis Park, MN. This was a well attended 25th year for the community kite fly. The kites were provided to all kids and were assembled so they could fly in the nice sunny, windy sky. Club members Joe, Paul and Marthann, Doug and friends Stan and Jerry along with interclubs from St Louis Park GK Bill and Ralph and North Hennepin Gail and Courtney and family enjoyed the day with all the kids and their families. The windy weather was perfect and the many kites decorated the skies for hours. All the kids loved their kites and had big smiles all day!



## Roughrider Counrty Kiwanis Club

*04/24/2015 - Club: Rough Rider Country, Dickinson - Submitted by: Ninetta Wandler President*

Greetings one and all from the Rough Rider Country Kiwanis Club,

We have been very busy as we just finished with our After the Prom Party on April 11th. We were very successful in raising over \$6,000.00 in cash and prizes. We started the evening with Comedy and Dinner for the general public to help off set the cost of the comedy acts for the Party. We served about 90 people for dinner and all were entertained by the comedians and our own Keith Fernsler was especially entertaining when he was picked to (volunteer) for the comedy acts and was greatly surprised when a watch that he has trouble getting off vanished so quickly. Thanks Keith we truly enjoyed the show. We also had 153 young people for the After the Prom Party, they enjoyed lots of food and drink, were also entertained by the comedians, and walked away with some prizes from gift certificates, tablets, to TV's. Dickinson is a very giving community and without them we would not be able to do what we do, so a very big THANK YOU to everyone who helped and who donated.

We also just had our banquet on Tuesday where our Vice-President Jason Jacobs was chosen our Kiwanis Member of the Year and one of our past presidents Becky Byzewski was chosen for our Builder Award as she has been very instrumental in organizing the After the Prom Party.

Have a great summer.  
Ninetta Wandler

## Bismarck Golden K Celebrates 25th Anniversary

*04/23/2015 - Club: Bismarck Golden K - Submitted by: Region 1 Lt Gov Gary Ochsner*

Wednesday April 22, 2015, was a special meeting for Bismarck Golden K, Bismarck, North Dakota. The meeting that day was held to celebrate 25 years of "serving the children of the world." The special guest that day was Grace Link, charter member. Grace, a former First Lady of North Dakota and her late husband, Art, were both charter members of Bismarck Golden K.

Bismarck Golden K President Lillian Wilson welcomed Bismarck Golden K members, friends, spouses and



former members as well as Kiwanis members from Bismarck Kiwanis, Mandan Kiwanis and Minot Golden K Kiwanis attending. Also in attendance were District Governor Sherry Scudder, Region 1 Lt Gov Gary Ochsner, Region 1 Lt Gov Elect Wilfred Volesky, Past District Governor Bill Lardy, Past Region 1 Lt Gov Weyburn Niewoehner and Past Region 1 Lt Gov Darlene VanderVorst.

Photo: Bismarck Golden K President Lillian Wilson and Charter Member Grace Link

## All Tied Up

04/20/2015 - Club: Vikingland, Moorhead - Submitted by: Dan Graning



The K-Kids club at Ellen Hopkins School in Moorhead MN got all tied up in their project to help the kids at the local homeless shelter in the Moorhead-Fargo community. With a grant from Thrivent Financial they were able to purchase enough material to make more than fifteen snuggly warm knot tied fleece blankets. They worked on the blankets during their after school meeting time. The generous grant that they received allowed them to purchase several pairs of PJs along with the fleece for the blankets. All of the blankets and PJs

were donated to an organization called Project Nite Light which provides homeless children with a nite time care package which includes a blanket, PJs, tooth paste and brush and a stuffed animal as well as other *nite time* things.

## Friendship and Laughter raises \$2500 for ELIMINATE

04/19/2015 - Club: Mitchell - Submitted by: Carol Grode-Hanks

A friendship that started a year ago resulted in a reunion to benefit Eliminate. Six ladies performed in Steel Magnolias a year ago for the Mitchell Area Community Theatre and the synergy just clicked. The search for another script for six ladies began and soon, *Pirates of the Chemotherapy*, was scheduled for March 19-22, 2015. Because the play is centered on a support group for women undergoing chemotherapy for breast cancer, the Kiwanis group partnered with a local support organization, "You'll Never Walk Alone." The show was a big hit in the community and both organizations are happy with the exposure and profit. The cast of 10 included 3 Kiwanis members and the director is also an active member. The show raised \$2500.00 for Eliminate and 3 cast members are going to join Kiwanis! The next project is already in the works to help the Kiwanis Club of Mitchell reach their model club goal.



## Fridley Key Club Builds Dressers

04/07/2015 - Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Abigail Ladwig

On Saturday March 28th, 12 Fridley Key Clubbers and Advisor Mary Bowen gathered to build 85 dressers at Bridging, Inc. along with seven other key clubs, a Circle K Club and thirteen Kiwanis Clubs. A total of 118 people participated in the awesome event.



During the week families that are transitioning from poverty or homelessness can make an appointment to go through the warehouse to pick out furniture to furnish their homes. Sixty dressers are needed each week. The impact of this place is great and truly inspiring.

We gathered at 8:30 in the morning for a breakfast of doughnuts, scones, and juice to energize us for the three hours of work we were about to put in. We began building at 9:00. By the end of the event our club made a total of four dressers.

There were two groups making dressers from the club and both made two. The first dresser was a bit tough to create. There was even a member from one of the groups saying, "Just put the drawers through the back of the dresser." That wouldn't work at all! After the first one was completed, the second one was easier.

The event was really fun. The Fridley Key Club will make an impact on those in need.