Greetings from the desk of the Governor. It feels strange to write that. If someone would have told me when I first joined Kiwanis that I would be the District Governor a few short years later, I would never have believed them. My year is only just beginning and it has been an incredible ride so far. I have met so many dedicated Kiwanians from around the world and within our own District already!

Kiwanis is a great organization, composed of many Kiwanians doing great things for the children of the world. I want you each to think about that, we serve the children of the world! Is there a more noble cause? Sure, our local communities and clubs are important to us, as they should be. But, as Kiwanians, we are part of something bigger.

When I campaigned for this position, I talked about keeping those traditions that are valuable, but recognizing that we need to change. In keeping with that, this year is going to be the beginning of some changes that will carry this District into the future. I will be including some ideas for those changes in upcoming columns, so watch for them.

This year is also going to be one of getting back to the basics of Kiwanis as an organization by focusing on the Six Objects of Kiwanis. These Objects have stood the test of time and are still the very core of who we are as an organization and as individual Kiwanians. I will be discussing those objects in this column because I believe we all need to be reminded of what this organization stands for.

The Kiwanis Educational Foundation of the Minnesota- Dakotas District is one such endeavor where local clubs are urged to go outside of their communities to provide funds for vocational and college scholarships for high school seniors in the MN-DAK District. We all know that secondary education is expensive and without scholarships, many deserving students cannot afford that education. Through donations to the Education Foundation, you can make a difference. The numbers and amounts of the scholarships that can be awarded each year change based on the funds available. You can ensure that the amounts are meaningful and that we are able to help as many students as possible.
So, here is your call to action. If you can make a personal donation to the Education Foundation, great! There are many ways to do that and you can find that information on the MNDAK website under Foundations. Second, make sure that your club is a Century Club. A donation of $100 is all that’s required for that designation and so few clubs actually take advantage of that recognition. Third, when applications for scholarships are made available, work with your local high schools to get them in the hands of students. It’s a great way to increase your club’s visibility in the community.

In closing, I am truly humbled to be representing this great District and all of the great MN-DAK Kiwanians that work every day to improve their communities. I want to thank Governor Denny and First Lady Nancy for their support and guidance through this year of transition. I am looking forward to a productive year and to meeting many of you as I travel to every region and work side by side with many of you on service projects during those visits.

October Update

10/01/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, Dist. Sec/Treas

October is the start of another Kiwanis year. Welcome to our new Governor, Cynthia Braseth and the great team of Lt. Governors and other district leaders. They will be working hard to promote and support Kiwanis in your area. They are there to help local clubs at any time. Just give them a call or send them an email.

2012-2013 Directory of District Kiwanis Officers: A directory of all of the new District Officers and Lt. Governors can be found on our district website. Click here

Important Dates to Remember: You will be able to view a list of 2012-2013 events and dates on the district website. Look for “Calendar of Events” on the menu. Here is a shortcut. Click here

DISTRICT WEBSITE and MINNEKOTAN !!! If you have club “news” that would be of interest to other clubs around the district, please submit them to our website....things like new service projects or fundraising ideas that your club has tried. You can also share a photo. Your story will also appear in the monthly MINNEKOTAN. The news submission form is located on the “News” menu of the new website. Click here

Club Election Reports: We are still missing some club election reports. If your club has not submitted your 2012-2013 club election report, please do so right away. The easiest and preferred way to submit the election report is for the club secretary to do it online. Even if you have the same officers as last year we need to know or we will not have the necessary information to communicate with your club. Also a reminder that if any of your reported officers change during the year, the club secretary can edit the club election report online at any time.

Monthly Club Reporting: Just a reminder to club secretaries and presidents that if you have submitted all of your 2011-2012 monthly club reports online, you will not need to do a separate Annual Report. All of the necessary information will already have been
submitted via your monthly reports. Complete your September report by no later than October 10th. If your club has a new secretary, be sure that they get registered for the online reporting program. If you have questions about that, let me know.

**Club meeting times and locations:** Just a reminder to keep your club meeting time and location up to date on the Kiwanis International website. Anyone visiting the Kiwanis International website can now search for clubs anywhere in the world. The “Find a Club” is found in the upper left corner of the Kiwanis International website [Click here](http://www.kiwanis.org). Give it a try. See if your club information is current. Your club secretary can update your club meeting location online at anytime through the same portal that is used for monthly club reporting. Many prospective members use this online search method to find a club.

