

MINNEKOTAN

Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

No.12

September 2010

Time to Thank Everyone

09/01/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bruce Klair, District Governor

Phyllis and I cannot thank you enough for the honor you have bestowed upon us by entrusting us to the position of Governor and First Lady of the District this past year. The warm hospitality we received while traveling throughout the District was overwhelming. The clubs we have visited and the friends we have made will never be forgotten.

I have come to realize, now more than ever, that Kiwanis is a shiny beacon of hope in a troubled world. Whether it is reading to kids in our local elementary schools or stamping out the scourge of Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus throughout the world, Kiwanians have answered the call. If we won't, who will?

And we have done it with fun and fellowship. In over twenty years of perfect attendance, I have said and continue to say that I have never left a Kiwanis meeting where I haven't felt better than when I came. There is something about getting together with fellow Kiwanians that inspires us and wants us to do more. You have demonstrated that again and again this past year.

In the next month we will end one Kiwanis year and start a new one with renewed hope and energy. To those of you who may be completing your year in office, please remember that there is no ending in Kiwanis. Now, more than ever, your club, your Region and your District needs your counsel and support. The needs for service are greater than ever, and passing the baton of leadership should not mean a decrease in activities and involvement. You have become a valuable asset to Kiwanis, and Kiwanis needs you now more than ever.

Approaching the end of a Kiwanis year is no reason to slow down or stop performing service to our communities. Now, more than ever, the need is great. School supplies need to be purchased, backpacks need to be filled, and kids need warm clothes for the coming winter. It's time to explore a new project for the coming year.

Adding more members will help our service. With more members, we have more eyes to see the needs of our community, and more hands to meet those needs. Now is the time



to ask someone who has the same interests as you to join Kiwanis. Ask yourself why you joined Kiwanis, and more importantly, why you stay in Kiwanis. Don't you know someone today who would make a good Kiwanian?

Thank you again for providing me with this experience. Keep on serving those who need us, and continue to find new ways to change the world one child and one community at a time. Let's keep working and let's keep growing.

September 2010 Update

08/31/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas



Sad News:

Past District Kiwanis Governor (1981-82) Raymond W. Lucan, 84, Rapid City, died Sunday, Aug. 29, 2010, at Westhills Village Health Care in Rapid City. Survivors include his wife, Bonnie Miller (Lucan), Rapid City; a daughter, Debbie Brand, Rapid City; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. His funeral is on Friday, September 3 at South Park United Church of Christ in Rapid City. A Visitation will be held on Thursday, September 2 from 5-7 p.m. at the Kirk Funeral Home.

District/Regional Calendar of Events: Just a reminder that you can view a calendar of events for the upcoming year. Be sure to check to see when your Regional Conference and Governor's Visit will take place. The first one is in Region 1 in Bismarck, ND on October 9th. Just click on "Calendar of Events" on our district website menu. Be sure to select the year "2010-2011" [CLICK HERE](#)

2010 District Convention Photos: View nearly 800 photos taken during the 2010 District Convention. Special thanks to Roger Olson for taking the photos. [CLICK HERE](#)

Official District Convention Minutes: The official minutes of the following meetings held during the District Convention can be viewed on our Minnesota-Dakotas District webpage (find District Leadership on the menu) or [CLICK HERE](#)

District Board Meeting – August 13, 2010
2010 House of Delegates Session – August 14, 2010
District Board Meeting – August 15, 2010

Club Secretaries: Be sure that you have submitted all of your monthly online club reports for the 09-10 year. Remember that the September report (last report of the year) is due by October 10th, 2010. With the monthly online reporting system you will not be asked to submit a separate annual report. In addition, all reports must be submitted to qualify for the Distinguished Club Award. Be sure to check your "Distinguished Club Tracker" to see how your club is doing towards Distinguished Club points. You need 80 points to qualify for the 2009-2010 Distinguished Club Award.

