

# MINNEKOTAN

Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

No.26

November 2011

## Is your club working toward being a Distinguished Club?

*11/01/2011 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Denis Cornell, Governor*

Does your club strive to be a distinguished club? Do you strive to be a distinguished member? If you answered yes to either of these questions, you should check out the distinguished criteria for the 2011-2012 Kiwanis year.

Historically, there have been points assigned to various activities of the District, Divisions (Regions), Clubs and Kiwanis Members. The approach to the Distinguished Criteria for the 2011-2012 Kiwanis year is to focus on service and leadership development, which will lead to growth in existing clubs and growth of new clubs.

***There are no points assigned to the distinguished criteria this year.*** The program is based upon a set of criteria that all clubs should have in their goals for the year. There are many great Kiwanis clubs, regions and districts who do outstanding service and provide great leadership, but are passed over as distinguished because they did not acquire the necessary points under one or two criteria, which may have been out of their control. Additional excellence items have been added to each emphasis area that a club or region may substitute to demonstrate excellence in that area.



The Lt. Governor will evaluate his or her assigned clubs based upon the distinguished criteria and make recommendations for Distinguished Club recognition to the District Governor, who in turn will forward recommendations to the Kiwanis International President.

Club presidents will verify those Kiwanians qualifying for distinguished member recognition. Those members achieving this recognition will receive a lapel pin and recognition on the Kiwanis International website.

A key element of the Distinguished Criteria is the recognition program. The goal is to have greater buy in by clubs and leaders through greater recognition. If a club achieves distinguished status, all club officers and members will receive a distinguished pin and

the club will receive a banner patch. If a Division (Region) achieves distinguished status, all regional officers will receive a distinguished pin and each club in the region will receive a banner patch. If a District achieves distinguished status, all district officers, including Lt. Governors, will receive a distinguished pin and each club in the district will receive a banner patch.

To help Lt. Governors and Club Presidents track progress toward achieving distinguished status, the Distinguished Criteria and a Club Level Evaluation form, are embedded in this article. Click on the following links to access these documents.

**2011-2012 Distinguished Club Criteria** - [Click Here](#)

**2011-2012 Distinguish Club Evaluation Form** - [Click Here](#)

I firmly believe that if our club Presidents are focused on achieving distinguished status and tracking progress toward that goal, your club will be well on the way toward becoming a Distinguished Club.

And remember, "Let them know us by our service".

## November Update

11/01/2011 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas



**Monthly Club Reporting:** Special thanks to the 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 [Click here](#)

**Does our 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 2010-2011 monthly reports until November 30, 2011 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 2010-11 Annual Club Report which will be available November 1. This form allows clubs to report service and administrative activities online (electronically) for the 2010-2011 year. Clubs are asked to complete the report on or before November 30, 2011. 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](#)

If you have any questions about filing the Annual Club Report you can contact Kiwanis International by emailing [memberservices@kiwanis.org](mailto:memberservices@kiwanis.org) or calling 1-800-KIWANIS, ext 411.

**Distinguished Member and Distinguished Club Criteria for 2011-2012:** Be sure to read the November article by Governor Denis Cornell. There are significant changes in the criteria for this year. For more information [Click here](#)

**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!

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To view current and past MINNEKOTAN newsletters go to [www.mndak-kiwanis.org](http://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](mailto:secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org)

## **New Kiwanis Club in Marshall, MN Area**

*10/27/2011 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Judie Rosendahl, Lt. Governor, Region 6*

Congratulations to the new Marshall Area Kiwanis Club located in Marshall, Minnesota! Their Charter Night was held on Wednesday, October 26, 2011 with many of their new members present as well as officers from the Minnesota-Dakotas District and Region 6. The clubs of Hendricks and Tracy are the sponsoring clubs and representatives from the Hendricks club were also present. The club was chartered with 32 members.



