

# MINNEKOTAN

Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

No.50

November 2013

## Message from the Governor

*11/01/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Judie Rosendahl, District Governor*

The Region 1 Educational Conference held in Bottineau, North Dakota was a success! \$260 was raised for the Eliminate project through the silent auction. I am looking forward to the Region 7 Conference on November 9 in Red Wing and the Region 6 Conference on November 16 in Mankato.

We just received information from Kiwanis International that our membership numbers are down in MNDK by 339 for the year which is a 7% loss. We had hoped to see an improvement in our numbers but that was not the case. I am encouraging all of us to do more to ask our friends and neighbors to join Kiwanis. Your Governor team, the Lt. Governors, as well as the Growth team are working with Kiwanis International on the new growth plan which we hope will turn this around. We are looking for volunteers in each region to be new club builders and club counselors. If you would be willing to learn more about these positions, please contact your Lt. Governors.



I want to say a special thank you to the twenty five clubs who ended the year with at least a plus 1 in membership. You are on the right path and I want to encourage you to continue doing what you are doing to grow Kiwanis.

One of my goals for this year is for 70% of the clubs to finish with a plus 1 in membership. To accomplish that, new members must be added in every club. We desire to add new members so that others can enjoy all the things that we presently enjoy about our Kiwanis experience. What can you do to share your love for Kiwanis with your friends and neighbors? Perhaps this would be a good time to think about what we love about our clubs. I am sure that everyone loves different things but for me, I love all that we do for the children such as helping with 4H Clubs, giving scholarships, distributing food to those in need, and raising \$10,000 each year to help the needy children and their families in the county with Christmas gifts. I love the fun and fellowship with other Kiwanians both at the meetings and while doing the service projects. What do you love about Kiwanis?

I am looking forward to this year as we grow in numbers and in our commitment to

change the world one child and one community at a time.

## November Update

10/31/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec-Treas



### **Directory of Club Officer and Club Meeting**

**Locations:** A few days ago I emailed all club presidents and secretaries a directory of all clubs in the district. If you would like a copy, please send me an email and I will email it to you. The club directory is not posted on the district website, but is available upon request.

### **Minnesota-Dakotas District Leadership Directory-2013-2014:**

Just a reminder that you can find a Minnesota-Dakotas District Leadership Directory on our District website. [click here](#)

**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.

**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 2012-2013 monthly reports until November 30, 2013 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 2012-13 Annual Club Report which will be available November 1. This form allows clubs to report service and administrative activities online (electronically) for the 2012-2013 year. Clubs are asked to complete the report on or before November 30, 2013. 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. 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.

In the event that a club secretary is unable to access the Internet, please locate another Kiwanis member in the club who can assist. Kiwanis no longer provides a paper version of the Annual Club Report.

**Distinguished Member and Distinguished Club Criteria for 2013-2014:** Be sure to check out the 20113-2014 Distinguish Club Criteria. There are significant changes in the criteria for this year. [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!

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

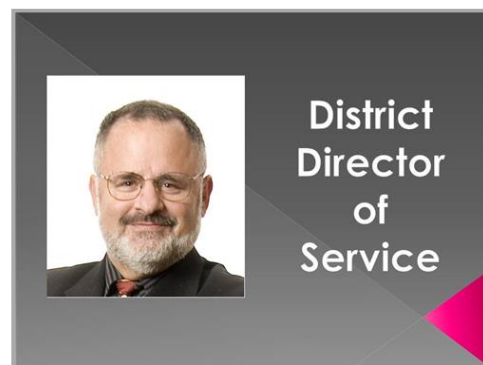
Phone: 218-589-7581

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

## **District Kiwanis Speakers Bureau**

*10/31/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Stewart Ross*

Let me be the first to congratulate your club on the great things done during the 2012-2013 Kiwanis year. Now we move on to even greater things for 2013-2014! As part of the excitement of starting a new Kiwanis year let me announce to your club a wonderful opportunity. The MN-DAK district has been working for over a year now to prepare a special, free service to all clubs in the district. Beginning today we have about 25 Kiwanians in the district who are prepared to be presenters to clubs at club meetings. We know that for many clubs, Kiwanis information is lacking at both the international and district level. As new members join clubs they do not know much about the organization in most cases and a quick, one-time orientation day is not enough.