Annual IRS Tax Reporting: Remember that all clubs must now file the appropriate IRS 990 Tax form each year. Failure to do so will result in fines and loss of nonprofit status. More information can be found on the Kiwanis International website [CLICK HERE](#)

Special Thanks and Congratulations: The 2009-2010 Kiwanis year is not over until the end of September, but I would like to take this opportunity to give special thanks to Governor Bruce Klair and First Lady Phyllis for their hard work and dedication to Kiwanis

this past year. Also, special thanks to all who served in a Lt. Governor, District Director or District Committee position. They all worked very hard to support Kiwanis on the Club and District level. Congratulations to Governor Designate Lowell Disrud and First Lady Rachael who will lead our district beginning October 1. And last, but not least congratulations to Denis Cornell and Nancy who will serve as Governor Elect during 2010-2011.

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

2009-2010 Governor's Region Star Award

08/31/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard

The following 2009-2010 Governor's Region Star Award recipients were recognized at the 2010 District Convention in Fargo, ND. To view a biography and photo of each recipient [CLICK HERE](#)

Region 1 **Charles L. (Chuck) Peterson** Kiwanis Club of Bismarck

Region 2 **Jack Mouritsen** Kiwanis Club of Fergus Falls (Noon)

Region 3 **Kevin Dens** Kiwanis Club of Baxter Lakes Area & Friends

Region 4 **Wayne Klein** Kiwanis Club of Spearfish

Region 5 **Tracy Vik** Diversity Kiwanis Club of Sioux Falls

Region 6 **David Cowan** Kiwanis Club of Mankato (Downtown)

Region 7 **Bob Weir** Kiwanis Club of Red Wing Golden K



2009-2010 District Newsletter and Brochure Awards

08/28/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Colleen Hyde, District Director of Administration

2009-2010 Winners District Brochure Contest 5 Entries

1st: Kiwanis Club of St. Peter
2nd: Lake Agassiz Kiwanis Club of Fargo
3rd: Kiwanis Club of Austin Noon

2009-2010 Winners District Newsletter Contest

White Division 0-30 members: 2 Entries

1st: Kiwanis Club of St. Peter *Kiwanis Komments*
2nd: Golden K II Club of Albert Lea *The Totom*

Blue Division 31-45 members: 3 Entries

1st: Gitche-Gumee K Club of Duluth *The Hiawathan*
2nd: Kiwanis Club of Austin *Kiwanis Newsletter*
3rd: Rough Rider Country Kiwanis Club of Dickinson

Orange Division 46-70 members: 3 Entries

1st: Kiwanis Club of Anoka *The Kiwanokan*
2nd: Otter Risers K Club of Fergus Falls *The Enquirer*
3rd: Kiwanis Club of Bismarck *The Gazette*

Silver Division 71-100 members: 2 Entries

1st: Kiwanis Club of Friendly Duluth *The Kiwa News*
2nd: Golden K Club of Red Wing *The Winger*

Gold Division 101+ members No entries

Best of Show Kiwanis Club of Anoka *The Kiwanokan*

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

93rd Annual District Convention

08/25/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Larry & Pat Rittgarn

The 93rd annual convention of the Minnesota-Dakotas district is now history.



Yes, history was made also by the fact that we finally turned the numbers of attendees back up, and had an increase in members and delegates at this years convention.

It was a real challenge for me, since Pat was unable to attend the convention due to her on going recovery struggles from double Pneumonia.

We both want to thank all of you for your attendance as well as for all of the participation you all did.

The forums were nearly all full and with 16 different ones to attend there was no lack of something to do.

Congratulations to our newly elected Governor Lowell Disrud, and to our newly elected Governor Elect, Denis Cornell.

Once again, thanks to each and everyone who participated in this years 93rd annual convention.

Pat and Larry Rittgarn
District Co-Convention Directors

Following is a thank you message from our 2010 District Convention Service Project:

Dear MnDak Kiwanis,

Thank you so much for your inviting the YWCA Cass Clay to be part of your recent convention here in Fargo. I was honored to be a part of your luncheon, and enjoyed my time with your group. The resulting out-pouring of support for the hundreds of women and children we serve each day was overwhelming. Not only did many of your clubs and members open their hearts and checkbooks, (\$1,145.02 cash/gift cards) but the number of household and hygiene items collected was just wonderful – the van was full! It is because of community and regional support from compassionate individuals like all of you that the YWCA Cass Clay can continue to offer shelter and supportive services to those in need.