President Ben Martig welcomed everyone and gave a short history of the club's beginnings. The Marshall club meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at the Golf Course in Marshall. The first meeting of the month is held at 7:00 a. m. and the second meeting begins at noon so if you are interclubbing there you will want to keep that in mind. The club is composed of many young members and last night they exhibited a great deal of enthusiasm for this new endeavor. A great time was enjoyed by all who attended! Congratulations and best wishes as you strive to change the world one child and one community at a time!

## Coordination, Time, and Effort Needed

10/28/2011 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bill Daugherty



Kiwanis and UNICEF have joined forces to Eliminate Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus from the world. Kiwanis has pledged to donate \$110 million dollars toward this effort. Here in the Minnesota/Dakotas district that will involve over 200 Kiwanians in a four year campaign to help Eliminate Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus.

Clubs are asked to develop leaders for the project at the club level to work with the District team in completing our task. NOW, we need to secure 20 divisional coordinators to work with the clubs (6-8) within their areas and with the District Coordinator. The time needed to be successful in this will vary from member to member but it is estimated that 10 - 30% of your Kiwanis time will be needed. If you can join in this effort please contact me so that plans can be made for training of the divisional coordinators before January 31st.

Key responsibilities of the divisional coordinators are: Contact with assigned clubs on a regular basis via personal visits, telephone, or email; Work with campaign leadership in identifying club leaders and is assisting club in fundraising ideas; Manage the flow of information to the clubs and strive for success in the Eliminate Projects goal of eliminating Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus.

Let me know of your interest and support at [Billdaugherty@yahoo.com](mailto:Billdaugherty@yahoo.com)

## Stew Ross For V. P. Kiwanis International

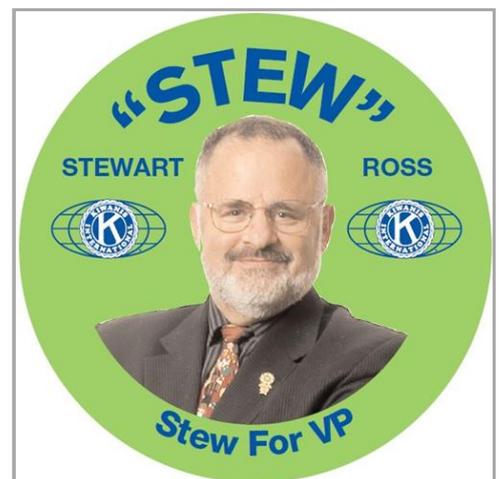
01/31/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Jack Zierdt

**STEW ROSS FOR V.P. OF KIWANIS  
INTERNATIONAL**

**NEW ORLEANS JUNE 30, 2012**

**Link to Stewart for VP Website**  
<http://stewforkiwanisvp.artisteer.net/>

As many of you know, our own Stewart Ross will be running for Vice-President of Kiwanis International this summer at the Kiwanis International Convention in New Orleans. If elected, Stew would serve as President of Kiwanis International in the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year, 2014-2015! This is very exciting for the Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis and for the entire organization.



You all know the dedication and skill Stew brought to our district, serving as Governor in 2005-2006 and as membership/new club building Director for a couple of years after that. At the international level Stew has been a trustee for over two years now and is currently the chair of the International Education Committee and serves on both the Audit and Finance and the Executive Committee.

Stew brings special skills to Kiwanis due to his 36 year career in higher education and consulting throughout the U.S., aiding faculty in the pursuit of better teaching. He is passionate about Kiwanis and wants to share his talents to move our organization forward.

If you would like to help our campaign we ask two things of you. The first is to plan to attend the New Orleans Convention from June 28-July 1 as a voting delegate from your Kiwanis Club and help us with the campaign during the convention. The second is to consider a monetary contribution to the campaign (you can do this even if you can't attend the convention!). A winning campaign calls for brochures, buttons, pins, handout materials, T-shirts, mailings (both electronic and print) and many other items. Stew plans to attend some conventions around the world at his own expense to better learn of the needs of Kiwanis. Since our district does not allow appeals for donations to Kiwanis Clubs we ask you to consider an individual donation.