If I can be of any assistance, please send me an email or give me a call.

Have a great Kiwanis year!

**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

**MINN/DAK IS ON FIRE!!**

*10/02/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bill Daugherty*

The lead line on this article has been stated numerous times this past three weeks by the leadership of the Eliminate Project. Clubs are responding, we are gaining new club coordinators daily, donors are pledging to be Zeller Fellows, clubs are becoming model clubs.

We have just doubled our Model Club group. At the beginning of September we had Model Clubs in Lake City, MN; Spring Valley, MN; South Sioux Falls, SD; and Baxter Lakes Area and Friends. The following clubs have joined the group: Columbia Heights-Fridley, Fargo South Point, Rochester Daymakers, and Sioux Falls Daybreakers.

As we are now installing new officers in our clubs, clubs need to address their plans relative to the Eliminate Project. If you haven't named a club coordinator, do so now. This will ensure that your club is kept up to date about the Project.

Cynthia Braseth, our new Governor, has set a goal of adding model clubs to our list. She would like to see 30 clubs make the pledge. Remember you have FIVE YEARS from the date of the pledge to complete the donation amount equal to $750 per member.
Stillwater Area Kiwanis Receives Charter

09/28/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bruce Klair

The newest club in the District is the Kiwanis Club of the Stillwater Area, in Stillwater, Minnesota. The club chartered with 18 members in September and is enthusiastically identifying service opportunities to make their community an even better place to live and work. The club is sponsored by the North Suburban Club of St. Paul. Their meetings are the first and third Wednesdays of every month at Family Means, 1875 Northwestern Avenue in Stillwater. Special thanks to Region 7 Lt. Governors Barb Winfield and Don Felmlee as well as International Trustee Stewart Ross and Governor Denny Cornell for all their hard work in recruiting members and getting this club up to charter strength.

Sponsoring a new club can be a fun and rewarding experience which not only grows new clubs, but also brings new enthusiasm, vitality, and new members to your own club. Look around your community and identify where a new Kiwanis club could bring Kiwanis service to an area that is currently lacking it. Contact us anytime and let's do a site survey to see if this area is a prospect for a new club.

2012-2013 District Leadership Directory

09/30/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard

You can view or print a copy of the "2012-2013 Minnesota-Dakotas District Leadership Directory" which is located on our District website. The directory includes district officers, Lt. Governors, District Directors, District Administrators and many other district level positions.

Click Here

Schedule of Region Conferences and District Governor Visits

10/01/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, Dist. Sec/Treas

As of this date the following Region Conferences have been scheduled. All clubs should be represented at their respective Region Conference.
Change in Minnesota-Dakotas District New Member Enrollment Fee

09/30/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas

The District New Member Enrollment Fee (also referred to as dues) shall be charged for each new club member according to the following graduated enrollment fee schedule. The new graduated schedule was approved by the 2012 District Convention House of Delegates and will take effect October 1st, 2012.

This change only affects those joining as new members of an existing club during the year. The following schedule prorates the dues owed depending on the month in which the new member joins. If they join in October, which is the beginning of the year, they owe the full amount of dues for the year which is currently $30.00. If they join in September, which is the last month of the Kiwanis year, they only owe $3.00. There are no additional district fees or dues for new members. (Kiwanis International dues are also based on a similar graduated schedule for new members.)

(Graduated Enrollment Fee Schedule for New Members of Existing Kiwanis Clubs Only)

Member Add Month - District Enrollment Fee Amount:

- October - $30.00
- November - $28.00
- December - $26.00
- January - $24.00
- February - $21.00
- March - $19.00
- April - $16.00
- May - $14.00
- June - $11.00
Let's Get Off to a Good Start

09/23/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: E. Chuck Schroder

This is the start of a new Kiwanis year and we have to be off and running hard right out of the starting block. You need to make sure that your club has a line item in it's budget for the Kiwanis International Foundation at $5.00 per member and the District Foundation at $100.00 to become a Century Club. When the Lt. Governor makes their first visit they will look at your budget, and will be looking for these.