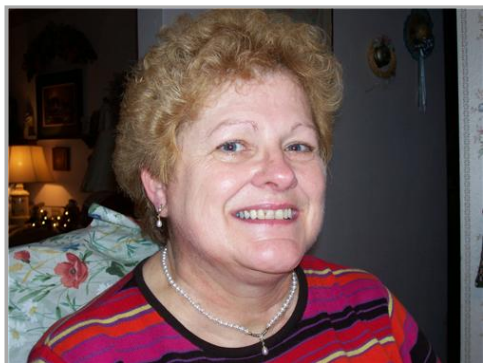
On behalf of our board and staff, and most importantly, the women and children who seek our sheltering embrace, please accept our heartfelt thanks for your commitment to changing the world one child and one community at a time.

Rachel

*Rachel Clarke
Associate Executive Director
YWCA Cass Clay
701-232-2547
ywcacassclay.org*

"Achieving Club Excellence Workshop" - October 16

08/28/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Dawn Fairbrother, 2010-2011 Lt. Gov, Region 6



ALL KIWANIS CLUB MEMBERS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO ATTEND THE

ACHIEVING CLUB EXCELLENCE (ACE) WORKSHOP

FACILITATED BY STEPHANIE URSINI, AREA DIRECTOR,
NORTH AMERICA/CENTRAL WEST REGION OF KIWANIS
INTERNATIONAL

HOSTED BY: THE 2010-2011 REGION 6 LT. GOVERNOR
TEAM OF,

DAWN FAIRBROTHER, CHUCK GRUESSING, AND MARY LOU DRAHOTA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2010 8:30 A.M. TO NOON
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, 150 STADIUM COURT, MANKATO, MN. 56001
(For Directions, you can use your navigation system, Mapquest, or Google)

Stephanie Ursini has ideas galore to help your Kiwanis Club! Her passion and enthusiasm for Kiwanis will inspire you! Stephanie is also encouraging 5 members from each Kiwanis Club to attend! So, spread the word!

Get your 2010-2011 Kiwanis year started off right with this excellent workshop that has a dynamic 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, so you can implement this process and transform the future of your Kiwanis Club.

In this workshop, club members learn how to explore new approaches to increase service and apply new strategies for membership growth. Club members will focus on how to enhance the membership experience for all club members and how to develop and maintain a relevant service impact in their community.

Start changing the world in your own community by improving your own Kiwanis Club. Lead the way to a larger, more vibrant club that is providing significant service to children. Help your current and future members connect to the Kiwanis purpose and mission to change the world one child and one community at a time.

Clubs will benefit from attending this workshop by:

- Engaging all club members in the club improvement process,
- Assessing club projects and activities to determine what the clubs need to
 - Keep doing
 - Start doing, and
 - Stop doing
- Add value to the individual member's experience in Kiwanis,
- Increase the service impact in the club's community, and
- Create public awareness of the Kiwanis Club presence and mission.

Children in your own community and around the world need Kiwanis. There are people in your community who have the desire to help. Following this simple process will bring them together. Each Kiwanis member can make a difference!

In order to have enough refreshments and box lunches, please register, in advance, by contacting:

Dawn Fairbrother, e-mail: muffins3@charter.net
phone 507-451-5939
cell 507-363-6766

Refreshments and registration: 8:00 a.m.—8:30 a.m.
Workshop: 8:30 a.m.—Noon
Box Lunch: Noon

We look forward to seeing you there!

Circle K International Convention 2010

08/28/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Mark Nyquist

The Minnesota Dakotas District of Circle K International had 11 Circle K'ers attend the

Circle K International Convention this year. We all had a great time on the Washington University Campus in St. Louis, Missouri. 4 of our members received awards. Kacy Haatvedt received a Distinguished District Governor award, Kristin Thomas received a Distinguished District Secretary award, Kari Hipsack received a Distinguished District LTG award, and Melanie Walter and the Winona State club received the G.E.M. award for membership growth, which at the end of the 09-10 school year had recruited over 60 members! It was a great convention with lots of fun workshops and some great speakers.



What can YOU do for Circle K?