The speaker's bureau is offered to all clubs in the district. The list of topics available can be found at the end of this email. If you are looking for other Kiwanis topics let us know and we can probably provide something on that topic. Each presenter has expertise in the areas they select and will travel to your club as a guest presenter. They have prepared 20 minute presentations as most speakers are given that amount of time. We can't tell you who the speaker might be until after you request a speaker. At that time we will contact someone close to your club meeting and you and the speaker will work on scheduling. Speakers will be reimbursed for travel by the district as our officers and directors who visit clubs. We expect clubs to comp speakers for meals if your club has a meal as part of the meeting.

If you are interested in bringing in a Kiwanis speaker simply contact me at either my email address: [stewart.ross@mnsu.edu](mailto:stewart.ross@mnsu.edu)

Or by phone: 507-304-1624. I will then contact a speaker in your area who can present on the topic selected by your club. Don't feel you can only request a Kiwanis speaker once a year. Feel free to request as desired up to once a quarter.

Here are the topics (feel free to suggest other topics):

1. Kiwanis Foundations and why should we donate? (International and District level)
2. What is the Eliminate Project and why should we be supporting this endeavor?
3. What does SLP stand for and why should we start sponsoring one or more?
4. What ways can our club improve our support for our existing SLP(s)?
5. What is Key Leader and how can our club get involved?
6. How can our club go about finding new service projects in town?
7. The importance of a club analysis and how to do one well
8. What kinds of service projects do other clubs in the district do? What is a signature project and how can our club attempt this?
9. Membership recruitment and retention ideas
10. The history of Kiwanis International and our District (interactive presentation)
11. Other topics?

If you are interested in having someone from the speaker's bureau present to your club simply contact me at least one month in advance of the date with the topic you are looking for. The district has made a large investment in this program in both time and money. We often hear from clubs that the district does not do anything for them. Here is a great opportunity to show your club that the district is interested in our clubs AND is willing to aid clubs in finding quality presentations for meetings.

We hope your club will contact us soon. The success of this new program starts with clubs requesting speakers!!

Sincerely,

Stewart Ross, MN-DAK Director of Service

## Kiwanis Declares a Campaign for Growth

*11/01/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bruce Klair, District Growth Chair*



Kiwanis International has declared a Campaign for Growth, to insure that Kiwanis clubs have a measurable and lasting impact in their communities for many years to come. Whatever you like about your club, membership makes it happen. International President Gunter Gasser has established the following membership goals for each club for 2013-14:

1. Every club should be at or above charter strength (15 members). Accomplishing this could mean recruiting new members, focusing on retention of current members or forming a club satellite.
2. Every club with at least 15 members should strive to have a minimum net growth of one new member for the year.
3. Every region should identify at least one new club site and start opening at least one new club this year.

We all know the ways we can strengthen our membership, but now is the time for us to put all our efforts behind this campaign. Every club should have a membership committee that meets regularly and plans a strategy for bringing in members. Plan a membership drive. Ask your friends, neighbors, family members or business associates to join you in serving the community through Kiwanis. Most people are flattered to be

asked. Promote your club activities through the local media. Always include a name and phone number in the article where people can get more information about your club. Reconnect with former members. Those who left at one time because their work schedules or family schedules changed may be happy to rejoin. And don't forget to connect with former members of Key Club and Circle K International, or even with their parents.

As I said earlier, Kiwanis has declared a Campaign for Growth and is giving us the tools to succeed. I have been asked to serve as the MNDK District Chair for this campaign. It will take everyone's help. Kiwanis is too great an organization to fade away. We must adapt and change with the times if we wish to serve our communities as we have done in the past.

Bruce Klair

MNDK Kiwanis

District Growth Chair

28269 180th Avenue Way

Red Wing, MN 55066

Ph. (651) 388-4903

Cell: (651) 380-0644

[pbklair@bevcomm.net](mailto:pbklair@bevcomm.net)

## Planning for Japan

*10/30/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Courtney Taylor*

Great job getting your clubs (and spouses) to budget for your 2014 trip to Japan! The next thing you need to do is check your passport. The expiration date must fall *after* your return flight to the United States. These days, a renewed passport costs about \$110 while a new passport costs around \$135. Both take 4-6 weeks to process unless you would like to supply an extra \$60 to expedite the timeline.