We fell behind our goal last year and our Key Club and Circle K members are not going to have the number of scholarships they have had in the past. We will also not be getting the grants that we have in the past. Only one out of five applications are being funded. This is not what we want. So lets start off with a real push and we will make our new governor, Cynthia Braseth, very happy. I know that TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN. Thank you for all each of you do for the children of the world.

2013 Kiwanis International Post-Convention Tour

10/01/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: David Shields, Colpitts World Travel
The 2013 International Kiwanis convention in Vancouver will be here soon. Your members will all be interested in visiting the beautiful state of Alaska while attending the convention. We will make it very easy for your members as our cruise on the highly rated Celebrity Cruise Line departs and returns from Vancouver. Your Kiwanis district and the International Kiwanis will also receive fundraising for every member who travels. You can review our website at www.kiwanisalaska2013.com and they can book the cruise directly online. If you or your members have any questions please e-mail me and I will answer any questions. We have extended our booking discount for members...They can save up to $150 USD on their bookings but it ends on October 21, 2012. Have them book their cruise soon as some stateroom categories are already sold out!

Regards,
David Shields
Vice President Group Travel
875 Providence Highway
Dedham, MA 02026
781.326.7800 x 251
dshields@colpittswt.com

What is considered a Kiwanis service project?

10/01/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, Dist. Sec/Treas

A club service project must be approved by the club’s Board of Directors and must have a direct benefit to the community.

Credit for service hours are given to the club when the service project has been approved by the club’s Board of Directors prior to the event, and the following criteria are met:

1. Service to an approved project with no money involved.
   Example: Reading to children at a day care center.

2. A targeted service project for which the club raises funds that are restricted specifically to that project.
   Example: The club’s Board of Directors approves a fund raising project that will provide a day care center with play equipment.

3. An approved project that combines money and hands on service.
   Example: The club’s Board of Directors approves a fund raising project that will provide a day care center with play equipment, and four Kiwanians set up the equipment.

Service hours are not counted for:
- Fund raisers when the money is put into the club service account for future use.
- Personal service hours such as ushering in one’s church, singing in one’s church choir, or any activity that is not first approved by the Board of Directors and the participation is not available to all members.
• Credit is not given for activities that are a direct benefit to the club, such as board meetings, committee meeting, internal fund raisers.

Club News

Fargo South Point Kiwanis Club Installs new officers

09/30/2012 - Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

Thursday night, September 27, was the installation banquet for all 7 of the Fargo-Moorhead Kiwanis clubs. At the banquet the Fargo South Point club and their officers were in attendance, and were installed.

Pictured in the photo are Carol Johnson Director, Josh McKinney President Elect, Larry Rittgarn Secretary, Mary Ann Berg President, and Immediate past president and co-president Marlene Saar.

Installing officer for the evening was Lt. Governor Kent Hochgraber of the Fargo Kiwanis Club. Featured speaker for the banquet was Josh McKinney, Region 2 Eliminate Chair.

UNIQUE RECIPE CREATES A DELICIOUS MEAL FOR PICNIC

09/26/2012 - Club: Early Risers, Worthington - Submitted by: Jeanene Townswick

Early Riser’s Club of Worthington, MN met at Pioneer Village on August 6, 2012, for their annual picnic with spouses and guests. They met, as they have for a few years now, in the refurbished barn on the grounds.

One of the infamous cooks of our club, Mr. Gary Brandt, had a “barn burning” idea of having a Cream Can Supper for the club. Gary provided a pristine cream can and a propane burner. All the members contributed sweet corn, potatoes, carrots, cabbage and brats. All of these ingredients were layered into the cream can on top of canning jar rings and then water was added to the can. The can was sealed on top of the burner to steam away for an hour. It was then dumped into a plastic lined wheel barrow and served to the club for supper. All the members provided side dishes to complete the meal. To say it was “delicious” would be an understatement. It was amazing. To top it all off root beer floats were served.
It was a wonderful treat for the entire club to have a time to “socialize” and separate from the demands of weekly meeting agendas, and treasure the fellowship and friendship of our club....PLUS this excellent meal.