At the Kiwanis District Convention, I had asked attendees "What is your WHY for joining Kiwanis and staying active in your club?" Several had raised their hands indicating their WHY was a friend asking them to attend a breakfast or lunch meeting. I explained that was their INTRODUCTION to Kiwanis.

Hopefully, your WHY has to do with making a difference with youth and young adults. Most of the colleges and universities in our district have begun classes. For freshman, it is a very exciting and nervous time as many are leaving home for the first time. For the upper classmen, they are still trying to figure out what they want to do for the rest of their lives, have they picked the right career for them?

So, who makes a great mentor to these students? Kiwanians! Whether your club sponsors a Circle K Club or not, reach out to college students. The traditional college student can now be as young as 16 years old because of the post secondary option that is available. Whether you graduated from college or not, YOU have something to offer these students. YOU have been living life and have gained valuable experience and knowledge. These wonderful students can learn so much from YOU. Responsibility, reliability, respect which in turn develops making good decisions, leadership skills, positive relationships and so much more.

If your club does not have a college/university near by, our district has The Outreach Fund. This fund is set up to help provide various educational and leadership experiences such as the Leadershape Academy and the Governor - Administrator Training Conference. It provides funding for travels to other K-Family events such as the Kiwanis District Convention and Key Club District Convention. Contributions can be sent to Steve Handegaard, Kiwanis District Secretary.

If your club sponsors a Circle K Club, each member should make a commitment to participate in one Circle K meeting and/or project this year. Make the commitment to invite a college student or Circle K member to your Kiwanis meeting. The experience will not only make a difference in the life of the student, it will make a difference in YOU!

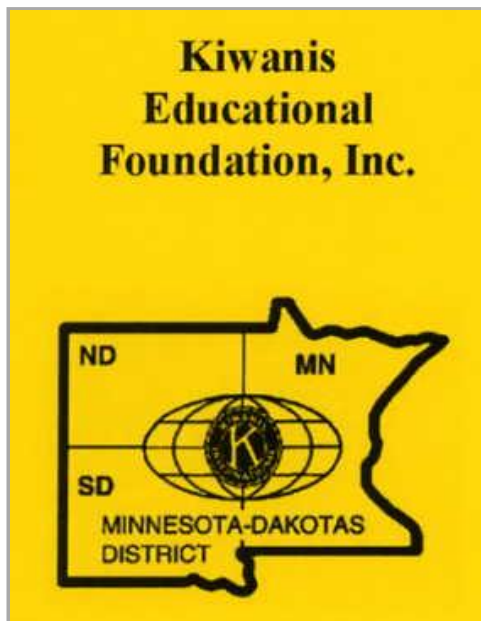
Thank you for investing time into our leaders of tomorrow!

In the Spirit of Service,
Ann Backes Dodge
Circle K Administrator
Minnesota-Dakotas District
annbackes@hotmail.com
218-206-3406

Kiwanis Educational Foundation of Mn-Dak District

08/26/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Dale Carlson

Actions at the District Convention, Fargo, North Dakota, August 13-15, 2010



At the Friday afternoon convention session Jack Zierdt, Executive Secretary of the Educational Foundation, presented the Foundation report. The endowment fund currently has about \$820,000 in the investment portfolio. This is about \$30,000 less than one year ago and is due to the continued poor performance of the investment market. We are still striving for the \$1,000,000 level in the endowment fund but it is going to take longer than we thought prior to the economic downturn. Only the interest from the endowment fund is spent each year. In April 2010 55 scholarships were awarded to students in the MN-DAK District to be used starting in Sept. 2010. The majority of these scholarships are for \$750.00. For the school year starting in Sept. 2011 we plan to award the same number of scholarships. The amount of these scholarships will probably be in the \$650.00-\$700.00 range depending on donations given and the earnings

received on the invested endowment monies. Students receiving these scholarships must be from the MN-DAK District and must attend a college or university within the District. Bill Daugherty was elected to a 3 year term for one of the South Dakota Trustee positions and Larry Rittgarn was elected to a 3 year term for one of the North Dakota Trustee positions on the Educational Foundation Board.