Please make out checks to: Kiwanis Club of Mankato (In Memo Line put Stew Campaign). Please send your check to Jolinda Grabianowski, Kiwanis Club of Mankato, PO Box 733, Mankato, MN 56001.

Your support will help Stew become the President of Kiwanis International where we can be justly proud as a district and know that Kiwanis is in good hands. Thank you in advance.

In Kiwanis Spirit,

Jack Zierdt, Campaign Manager

Stew for Kiwanis V.P.

## **Make Plans to Attend the Convention in New Orleans**

*10/24/2011 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Mary Dierbeck*



The "Big Easy" waits for you next summer! If you've been there you want to return. The city has rebuilt and is waiting to show you a great time. Dates for the New Orleans Convention are June 28th to July 1st.

As MN/Dak appointed Ambassadors for the Convention, John and I encourage you to make plans to attend. Why is this one special? Well this one is special because you can help STEWART ROSS win his race for International Vice President. This position would take him to the top job as President in year 2015. That is the 100th anniversary of Kiwanis and sure to be a special year. As you know Stewart will make a great leader proven by his term as Governor of MN/Dak. But we need to get the vote out to help him.

Our election team lead by Jack Zierdt is working hard on plans, t-shirts, flashing trombones and other musical surprises. Crz Mry adding to the fun! So save this date and watch this column for more information after the first of the year.

## K-Family Retreat

10/31/2011 - Region: Division 07 - Submitted by: Diane Johnson

Sign up Today!!

You're invited to the K-Family retreat! The retreat is November 18th-20th everyone from Minnesota, South Dakota and North Dakota is invited to come and join all of the Kiwanis Family. The weekend is filled with service projects, entertainment and fun! The K-Family retreat this year will host a 5K run/walk to benefit the ELIMINATE project on Saturday. Join Key Clubbers, Circle-K, K-Kids, Builder's Club, Kiwanis and Aktion club members in a weekend of fun in service!

More information:

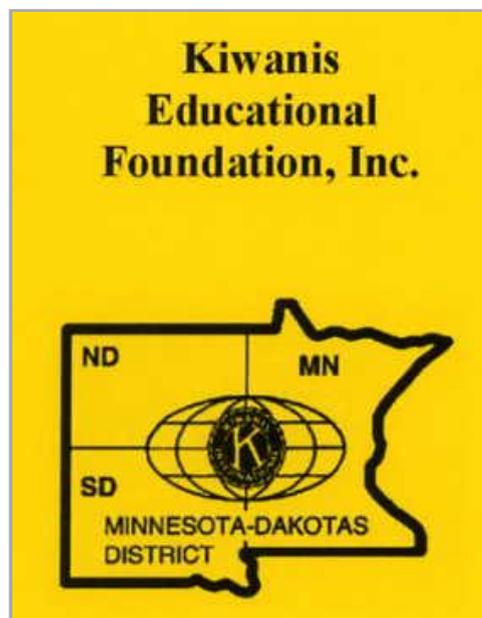
<http://www.kiwanisrochester.org/>

Any questions call  
Diane Johnson  
At (507)287-0271



## Future leaders start here!

10/25/2011 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn



The most exciting time for a high school senior is when they take that next step into college. The future of a senior student can lay in the hands of a Kiwanis member or a Kiwanis Club in our district.

Yes, you as a Kiwanis member, can be a major part in the life and future of many of our young people. You can do this by making sure you and your club are participating in the Mn-Dak Kiwanis Education Foundation.

Your donation to this foundation can and will help to develop the leaders of tomorrow, so now is the time to write that check and mail it to Jack Zierdt. The sooner you write the check the sooner that money can begin to earn interest and that is what the foundation uses for the scholarships that are given each year.

Be a leader in your club, and help to make leaders of the future.

