

MINNEKOTAN

Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

No.14

November 2010

Let's "Put Another Log on the Fire"

10/31/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Lowell Disrud

They say time flies when you are having fun. We are having lots of fun because it seems like yesterday that the October Minnekotan articles were due. We have had 3 Regional Governor's visits so far, Region 1 in Bismarck, Region 4 in Rapid City, and Region 5 in Huron. Each event has been great with lots of learning, sharing, and connecting with friends. I look forward to the other 4 Regional visits in the future.

Kiwanis International sent out a summary of membership and club growth for the year ending October 1. There is good news and not so good news. The good news is that 190 new clubs were built last year compared to 157 new clubs the year before. All Service Leadership Programs grew significantly in membership and in new clubs. The not so good news is that 6820 members were lost in US and Canada last year. More than half of the lost members were in the 224 clubs that were lost. We are doing more service with fewer members and fewer clubs. Our challenge is to bring in new members, inspire existing members, and nurture those clubs that are struggling. Let's share our story and invite more friends to be part of this great organization.



November is Foundation month. Each club is challenged to "skip a meal" and donate \$5.00 per member to the Kiwanis International Foundation and to become a Century club by giving \$100.00 to the Minnesota Dakotas Foundation. In addition to the many hours of service your club does in your community this is another way that you can "Serve the Children of the World" and of your community. The Minnesota Dakotas Foundation funds go to high school seniors in our district who will attend higher education institutions in the 3 state area. The KI Foundation gives scholarships to students from our district as well as grants to clubs that need additional funds to carry out service projects. If your club has not contributed to these foundations this year, starting October 1, please consider doing so in November.

November 2010 Update

10/30/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District



Monthly Club Reporting: Special thanks to club secretaries for their excellent monthly reporting this past year. The information submitted is very valuable. Monthly Reports are submitted online by the 10th of each following month. Remember that this is not just the Club Secretary's job. A club secretary needs information to report, so be sure to keep them informed of your committee activities, etc.

The reporting program allows the club secretary to automatically send a preview of the monthly club report by email to the president, board members and others before submission. I would highly encourage you to do this. You may catch things that are not getting reported. The reporting program also allows the secretary to email the final monthly report to anyone in your club. To find out how the online reporting works there is a special page with videos and other helps at [Click Here](#)

Does your club need to do an Annual Club Report??: Just a reminder, if your club completed all 12 of your monthly reports you do not need to complete a separate annual report. The Annual Report for each club will be automatically generated from the online monthly reports. Club secretaries can still modify any of the 2009-2010 monthly reports until November 30, 2010 if needed.

If you represent one of the few clubs that did not submit all 12 monthly reports online, then Kiwanis International is asking that you complete the online 2009-10 Annual Club Report which will be available November 1. This form allows clubs to report service and administrative activities online (electronically) for the 2009-2010 year. Clubs are asked to complete the report on or before November 30, 2010. Again, please note this report is only for those clubs that have not completed all 12 of the monthly reports. Following is a link to the report: [Click Here](#) No login is required for the Annual Club Report.

Distinguished Member and Distinguished Club Criteria for 2010-2011: For copy of criteria [Click here](#) Be sure to review the criteria as there are changes from last year. Just a reminder that your club secretary can monitor you club's progress towards the award on their "Secretary Dashboard".

Dues: I often get asked how the Kiwanis International and District dues break down on a yearly basis. They remain the same again this year: International dues = \$42.00 Liability Insurance = \$12.00 KI Magazine = \$8.00 District dues = \$30.00

If I can be of any assistance, please let me know.

Have a great Kiwanis year!

To view current and past MINNEKOTAN newsletters go to www.mndak-kiwanis.org and click on "News".

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE MINNEKOTAN NEWSLETTER

If you do 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 lettering on our home page)

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

Minnesota-Dakotas Educational Foundation Month

10/18/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Jack Zierdt

When: November, 2010 (and the month of November, each year thereafter)

What: One full month that focuses on the Minnesota-Dakotas Educational Foundation work and encourages our Kiwanis clubs in the district and members to support the foundation with financial contributions.