The Board of Trustees of the Educational Foundation met on late Friday after the convention general session. The following actions were taken:

1. Board minutes of May 15, 2010 were approved.
2. Jack Zierdt presented the Secretary/Treasurer report which was approved.
3. Dale Carlson was elected President for 2010-2011. Bill Lardy was elected Vice-President for 2010-2011. Jack Zierdt was appointed Secretary/Treasurer for 2010-2011.
4. The dollar amount for 2011-2012 scholarships will be determined in early October and will be based on interest earned in 2009-2010.
5. The number of scholarships for 2011-2012 will remain the same as for the previous year.
6. Chuck Schroder thanked the Educational Foundation for their continued cooperation with the Kiwanis International Foundation.

During the convention collections to increase the endowment fund were taken at the Friday afternoon session (\$800.00) and at the interdenominational church service on Sunday (\$856.00). As a result \$1656.00 has been placed in the endowment fund.

At the Board of Trustees meeting at Fergus Falls, MN in May the month of November has been designated each year as the Minnesota-Dakotas Educational Foundation Month. All District clubs are asked to focus on the work of the Educational Foundation that month and all Kiwanis clubs and members are asked to support the Foundation with financial gifts.

International Foundation

08/26/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: E. Chuck Schroder, District Chair

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the generous contributions and participation in the foundation's raffle at the district convention. Fun was had by all and everyone seemed to have enjoyed themselves. Our honors reception was attended very well and the evening was a lot of fun.



We raised over \$1000.00 and the items were of very high quality that we had for the raffle. Everyone wants us to do it again next year. Jack and I invite you to let us know if you have items that you would like to donate for it.

We are still behind last year as far as our donations go, but we have till the end of September to get them to where they should be. Without your support, we can't give the scholarships to Key Club and Circle K. Please make sure your club has participated in the International Foundation Annual Gift Campaign and also the District Education Foundation. Again, thank you for your support.

Kiwaniis International Vice President Candidate

08/26/2010 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Jack Zierdt



The following resolution was passed at the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District Convention in Fargo, North Dakota on Saturday August 14, 2010.

The Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International expresses appreciation for the wise and enthusiastic leadership of Kiwanis International Trustee Stewart Ross and supports him as a candidate for Kiwanis International Vice President at the Kiwanis International Convention in New Orleans in 2012.

A campaign committee has been formed and will be in the process, over the next year and three quarters, of putting together all of the ground work for Stewart's campaign. We will keep you informed about the campaign and letting you know what we need for help. If you have suggestions or ideas for the campaign please contact Jack Zierdt, campaign chair.

We are asking all of the clubs in the Minnesota-Dakotas District to plan on sending at least 2 delegates to the Kiwanis International Convention in New Orleans in 2012. Please put this on your club agendas to start soliciting your delegates. We will let you know the exact dates in later press releases.

This run for the Vice Presidency is being supported by the Kiwanis Club of Mankato, The Past Governors of the Minnesota-Dakotas District, The Past District Officers of the Minnesota Dakotas District, The 2009 - 2010 and 2010 - 2011 Minnesota-Dakotas District Board of Directors and the Delegates that voted during the Delegate Assembly of the Minnesota-Dakotas District Convention. We are asking all of the clubs to support this candidacy for the Vice Presidency of Kiwanis International.

Submitted by Campaign Chairperson
Jack Zierdt
jjzierdt0706@charter.net

Club News

Put Yourself in These Shoes

08/30/2010 - Club: Rapid City - Submitted by: Don Kennedy, Region 4 Lt. Gov Elect

It began with an adventure to Payless Shoes and ended with a room full of proud children dancing in NEW shoes. The day proceeded with a moment every Dear Ones Child Care Advocate will remember. Abigail, a little two year old, wore a big, beautiful grin as we put her new "Dora the Explorer" shoes on and shared her colorful socks with her. She stood up and stomped her feet with confidence and glee. She had NEW shoes that had not been worn before and for a few minutes she had the whole class watching as she pranced in pride. We shared her happiness with her that day along with ten other children ages 2-12 years old who also received new shoes.

How special little Abigail must have felt and how this moment could have changed her self-confidence and her faith in good will in this life. Planting the seeds of salvation takes so many little efforts by those with big hearts. How simple our effort can be and how profound their worth!