## Now is the time

10/25/2011 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: E. Chuck Schroder

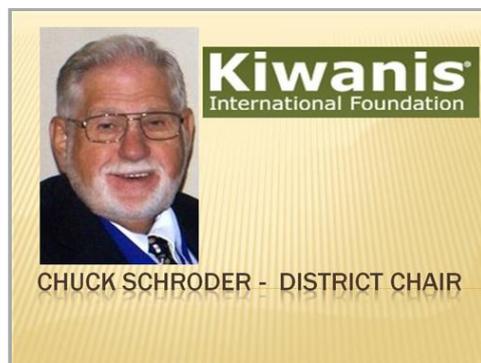
What a year we had last year. We ended the year at \$4.21 per member and this is the highest we have ever been. This couldn't happen without you KIWANIANS in this great district. So again a real big **THANK YOU** for support.

But we can't live in the past. This is a new year and we have to start now by making sure that your clubs have the \$5.00 per member line item in their budget. We have to keep the ball moving forward if we want to be able to support our youth and give grants

to those great projects your clubs do. So please show your K again this year and give to the Kiwanis International Foundation and help the children of the world.

Thank you.

Chuck Schroder,  
District KIF Chairman



## Membership Means More

10/26/2011 - Division: Division 05 - Submitted by: Carol Grode-Hanks, Lt. Gov. Elect, Region 5



Fellow Kiwanis Members-

I am excited to begin my tenure as Lt. Governor Elect for Division 5 and would like to thank each of the clubs I have visited for your wonderful hospitality. No matter where you go, Kiwanis is full of life- energy, excitement, dedicated people who are making a difference in our world.

The year 2010-11 had some struggling numbers in the membership department. While 8 clubs in Division 5 saw an increase in membership- 19 total - we had 7 clubs who remained unchanged, and 10 clubs with a decrease in membership. We have 19 new members in our district who are eager to know what Kiwanis is all about... be sure you are mentoring them whether you were their sponsor or not. We lost 46 members in our division this year, and while I know some moved and others passed on to our Heavenly Father, we did have some who left simply because Kiwanis was not meeting their needs or expectations.

When we have more people, we can do more. The old cliché, many hands make light work is so true. Think of the projects you could do if you just had a few more Kiwanis members to help out. Think about how much you receive when you give. Why did you say Yes to Kiwanis? What do you get out of your membership?

We have 12 months this year to make a positive statement in membership for our District. Rather than wait until May for a membership drive, why not start now? Is it a

realistic goal to set ONE member EVERY month this year? If we achieved that goal, our division would gain 300 members. Think of that.... 300!! Oh, the lives we could touch with an additional 300 members!!

Practice your elevator speech. Write your list of potential asks- don't forget close friends and family members. Share your love of Kiwanis and why you said YES to changing the world, one child, one community at a time. Believe me, there are more people out there wanting to make a difference- they just have to be asked.

I welcome Megan Mentzel to the Mitchell Kiwanis club as my October member. I have another prospect for November. I challenge you to set 12 as your club goal for new members and then work together to make it happen.

## Club News

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### Fridley Key Clubbers Collect Food for SACA

*10/28/2011 - Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Christine Hitomi*

Fridley High School Key Clubbers partnered with Women of Today on Saturday, October 15 to deliver grocery bags to homes throughout the city of Fridley. The following Saturday ten members collected filled grocery bags from these homes. It was a rewarding project as Key Clubbers and Women of Today members noted the many grocery filled bags and saw the outpouring of food gifts. They were taken to the Southern Anoka County Assistance (SACA) location in Columbia Heights. The event broke a record with over 1,400 pounds of food collected. The goal for next year is to collect even more.