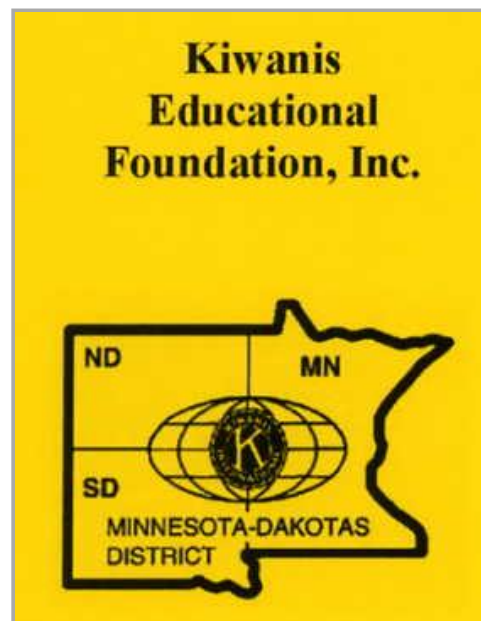
Who: This month focuses on our clubs and members throughout the district.

How: The MN-DAK Foundation will prepare flyers, postcards, and other mailings that will be sent to all clubs at the beginning of the new Kiwanis year—October 2010. These materials will each develop the theme of a “MN-DAK Foundation Month, explaining what the Foundation does, how it is done, and who benefits. Some of these materials will be specifically created to educate club members about the Foundation while encouraging members to donate individually and as a club to the fund. It is anticipated that the MN-DAK Foundation secretary will develop materials to be sent to clubs and send them at the appropriate time.

It is also suggested that Foundation board members make themselves available to clubs in their area as the guest speaker for clubs during the Foundation Month (or other times during the year).

Why: Communication with our Kiwanis clubs continues to be a challenge. There are some clubs who send in a sustaining Century Club contribution each year and others that have no idea what Century Club is. We need to find a way to educate those clubs and members that do not understand the role of the Foundation or how to donate funds. Through a campaign of a special month, early in the Kiwanis year, we might better inform clubs and members and encourage them to make their donations early rather than later.

Some of the information that can be shared in mailing to clubs includes club sustaining member, Messer Fellows, life members, and how scholarships are awarded to regions and clubs. Material on how a club can have its own scholarship honoring someone in the club can also be included. By sending educational materials to all clubs in the district there is an increased chance that more clubs and members will learn about the



Foundation than ever before. Through a Foundation Month more club officials may decide to present this information to their club members.

Resolution: *Therefore, be it resolved that annually the Minnesota Dakotas District will observe in creative ways the "MN-DAK District Foundation Month."*

2009-2010 Interclub Awards

10/30/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Joe Hesch, District Interclub Chair



Congratulations to the following clubs for qualifying for the 2009-2010 Interclub Award. These clubs will be receiving a special 2009-2010 Interclub Award Patch. [Click here](#) to view the District Interclub criteria.

Region 1

Bismarck
Jamestown
Mandan

Region 2

Alexandria
Fargo Rough Riders
Fargo South Point

Grand Forks Noon
Grand Forks Sun Risers
Moorhead
Moorhead Vikingland
Thief River Falls

Region 3

Baxter Lakes Area and Friends
Brainerd
Chisholm
Cloquet
Gitchee Gumees
Little Falls
Port of Duluth
Spirit Valley
St. Cloud

Region 4

Rapid City
Rapid City Westside

Region 5

Sioux Falls
Sioux Falls Day Break
Sioux Falls Diversity
Sioux Falls East
South Sioux Falls

Region 6

Albert Lea

Albert Lea G.K. II
Albert Lea Day Breakers
Fairmont Early Risers
Hendricks
Madison
New Ulm
Owatonna Golden K
Pipestone
St. Peter
Tyler
Worthington Early Risers

Region 7

Anoka Area
Columbia Heights – Fridley
Lake City
St. Paul North Suburban G.K.
Red Wing Dawn Breakers
Red Wing G. K.
Rochester Day Makers
Saint Anthony
Spring Valley
Stewartville

REGION 6 ACE WORKSHOP A GREAT SUCCESS!