Rapid City Kiwanis Club generously donated a four seat stroller in February of this year and extended an invite for some of our little ones to receive shoes in June. Dear Ones providers and little ones have been blessed in many ways through the Kiwanis Club's generosity. Our shared missions to serve children in our community has developed an opportunity to serve children in ways *only* the Lord could have predicted possible.

Thanks to Rapid City Kiwanis Club and Kiwanis International for making this happen!

Fargo South Point Kiwanis Club and Madison School

08/27/2010 - Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

The Fargo South Point Kiwanis Club and Madison School have teamed up for 8 years now to make sure kids who cannot afford to buy the necessary school supplies can still have what they need.

Each year the South Point Club and its members donate \$500 worth of school supplies directly to the school so when a child needs supplies and cannot afford to purchase them



the principal can provide them what they need.

One member of the club also donates up to 50 back packs so the children can also begin school with a new back pack.

Mary Sieling Immediate past Lt. Governor of Region 2 and a member of the South Point Club is shown here as she and 4 helpers from Madison unload the supplies.

AN IDLE SUMMER?

08/27/2010 - Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Julian Greenup, Publicist

Summer 2010 for the Fridley Key Club was not an idle one! The club designed and decorated a "Surfin' into Service" parade float and participated in the Fridley 49er's Day Parade. Twelve members walked behind the float and distributed over \$100 of candy to bystanders. The theme "Surfin' into Service" is the new MN-Dak District Key Club theme which was chosen by the District Board for the coming year. The club also set up a Culver's Frozen Custard Stand for the sale of sundaes during the 49er's Day Parade.



The club assisted the City of Fridley by helping with their youth programs during Nickel Jamboree and Wet and Wild Events. Members wore swim suits and participated in water fun and various games. Another project, which was enjoyed by the members, was assisting the local Crestview Nursing Home with its monthly ice cream socials. Putting various ice cream toppings on sundaes was a messy but fun event.

Six Fridley Key Clubbers plus Kiwanis Advisor Crzy Mry attended International Key Club Convention in Memphis, TN from July 7 through 10. The bus trip was a long one, but the convention and tours were outstanding. Some of the tours were Graceland, St. Louis Arch, Six Flags and Martin Luther King Memorial. The Fridley Key Club received Second Place in Single Service with their Caring Basket Project. It also received a Distinguished Diamond Level Award.

The club is now gearing up to sell tickets at the Carnival Midway during the State Fair. A total of 36 workers are needed for this event. Besides this, the club is planning a Homeless Sleepout on September 17. Hopefully the weather will be warm and not cold and rainy.

This picture shows Fridley Key Clubbers posed for action at International Convention in Memphis, TN. The group is dressed in homemade prison outfits to attend the Jailhouse Rock Dance.

Julian Greenup, Publicist
Fridley Key Club

KIWAINGO - Education Program/Game

08/20/2010 - Club: Early Risers, Worthington - Submitted by: Loreena L. Luetgers

Have some fun at your Kiwanis meeting . . .

KIWAINGO
is a bingo game developed to learn about Kiwanis!!!

- * All proceeds for *The Eliminate Project* ***
- * Bingo game with Kiwanis information ***
- * Entertainment for a club program ***
- * Fun educational tool for members to learn ***
- * Every participant receives a prize ***

This game was developed by the Early Risers Kiwanis Club of Worthington, MN to raise funds for *The Eliminate Project* of Kiwanis International and UNICEF.

Items included in **Kiwaingo**:
Description of *The Eliminate Project*
30 Bingo Sheets, all different
12 Gift Certificates as prizes
Directions to play **Kiwaingo**

Cost: \$20.00 plus \$2.50 shipping
Checks payable to Early Risers Kiwanis

Send to: Early Risers Kiwanis
Attn: Loreena L. Luetgers
1007 Lexington Avenue
Worthington, MN 56187
lluetgers@knology.net for questions
Telephone: 507.372.2011

Hendricks Kiwanis Participates in Summer Parades

08/07/2010 - Club: Hendricks - Submitted by: Julie Hogie

The Hendricks Minnesota Kiwanis Club has participated in several area parades this summer providing continued awareness of the club's active status in the area. Dale Artz, one of the club's members, provided the vehicle, preparation efforts and hours of time to ensure the entry was able to be involved in each of the parades.

