Thanks MN-DAK Kiwanians

As the 2011-2012 Kiwanis year draws to a close, Nancy and I would like to thank each and every Kiwanian in the Minnesota-Dakotas District for the privilege and honor of serving YOU as Governor and First Lady this past year. As we have traveled throughout this great district we have been welcomed with open arms and tremendous hospitality. YOU are the most important people in Kiwanis. Kiwanis could not exist without each and every club member. We thank you for your hospitality, and most of all, we thank you for your service.

I have been so very impressed at each stop we have made whether it has been a regional visit, club visit, charter celebration, Circle K convention, Key Club convention or AKtion club meeting, by the level of service and commitment of the thousands of Kiwanians and SLP members in this district. We are making an impact on the children of our district and around the globe. Never forget what our defining principle calls us to do; "Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time." Let us be reminded daily of this defining principle and raise our level of service to the children who are depending on us to help improve their lives.

As I write this article, Nancy and I are preparing to travel to Fergus Falls, MN to celebrate the life and service of a great Kiwanian and Past International President, Merald Enstad. Merald was an outstanding example of a service leader and a true gentleman. Merald lived his life each day in service to others. Winston Churchill said, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." Merald made his life by giving. Let each of us live our lives in the same manner. Tears will be shed because Merald will be missed, but Merald would want us to only pause briefly, then get back to work serving the children of the world. Let us all celebrate the life of Merald Enstad through our service to others.

Again, I thank you for the opportunity to serve you as your Governor this year and remember, "let them know us by our service", and have fun.

Merald Enstad Passes Away

Past Kiwanis International President Merald Enstad and member from our district passed away on Saturday, August 25th. He was a great friend and mentor to many. Following is his funeral obituary.

Merald T. Enstad, 95, of Fergus Falls, died Saturday, August 25, 2012, at Pioneer Care Suites in Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

He was born July 23, 1917, at the family farm near Granite Falls. He attended rural school through grade 6 and graduated from High School in Granite Falls. After attending one year of Business College, due to his father's illness, it was necessary for him to return home to operate the family business.

In 1938, he became an agent for Lutheran Brotherhood Insurance. In 1941, he was
transferred to Fergus Falls as a General Agent.

On May 18, 1941, he married Jeanette Grimme in Granite Falls. In November of that year, he entered the U.S. Navy and served until he was honorably discharged in 1945. They returned to Fergus Falls to make their home. He then became associated with Walter R. Olson in the insurance, real estate and mortgage loan business, which later became known as Enstad-Mann-Johnson Real Estate.

Merald was involved in several businesses over the years, including Northland Development, Ottertail Finance, Ulland Mortgage Company and Vice Chairman of the board of Security State Bank. First Lutheran Church was a very important part of his life as well as for his family. He had been a long time member of the choir, served on the church council and foundation board, as well as chairman of the finance committee for two building additions and the 125th anniversary committee in 1997.

In 1948, a longtime friend, Vernon Arneson, invited him to become a member of the Kiwanis Club of Fergus Falls, and for more than 64 years Kiwanis became a great part of his and his family’s lives. In 1957 he was elected president of his club and in 1963 he was elected governor of the three state, Minnesota-Dakotas district and became a “Life Fellow” and a “Joseph E. Messer Fellow” of the district Foundation.

In 1973 he was first elected to the Kiwanis International board where he served for nine years and in 1980 was elected International President. As president, he met with Kings, Ambassadors, Presidents and other heads of state in his travels to 36 countries throughout the world. International honors included the ”Tablet of Honor”, a Life member of Kiwanis International, a ”George F. Hixon Fellow”, of the International Foundation and “Life Fellow” of the Canadian Foundation.

In addition to Kiwanis, he served on several boards in a leadership role locally, including the YMCA, Jaycees, PTA Council, Chamber of Commerce, United Way, Home Health Care, Mayor’s Citizens Advisory Committee, Community College Advisory Board, Ottertail County Welfare Advisory Council, Fergus Falls Park Board and Oak Grove Cemetery Association. On state wide organizations his involvement included the ”Minnesota Society for Crippled Children and Adults”, Minnesota Small Business Association advisory board and President of the Minnesota Association of Independent Insurance Agents.

In 1977, Merald was selected as one of the 10 most influential men of Fergus Falls. In 1987, he was presented the Fergus Falls Award of Honor, which signifies the highest recognition from the Fergus Falls community of present or former residents of the area who have been influenced by the community in achieving in their fields of endeavor or volunteer service, thereby reflecting credit or honor upon the community and its citizens.

Preceding him in death were his parents; a brother, Oliver; two sisters, Mary Newman and Evie Larson and two children, Susan Alyce and Thomas William.