10/29/2010 - Division: Division 06 - Submitted by: Dawn Fairbrother, Lt. Governor, Region 6

The Region 6 Achieving Club Excellence (ACE) Workshop held in Mankato, MN. on Saturday, October 16, 2010 was a great success!

On a beautiful, warm, sunny day, Stephanie Ursini, Area Director, from Kiwanis International, was our dynamic presenter. With great charm, grace and enthusiasm, Stephanie led the attendees with a powerful PowerPoint presentation; enthusiastic discussion, attendee involvement, plus facilitators who led group discussions, at each table, to help guide the Kiwanis Clubs with their individual needs.

Prior to the ACE Workshop, the Kiwanis Clubs, in Region 6, filled out the two-sided, one page Kiwanis Club Excellence Tool Evaluation to help the Clubs find out how their members feel about: Membership and Growth, Community Service, Public Relations/Marketing, and the Education/Member Experience.

In this workshop, Kiwanis club members were given tools to help them explore new ways to increase service, apply new strategies for membership growth, focus on how to enhance the membership experience for all Kiwanis club members; plus, develop and maintain a relevant service impact in their community.

Stephanie presented a seven-step process: Step 1: Commit to Excellence; Step 2: Assess club vitality; Step 3: Plan your club's success; Step 4: Share your story; Step 5: Inform members; Step 6: Welcome new members; and Step 7: Enhance the member experience.



Stephanie also presented handouts to attendees to take back to their Kiwanis Clubs: Achieving Club Excellence (ACE), Club Excellence Tool, Planning Your Kiwanis Club's Success, Community Analysis, Welcome to Our Kiwanis Club, Analyze the Results, Volunteer Interest Form, Distinguished Award Criteria for 2010-2011, Kiwanis Elevator Speech, Kiwanis Literature Resources, Kiwanis New Club Quick-Start Guide, Extend Your Reach, a sample of a Kiwanis Club Brochure, and business size Kiwanis cards with one side inviting a potential new Kiwanis member to a meeting or service project and the other side explaining why the potential new member should join their Kiwanis Club. Another card encourages each Kiwanis member to "Retain, Recruit, and Build Together This Year" and the other side lists Kiwanis "Opportunities for Growth".

This half-day workshop was filled with valuable information, discussion, and fellowship between Kiwanis members. This is a great way to start the 2010-2011 Kiwanis year. So get ready to make your Kiwanis Club a very important of your community with programs for youth starting in kindergarten through college; plus, Kiwanis also forms partnerships with other organizations locally and internationally.

A HUGE thank you to Stephanie Ursini for her fantastic ACE Workshop. A BIG thank you to Stewart Ross, Liz Lawrence-Ross, Loreena and Dennis Luetgers, Chuck Gruessing, and David Fairbrother for all their help and assistance to make this Kiwanis workshop a great success! A special thank you to all the Kiwanis members who attended the ACE Workshop.

Ready! Set! Go! Kiwanis members: Share your newly learned skills and take it back to your Kiwanis Clubs!

Circle K Administrator Candidates Sought

10/29/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard

Our current District Circle K Administrator, Ann Backes Dodge, has indicated that she will be stepping down from her volunteer position in March 2011. Ann has done a fabulous job and we will greatly miss her leadership.

The district is currently seeking applications from individuals interested in the District Circle K Administrator position.

For further information about this position contact:

Governor Lowell Disrud lowell_disrud@yahoo.com
701-293-1505

or

Governor Elect Denis Cornell denisc@centurytel.net
507-346-2044



Register Now for Geneva

10/29/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard

Registration is now open for the 96th Annual Kiwanis International Convention in Geneva, Switzerland.

The convention offers an amazing lineup of workshops, entertainment and events—along with the opportunity to explore Geneva and other European destinations before, during and after convention.

Convention registration includes full access to the Exhibit Hall, Kiwanis Family Store, regular and feature forums and general sessions. Meals are not included.