New Key Club in Red Wing

09/24/2012 - Club: Red Wing Golden K - Submitted by: Don Felmlee

There is a newly formed chapter of the Kiwanis Key Club. The Red Wing Golden K club has helped facilitate a club for residents at the Minnesota Correctional Facility-Red Wing. The Kiwanis Key Club’s mission: Key Club is an international student-led organization which provides its members with opportunities to provide service, build character and develop leadership.

The newly formed MCF-RW Key Club has embraced the concept of community service and recently partnered with United Way to complete their annual folding/envelope stuffing project. The Key Club, with staff advisor’s guidance, coordinated and facilitated a “Day of the Way” event where all residents were given an opportunity to participate in helping the United Way complete a 15,000 piece mailing. There were several Golden K members who worked right alongside the residents to complete this project. This took the residents only a single day to complete. The Key Club members were very proud of this accomplishment and are looking ahead for more opportunities to serve.

Dictionaries for 3rd Grade Students

09/24/2012 - Club: Rapid City - Submitted by: Tom Allen

Kiwanis Provides Dictionaries

Rapid City Kiwanis Downtown member Gail Gray (club president-elect) is shown with a student from General Beadle Elementary School in Rapid City. Members of both Rapid City Westside and Downtown Kiwanis delivered dictionaries to all the third grade students in the Rapid City Area School District during the second week of school. Students have been receiving Kiwanis dictionaries for a number of years through this program.

A needs survey conducted several years ago by local Kiwanis clubs showed that although computers are in the classrooms, the personal dictionary continues to be favored by most teachers for their students. The dictionaries are readily available for each student and offer pride in individual ownership among students. Club members enjoy reading the thank you notes they receive from the students.

Our Children, Their Future!
Minot Golden K in Homecoming Parade

09/18/2012 - Club: Minot, Golden K - Submitted by: Richard Sabol, Sec.

Members of the Minot Golden K (ND) participated in the Minot State University Homecoming parade this past September. During the parade members had the opportunity to meet and greet many people along the route. It was a cool sunny morning during the parade with many smiling faces. Loren Baglien organized the float for participation in the North Dakota State Fair and Minot State Homecoming parades. The float will now go into hibernation until next year. Thanks to all.

Kiwanis International Trustee Speaks to Local Kiwanis Club

09/13/2012 - Club: Saint Cloud - Submitted by: Art Grachek

Stewart Ross (2nd from the right), a Kiwanis International Trustee, spoke to the St. Cloud Kiwanis recently about the "Magic of Kiwanis." Ross soon will be relinquishing his position as Trustee, and will become the new Director of Service for the Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis. Ross is from Mankato and serves as the Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning at Minnesota State University, Mankato. Ross has served in a variety of Kiwanis leadership positions.

In his presentation, Ross argued that the Magic of Kiwanis can be found in membership recruitment, altruism, growth of clubs, inspiration, and change and commitment. Ross complimented the St. Cloud Kiwanis on its service work and urged members to become even better in what they do. He stressed that the club must provide an environment that will encourage participation by all members; and that members must be more than "members," they must become "Kiwanians."

Also attending the event were Kiwanians from Alexandria, Brainerd, and the St. Cloud Sunrise Club. With Ross on the photo from left, is Brad Ufer, president-elect of the St. Cloud Club, Brian Fierst, club president, and Mark Kalla, program chair.

Hundreds and Hundreds of Balloons

09/13/2012 - Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Mary Bowen

On Saturday, September 8th a group of Fridley Key Clubbers and their Advisor Crzy Mry assisted the Hope and Hearts Organization 5K Run/Walk. At the Coon Rapids Regional Park they blew up over half of the 1,500 helium balloons released. Balloons sponsors wrote the names of recognized young children on the balloons before they were released into the sky. After a short program these balloons were set loose.

The Hope and Hearts Organization supports families
who have lost born and yet to be born children. Its Foundation, Missing Grace Foundation, provides resources and aid to families who have experienced a pregnancy or infant loss, infertility or adoption challenge.

The Key Clubbers started at the ungodly hour of 6:30 am, while it was still dark. They participated in this project the previous year and were excited to return this year. Their biggest challenge was to untangle the precut balloon strings! They had fun swallowing the helium and talking to each other.

Over 2,000 affected families, 250 runners and 75 setup volunteers attended this event. It was a beautiful day and an uplifting experience for everyone.