Christine Hitomi, Publicist/Webmaster  
Fridley Key Club

### Knudsen Honored in Lake City

*10/26/2011 - Club: Lake City - Submitted by: Bob Norberg*

Al Knudsen, who joined the Lake City Kiwanis Club in 1966, a year after it was chartered, was honored on Oct. 18 with the club's first Lifetime Achievement Award. Unable to attend the annual Charter Night because of illness, Knudsen was presented with a plaque on Thursday, Oct. 20, by a Kiwanis delegation including Jennifer White and Greg Gohl, president and past president of the club, and members Dean Flugstad, Paula Sullivan and Bob Norberg.

The inscription reads: "The Kiwanis Club of Lake City acknowledges with deep appreciation the 45 years of service and devotion to club ideals of Al Knudsen and



bestows upon him its highest honor."

At the club's Oct. 18 Charter Night, Flugstad asked for a show of hands from members who had been recruited by Knudsen. When they popped up all over the room, Flugstad said it was unlikely that any other member had brought so many new people into the organization over the years. Knudsen is also known for mentoring new members, introducing them to volunteer responsibilities and making sure they feel needed and appreciated.

"Whether it has been heavy lifting, such as getting the Kiwanis food tent in place for Motocross, or reading to elementary school students, Al has been a ready volunteer and organizer," noted President Jennifer White. "He has been key to our activities involving kids and the outdoors," she said, such as the annual spring programs to build birdhouses and tap trees for syrup.

Knudsen, a graduate of Iowa State University's School of Veterinary Medicine, served the Lake City area as a veterinarian from 1956 until his retirement in 1998. He once commented to fellow Kiwanian Bob Norberg that he had an early passion for painting, but did not pursue studies toward a career as an artist because of the economic uncertainty. After retirement, he has organized classes for himself and others in the community, bringing in professional instructors.

## **Minot Golden K Back Home**

*10/25/2011 - Club: Minot, Golden K - Submitted by: Richard Sabol/Secretary*

After 4 1/2 months of being displaced from their meeting location, due to the flood, the Minot Golden K members returned back to their location at the Holiday Inn Riverside. Everybody at the Holiday Inn was glad to see the club return. Water levels ranged from 3 to 6 feet within the building.

A big thanks to the Grand International Inn for allowing us to have our meetings in your building. It was great to see friends return, who we have not seen since we had to move. Thanks to the HI for moving all of our meeting paraphernalia to dry floors.

## **Fargo South Point Kiwanis**

*10/24/2011 - Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn*

The Officers of the Fargo South Point Kiwanis Club attended the group installation of the Fargo Moorhead Kiwanis Clubs on Thursday September 29, 2011.

The banquet was hosted by the Moorhead Noon Kiwanis Club.

Officers from the Fargo South Point club who were installed were: left to right in the photo are - Larry Rittgarn-Secretary, Mary Ann Berg, and Marlene Saar - Co-Presidents, Samantha Larson-Frobig-Vice President, Joe Thomas Imd. Past President, and Joel Hektner - Treasurer.



## S'more Project

*10/12/2011 - Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Fridley Key Club*

Friday's 82 degree weather brought back a summertime treat for Fridley football fans. With the help of Key Club President, Will Earley's parents, Shirley and Patrick Earley, Key Clubbers roasted marshmallows and assembled s'mores to sell at the homecoming game. The large, rambunctious crowd paid just a dollar for the tasty treat and declared them delicious. Thanks to everyone who purchased a s'more. The money raised will be used for member scholarships.



## New Watertown Kiwanis Officers

*10/04/2011 - Club: Watertown - Submitted by: Tim Oviatt*



The Watertown, SD Kiwanis Club inducted its new slate of officers at its October 3rd meeting. Becky Krause was inducted as club president for the coming year, succeeding Kami Canfield, who will serve as past president. Jeff Dunn will serve as president-elect, Brad VanMeter is the new vice president for administration, Rita Wiese will continue as club secretary and Karyl Somers is the new treasurer.

Pictured left to right are Watertown Kiwanis Club officers for 2011-2012: Becky Krause, Karyl Somers, Rita Wiese and Kami Canfield.