Preliminary research suggests that visas are not needed for a short trip to Japan - but don't take my word for it! Look around online or call your favorite international travel agent to be sure you won't need a visa, a green card, or any other supplementary document for entrance into Asia. What a shame it would be to spend ten hours flying to the Narita Airport, only to spend a few hours in the immigration office before catching the nine hour flight right back to the United States.

Don't worry about any unusual vaccinations, but be sure to stock up on vitamins before your crowded flights around the globe. The flight over the Pacific Ocean will provide meals for you, but pack a few snacks for the hours in between meals and for the days you are in the Asia-Pacific District. Food is easy to find and fairly affordable in Tokyo, but you may be glad to have a favorite package of crackers during the House of Delegates.

Last but not least: this is a good time to start brushing up on your Japanese culture. If you study nothing, you will be fine. However, if you would like to speak the local language, don't wait any longer to begin studying! Many resources are available for learning to read or at least speak Japanese. And next time you dine at a Chinese buffet, opt for the chopsticks - even down to the last grain of rice...



## Region 6 Conference, Nov. 16, Mankato

10/30/2013 - Division: Division 06 - Submitted by: Darryl Meyer



The conference will be held at the City Center Hotel, 101 E Main St., Mankato.

It is a great opportunity for club officers and committee chairs to get ideas and information to use during the upcoming year. It's worthwhile for all club members to visit and compare notes with members of other clubs.

Clubs are asked to provide 1 item for the silent auction with proceeds going to the Eliminate Project.

To view copy of the conference agenda and registration form [CLICK HERE](#).

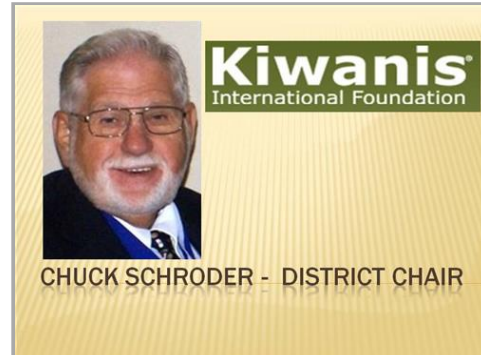
Please send the registration form by Nov. 7 so that food & other arrangements can be finalized.

Questions - contact  
Darryl Meyer  
'13-14 Region 6 Lt. Gov.  
Albert Lea, MN  
rdm40@gofast.am  
507-369-4117

## **THIS IS A NEW BEGINNING**

10/29/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: E. Chuck Schroder

We are one month into the new year of the Kiwanis year. I have been on a conference call with all the Lt. Governors and Lt. Governors-elect explaining the new program for the International Foundation. It is my goal this year to tell all of you about the new programs and how we in the Minnesota/Dakota's district can be on top. Each month it is my plan to tell one or two things about the changes and if any of you have questions you can contact me and I will get the answers to you.



This last year the final figures for our district was \$3.75 pr member. That is a long way from the \$5.00 we were trying to reach. The reason for the short fall is that many of the clubs did not contribute as they have in the past. If half of the clubs that gave in the past and that didn't give this past year, we would have been where we wanted to be. Thanks to all the clubs that did give and that helped us get 3 Key Club and 3 Circle K scholarships.

Until next time, please take a look at your clubs budget and see to it that there is a line item for the International Foundation.

**TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN**

## **Your money at work!**

10/04/2013 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

It is so exciting to be thinking of increasing the number of scholarships and even a

**Kiwanis  
Educational  
Foundation, Inc.**



possibility of increasing the amount of each scholarship.

That is what your Foundation board decided at their board meeting in Aberdeen this past August.

Now in order for all of this to become a reality, we need several things to happen, and of course number one is the flow of dollars coming in to the Foundation has to continue.

This income flow has several feeder systems, but the number one flow comes from all of the faithful donors in our district that continue to support this very important part of the future of our youth.

When your dollars arrive and become a part of the Foundation they do not leave, since the Foundation is there to create growth, so your dollars add to the total, and create more dollars each year and as long as we can continue to have good earnings those dollars will never quit growing....."The gift that keeps on Giving" is so real when you think about the use of these dollars are for the future of our country and its leaders, we can be very proud and happy to know that we will be able to perhaps add to the list of people receiving scholarships and to also increase the dollars to each of them.