To learn more, visit the convention website. [Click Here](#)



Past District Governor Vern Hektner Dies

10/27/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard

October also marked the passing of another great friend and district Kiwanis leader. Vern Hektner passed away on October 3, 2010. Vern was Governor of the Minnesota-Dakotas District in 1971-1972.

For a more complete obituary- [Click here](#)



Passing of Pat Rittgarn

10/29/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas

As many of you know we lost a great friend and Kiwanian recently. Pat Rittgarn passed away on October 17, 2010. Among many other Kiwanis activities, Pat currently served as Minnesota-Dakotas District Convention Co-Director along with husband Larry.

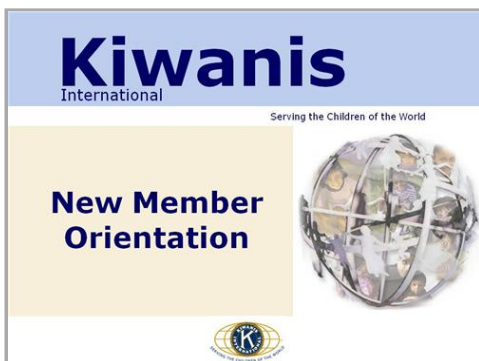
She will be greatly missed.

[Click here for obituary](#)



New Member Orientation PowerPoint

10/29/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard



The Kiwanis International website contains many useful tools and resources for clubs. One of the most popular is the New Member Orientation PowerPoint slide show.

Your new member orientation facilitator can download and save this presentation electronically, make changes to the slides to fill-in-the-blanks or tailor the slides to meet your club's needs and save it again electronically. If additional slides need to be added, you can do that also.

To download the presentation: [Click Here](#)

Club News

Watertown Kiwanis Bowlers Support Junior Achievement

10/30/2010 - Club: Watertown - Submitted by: Tim Oviatt

The Watertown, SD Kiwanis Club annually participates in Junior Achievement's Bowl-a-thon. A total of 24 teams from service clubs and businesses each raised a minimum of \$325 per team to qualify for participation in the event, which was held on October 22 & 23.

Kiwanis, Optimists and Lions annually challenge each other for the best combined score, with the winner awarded a traveling trophy bowling pin. Kiwanis came in a close second to the Lions this year after holding the trophy for the past 12 months.



Pictured left to right in the Kiwanis Club's bowling team are: Paul Johnson and his son Izaac, Doug Alvine, Dr. Todd Decker, Jeff Anderson and Jeff Dunn.

Wahpeton/Breckenridge Kiwanis Club celebrated its 60th Anniversary

10/28/2010 - Club: Wahpeton-Breckenridge - Submitted by: David Roehl



The Wahpeton/Breckenridge Kiwanis Club celebrated its 60th Anniversary on Wednesday at Prante's Fine Dining in Wahpeton. The club was chartered on Oct. 17, 1950. Kiwanis is an international organization with more than 200,000 members. Minnesota/Dakota District Gov. Lowell Disrud was in attendance and spoke at the celebration. Region 2 Lt. Gov. David Roehl was also present. Roehl is also a member of the Wahpeton/Breckenridge Kiwanis club.

The No. 1 focus of Kiwanis is youth and children's projects. Locally, the most popular service project for Kiwanis is the 'Terrific Kids' program, which honors fifth grade students from Wahpeton and Breckenridge. The students are selected by their teachers for being 'Terrific Kids' in the classroom.

Some other service projects include youth basketball tournaments and the annual spring Kiwanis High School track meet. The club meets at noon every Wednesday at Prante's in Wahpeton.

Pictured are, from left, Roehl, Disrud and Wahpeton-Breckenridge Kiwanis President Lance Darwin.

Watertown, SD Club Celebrates 90th Year

10/28/2010 - Club: Watertown - Submitted by: Tim Oviatt, PR Chair, Watertown Club

Celebrating 90 years of service, the Kiwanis Club of Watertown, SD hosted a banquet on October 4, 2010 in special recognition of the nine decades of service to the community.