Survivors include his wife, Jeanette; a son, Richard (Nancy) Enstad of Eagan; a granddaughter, Jeanette (Timothy) Petersen and their children, Katelyn, Caleb, Sloanne and Sofia of Fergus Falls.

His theme for his Kiwanis presidential year was "TAKE TIME TO CARE". In his address he challenged delegates "Everyone of us have the same share of time. Look at your share and say: I must take time to eat, and I must take time to sleep, and I must take time to labor and after all of that is done I will have time to care." This week we would ask that instead of flowers in his honor you would do something that will last much longer-"Take Time To Care" and do it in honor of your dear friend Merald. We thank you for honoring him in this way- he would be so proud.

**Visitation** 5-7 pm Thursday, August 30 with a prayer service at 7 pm at the Olson Funeral Home in Fergus Falls and one hour prior to the service at the church.

**Service** 11 am Friday, August 31 at First Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls.

Clergy Reverends Jennifer Rose, Saul Stensvaag and Harry Olson

Interment Oak Grove Cemetery, Fergus Falls

*The Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Educational Foundation Board of Trustees has*
decided to dedicate one of our annual scholarships to Merald and Jeanette. It will be offered annually and called the "Merald and Jeanette Enstad District At-Large Scholarship".

**CLE: Last Chance - Last Month!**

*08/28/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Loreena Luetgers*

Have your club officers, for the upcoming Kiwanis year, had their Club Leadership Education? If not, there is still time.

The very last chance will be in September via online at [www.kiwanisone.org](http://www.kiwanisone.org) and click "CLE Online Training". It’s that easy. Just register, complete the online module and finish the segment. No travel, no expense and no four hour session, be comfortable at home and learn about Kiwanis.

When your club officers complete the CLE session, it helps your club to become distinguished, and such an easy way to attain that club status for the year.

Presidents, secretaries and treasurers are encouraged to complete this, not only for themselves, but mostly for the club. Club Leadership Education is there to help the officers to lead the club, knowledge on how to work with club members and insight into Kiwanis and their position.

Check with your club officers to know if they have taken the CLE for this year, and if not, encourage them to do it as soon as possible. Your club and officers will be better because of it!

Congratulations to you and your club if you completed a CLE session this summer. There were 55% of the clubs that attended. We need to encourage the 45% of the clubs that didn’t attend that it is important. We can do better. We need to do better. The more we learn leadership skills and about Kiwanis, the easier it is to build our membership not only in numbers, but we build dedicated members to become Kiwanians. Then, we can Serve the Children of the World!

**2012-2013 Distinguished Club Criteria**

*09/01/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Cynthia Braseth, Governor 2012-2013*

I know that many of you are anxious to see the Distinguished Club Criteria for 2012-2013. I hinted at it some at the convention when I told you all that we are getting back to the basics of the Objects of Kiwanis. In fact, the Criteria for the next year are based on those Objects. They are all things that define us as individuals and our clubs as Kiwanians and set us apart from other Service Organizations. They are fairly specific in some cases, and may require some interpretation in others. I am listing them with the specific actions related to each Object below:

1. **GIVING PRIMACY TO THE HUMAN AND SPIRITUAL.**
   a. Participate in the ELIMINATE Project. No level is specified, just participation.
   b. Honor a member or community volunteer with 25 years of service.
   c. Enroll a new member committed to the Six Objects of Kiwanis. You will need to put a member's name and ID number down to meet this action.

2. **ENCOURAGING THE GOLDEN RULE IN ALL RELATIONSHIPS.**
   a. Complete a project involving Character Education. This could be open to some interpretation.
   b. Recognize a local hero who saved a child from harm. Does not have to be a Kiwanis member.
   c. Enroll a new member involved in youth services and mentoring. Could be your Key Club advisor or Faculty Advisor for Circle K. Could also be a Boy Scout Leader etc. Again, the name and ID number of the new member would need to be submitted.

3. Adopting higher Social, Business and Professional Standards.
a. Work with Service Leadership Programs or other youth clubs to protect the environment. Do a clean-up project with your Key Club or local Boy Scouts.
b. Obtain a minimum $50 donation to Kiwanis International Foundation from a local business. Could be for the ELIMINATE Project?
c. Obtain a minimum $50 donation to the District Foundation from a local business. Perhaps a business would like to contribute to the Key Club or Circle K to help with a project they are doing and do that through the Foundation. Maybe even sponsor a scholarship?

4. DEVELOPING BY EXAMPLE A MORE AGGRESSIVE AND SERVICEABLE CITIZENSHIP
   a. Do a project advocating for young children and/or early childhood development. Work with your local Child Safety group, law enforcement etc.
   b. Certify club participation in Kiwanis education and training programs. Make sure your club president and secretary attend Club Leadership Education
   c. Enroll a new member who is a former Key Club or Circle K member. Again the new member's name and ID number need to be submitted.