Now is the time to send in that donation, so it can begin earning interest right away.

If you would like to discuss this program even more, be sure to contact any member of the district board or any Foundation board member.

## **Club News**

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### **SACA Food Project**

*10/29/2013 - Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Tiffany Tranby*

The Fridley High School Key Club and the Women of Today partnered in the distribution of empty grocery bags and the collection of filled food bags in areas of Fridley on two successful Saturdays, October 19 and 26. Although the weather was cold and rainy on the first Saturday, the distribution helpers did their jobs.

After collecting the donated items, Key Clubbers and Women of Today Members took them to the SACA site in Columbia Heights where they were sorted and weighed. The project collected 1,515 pounds of food, a record breaking amount!

The two organizations thank those who donated. It was heartwarming to see the many filled bags on doorsteps.

Tiffany Tranby, Publicist  
Fridley High School Key Club  
10/27/03



## Sturgis Golden K Annual Hobo Stew Fund Raiser

10/28/2013 - Club: Sturgis Golden K - Submitted by: Deb Looby



The Sturgis Golden K Kiwanis Annual Hobo Stew Fund Raiser was held on Sunday, October 27th at the Sturgis Community Center. We were excited to serve seven full roasters of stew along with garlic bread and desserts. Members of the Golden K Club, the Gold K Satellite and the Aktion Club all participated in preparation, serving and cleaning. All proceeds benefit local youth projects.

## "Argh! Shiver Me Timbers!"

10/26/2013 - Club: Rapid City - Submitted by: Tom Allen

Becky Fisher, Karen Pearson, Chris and Tom Allen from the Rapid City Kiwanis Club entertained the children from the Dear Ones Daycare on Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Dear Ones is a part of the Cornerstone Mission program for families using Cornerstone's services.

The Kiwanians had a number of games for the kids, including walking the plank, sword fights with inflatable swords, digging for treasure, and a bean bag toss for gold doubloons'. Every pirate got a new tattoo and after a lunch of goldfish, crackers & cheese, grapes and a juice box, the children enjoyed the highlight of the afternoon. Everybody got to take a couple of whacks at the pirate ship piñata full of candy. It wasn't until the last youngster took an extra whack that the





candy cascaded down on all the pirates!

A good time was had by the kids and Kiwanians alike. While this was the first party hosted for the Dear Ones, Rapid City Kiwanis had donated a four-place stroller to the daycare a couple of years ago. Definitely a worthwhile partnership for both groups!

## **St. Cloud Kiwanis Club Present Awards**

*10/10/2013 - Club: Saint Cloud - Submitted by: Beth Cummings*



Brad Ufer, outgoing president of the St. Cloud Kiwanis Club, presented several awards recently to club members for their outstanding service, commitment and longevity.

Jeff Voit was selected as the Kiwanian of the Year because of his leadership and commitment as chairperson of the club's annual golf outing fundraiser. The event raised \$12,000 that was donated to Kids Fighting Hunger of Central Minnesota and to the St.

Cloud Kiwanis Club for service projects. Under Voit's leadership, the fundraising event experienced a 27% increase in proceeds.

Janet Zitzow was selected for the Coursolle Service Award because of her consistent efforts and dedication to a number of club service projects including a bicycle safety project with the St. Cloud police department for children ages 4-12, a drive to collect infant diapers and formula for Catholic Charities, various school projects at Lincoln Elementary, and assisting with the success of the golf outing fundraiser. The award is named after Louis Coursolle, a deceased member of the club, who through many years of Kiwanis membership exemplified the Kiwanis mission of service to children and youth.

Ufer also presented certificates of appreciation to club members for their special contributions during the 2012-13 Kiwanis year. Those receiving certificates were Steve Fuller, Gary Ganje, Jim Jacobs, Sam Stone, Melinda Sanders, Cheryl Lumley, Art Grachek, and Brian Fierst.

Perfect Attendance Awards were presented to Janet Zitzow, Art Grachek, Ralph Searles, Brad Ufer, Gary Ganje, Jim Jacobs, and Brian Fierst.

Legion of Honor Awards, bestowed by Kiwanis International to members who have achieved 25 years or more of service as Kiwanians, were presented by Betz Teply, past Lt. Governor of Region 3, to Mabel Coborn (35 years of service), Dan Rethmeier (30 years), Bob Thueringer (30 years), Jim Jacobs (40 years), and Bill Reed (45 years).