After dinner highlights included a silent auction, which raised nearly \$1,000 to support club projects, and a special recognition of the oldest, youngest and longest serving members as well as the club's top membership recruiter. Members and their spouses enjoyed a photo presentation that featured many of the projects the club has participated in or supported to make Watertown a better place to live.



Club President Kami Canfield read congratulatory letters from Sylvester Neal, Kiwanis International President, Bruce Klair, MN /DAK Governor 2009-10 and Bill Lardy, MN/DAK Governor 2008-09.

Members from the Kiwanis Club in nearby Clear Lake, SD also attended the evening's festivities and offered their congratulations.

Caption for the photo is as follows: New officers for the Watertown Club are Dr. Michael Johnson, President-elect; Jeff Dunn, Vice President; Mike Snyder, Treasurer; and Kami Canfield, President. Not pictured is Rita Wiese, Secretary.

Kiwanis Club of Lead, SD, to celebrate 85th Anniversary

10/27/2010 - Club: Lead - Submitted by: Bob Phillips

The Kiwanis Club of Lead, SD, will be celebrating their 85th Anniversary with a special occasion on Monday, November 15, 2010 at the Golden Hills Resort in Lead. One of the activities planned for the evening includes invitations to thirty-six past presidents representing forty-two years of leadership for the Lead club. Ed Ross, who just turned 101 on October 23, 2010, served as President in 1948 and 1949. He still lives in Lead and although he will not be able to attend the celebration, will send a remembrance of his time in the Club.

The Kiwanis Club of Lead received its charter on November 28, 1925, just ten years after Kiwanis International was organized in Detroit, Michigan. Organizational meetings were held in the Black Hills Café with members of the Kiwanis Club of the Black Hills from Hot Springs in attendance and acting as advisors and sponsors. Both clubs at that time were members of the Rocky Mountain District with headquarters in Denver.

One of the first projects undertaken was the building of a hotel. The Kiwanis Club spearheaded the campaign and with the help of other local organizations, it became a

reality and opened the following year. After the opening of the Highland Hotel, the club began to have their meetings there, partly because so many of the members were stockholders.

The cost of things during the early years was certainly a bargain compared to today's prices. A 1927 newsletter item urged members to bring a White Elephant Christmas Gift but reminded them that if they were buying a gift, there was a 15 cent limit. A 1928 newsletter reminded members of a July 11th meeting at the Girl Scout Camp where there would be a meal charge of 50 cents. Also in 1928 it was announced that meals for the weekly meetings at the Highland Hotel would be raised to 75 cents.

The Lead Kiwanis Club continues to be a vital part of the local community, serving the children and others, and looking forward to another 85 years of service.

PIE IN YOUR EYE

10/04/2010 - Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Will Earley

The Fridley Key Club sponsored a "Pie in your Eye" event at the Homecoming football game on October 1st. It held the pie throwing contest outside the football field entrance from 5 to 7 pm. The money raised went to local food shelves.



Three teachers, Tim Liestikow, Mr. T. (Dan Terabayza), and Jim Miller, plus High School Principal Renee VanGorp volunteered to be pied. To protect the participants from being totally messed up with thrown pies, Chair Caitlin Myhre used a plywood sheet with a hole at head height. Each participant stood behind the target for a half-hour shift. The staff members provided entertainment to the students and adults who watched them get pied. Mr. T. received one pie with a head-on hit. His face became a total mess. Since the pies were made of chocolate pudding and whipped cream they were quite good. He later commented that he had trouble getting the chocolate pudding out of his ear! The stand protected most of his body, but the pudding and whipped cream still managed to splatter through!

Mr. Miller's young son cried when a paying customer hit his father with a pie. He did not understand why someone would do this to his Dad. When told he could throw a pie for free, he declined and ran to his mother. On the other hand, Mr. T's two young children took two shots each at their father and did lots of giggling and dancing around while doing so.

The fun and enthusiasm of the pie throwers, pie recipients and the crowd made this event successful. Many hung around joking and witnessing the mess. The good news is that the Fridley Key Club raised \$62 for the local food shelves!

Will Earley, Project Co-Chair and Vice President
Fridley High School Key Club