The Downtown St. Cloud Kiwanis Club, strives to fulfill the Kiwanis vision of changing the world, one child and one community at a time. For more information about the St. Cloud Kiwanis, go to [www.stcloudkiwanis.org](http://www.stcloudkiwanis.org)

Caption: Pictured left to right: Jeff Voit, who was awarded Kiwanian of the Year; Brad Ufer, outgoing president of the St. Cloud Kiwanis Club and Janet Zitzow who was awarded the Louis Coursolle Service Award.

## **St. Cloud Kiwanis Club Officers Installed for 2013-14**

*10/08/2013 - Club: Saint Cloud - Submitted by: Art Grachek*

New officers were installed at the installation meeting of the St. Cloud Kiwanis Club on Monday, September 30th. Gary Torfin, Lt. Governor Elect of the MN/DAK District, Region 3 conducted the installation ceremony.

Pictured are the St. Cloud Kiwanis Officers for 2013-14, from the left: Rose Blesener, secretary; Ralph Searles, treasurer; Brad Ufer, past-president; Gary Ganje, President; Carol Lewis, vice-president; and Gary Torfin, Lt. Governor Elect of the MN/DAK District, Region 3. Also installed were the board of directors for the St. Cloud Kiwanis Club, Don Kussman, Brian Fierst, Pam Beard, Jan Zitzow, Mick Lind, and Cheryl Lumley.



## **Minot Golden Kiwanis Holds Annual Recognition Banquet**

*10/02/2013 - Club: Minot, Golden K - Submitted by: Richard Sabol*

The Minot Golden K Kiwanis held their annual recognition banquet on Monday, September 30 at the Holiday Inn Riverside. Guest speaker for the evening was Bill Lardy, Bismarck, past Minnesota-Dakota District Governor. Also speaking was Weyburn Niewoehner, Lieutenant Governor of District 1.

Numerous awards were presented to members during the evening. The Vantine Life Fellowship was presented to Elvin Kabanuk, for his service to the club as the chairman of the Volunteer Committee. The Vantine Award is sponsored by the Minnesota-Dakotas Educational Foundation, the award provides scholarships for students in the Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis.

Officers for the 2013-14 year were installed by former Governor Lardy. They are: President-Gary Ochsner; First Vice President-Allan Westphal; Second Vice President-Richar Leite; Secretary-Richard Sabol; Treasurer-Don Strube; Assistant Sec-Treas.-Donald Kasper; Past President-Weyburn Niewoehner. Board members for the upcoming year also installed are; Larry Crabbe, Robert Ellis, Michelle Hoaglund, Prace Ramsdell, Ruby Rau and Marlin Smestad.

The Golden K meets every Monday at 1:30PM at the Holiday Inn Riverside. All are welcome to attend.

## **Kiwanis Club of Lake City & NFL Punt, Pass, and Kick (PPK) Hosts a Successful Event**

*10/02/2013 - Club: Lake City - Submitted by: Andru Peters*

The 2013 version of the NFL/Kiwanis Punt, Pass, & Kick (PPK) competition hosted by the Lake City Kiwanis Club on Saturday, September 21, 2013, was a huge and successful event. With 102 registered competitors, this years' rendition was the second largest attendance in the 11 year history the Kiwanis Club has hosted the event. The success of the competition was due to the involvement of 9 Kiwanian members, along with volunteers from the Key Club, Aktion Club, Lake City football coaches & varsity football squad, friends and parents of the competitors.

Individual competitors can advance to the Sectional competition and an opportunity to advance to the Team Championship and National finals competition once the sites and date has been confirmed.

Sectional Competitions were conducted on Sunday, October 6, 2013 in Wabasso, MN at 1:00 PM. The local first place finishers from the each of the boys and girls age groups advanced to the sectional competition.

Team Championship competition will be conducted on a Sunday in early December 2013 at a Minnesota Vikings game to be determined. National Finals competition will at a playoff game, site to be determined, scheduled for January 2014.

Awards for age-group winners, at all stages of competition, will receive ribbons, medals, plaques, or trophies, depending on individual placement. The National Finals finalists will also receive a complementary trip for the competitor and two adults to a January NFL game.

Andru Peters  
Kiwanis Event Coordinator  
Lake City, MN 55041