5. FORMING ENDURING FRIENDSHIPS TO BUILD BETTER COMMUNITIES
   a. Connect with and interact with a Kiwanis Club in another Kiwanis district or nation.
   b. Initiate and complete a NEW service project involving at least 2 NEW members. Great way to get a new member involved is use one of their ideas for projects.
   c. Certify club participation in either International or District Convention.

6. CREATING PUBLIC OPINION TO SUPPORT PATRIOTISM AND GOOD WILL.
   a. Launch a traditional or social media campaign to promote Kiwanis service. Newspaper articles, etc.
   b. Complete a project to benefit the children or families of heroes. Could be local military families, families or children of law enforcement or Fire Department personnel.
   c. Enroll new member involved in media or government service. Your local TV general manager, councilman,

To be a Distinguished Club, the following must be achieved:
1. Enroll a minimum of 3 new members in any of the Objects categories. You can have multiple new members in any of the categories.
2. Certify completion of required club leadership education programs.
3. Satisfy at least 8 additional criteria for a total of at least 12 criteria met.

I, or someone I designate, will certify compliance with the criteria before distinguished club designation is granted. A Kiwanis One web page will be created to provide suggestions and ideas as to how these criteria can be met by clubs.

I believe that if every club puts forth the effort to meet these criteria and become a distinguished club, your club will be stronger, the District will be stronger and Kiwanis will remain a force internationally. I know you all can do it so let’s GO FOR IT! This is why we all joined isn’t it?

Click here for summary of criteria.

September Update

08/30/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas

Special Thanks and Congratulations: The 2011-2012 Kiwanis year is not over until the end of September, but I would like to take this opportunity to give special thanks to Governor Denis Cornell and First Lady Nancy 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 Cynthia Braseth who will lead our district beginning October 1. And last, but not least congratulations to Judie Rosendahl who will serve as Governor Elect during 2012-2013.

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 on the following link: click here

District Board Meeting – August 3, 2012
2011 House of Delegates Session – August 4, 2012
District Board Meeting – August 5, 2012
**Club Secretaries:** Be sure that you have submitted all of your monthly online club reports for the 11-12 year. Remember that the September report (last report of the year) is due by October 10th, 2012. 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.

**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.

**Important information for processing your billing roster for 2012-13:**

Just a reminder it’s that time of the year to prepare your club’s billing roster!

We know you want to get started as soon as possible! On September 4, your club can begin filing the billing roster online. Just login to the KiwanisOne Club Management portal at [www.kiwanisone.org/login](http://www.kiwanisone.org/login). You will find instructions for the online filing conveniently located on the Secretary Dashboard.

We appreciate your assistance in maintaining accurate membership records and reporting your membership changes on time!

**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

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**Thank You Kiwanians!**

*08/27/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Rayna Wang, District Key Club Secretary*

The Minnesota-Dakotas Key Club District Board attended the Kiwanis Convention at the beginning of August in St. Cloud. We had a fun time interacting with our counterpart Kiwanians, presenting during the Opening Session, and participating in the Service Fair. Thank you all so much for your kindness and hospitality throughout the Convention.

The many words and gestures of encouragement for us to continue to serve the community and be the leaders of our generation were pleasantly received and much appreciated. We will do our best to continue to keep you updated on what Key Club is doing and we hope to see you all again at various K-Family events. Thank you all again for your continuous support; it was truly a memorable experience to be a part of the 95th Annual Kiwanis Convention.

**Eliminate Update**

*08/29/2012 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bill Daugherty*

We had FUN!! The District convention is now in the rear view mirror, Zeller donations have been made and the parade of checks happened. The latest report from KI shows we have now passed $207,800 in donations to the Eliminate Project. Many clubs have yet to send in Dollars that they have donated or earned in fundraising activities. Those dollars do nothing for EMNT sitting in club accounts. LET’S try to establish a flow of funds to the Project so that we can actually put the money to work fighting Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus. We are targeting donations of 3 Million dollars through the campaign. We need to step up our efforts.

Another point we need to address is CLUB COORDINATORS. Each club needs a
I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who attended the district convention and supported the raffle at the foundations booth. We were able to raise over $1,100.00 and this will go a long way to help the young people of our district. The district board has given us the OK to do it again next year. If any of you would like to donate an item for the raffle, please let myself or Jack know and we will be happy to receive it.

This the final month of the this fiscal year for Kiwanis. Its not to late for your club to send in your annual club gift and be eligible to become a distinguished club. Remember you have to contribute to both foundations to be eligible. Also if you are planning to honor your club president or someone in your community, there is no better way than a Hixson, Tablet of Honor, or Leadership Society and also support our youth. These are all on the web site and if you can't find it, let me know and I will send you an application. Again, THANK YOU for your support and the children thank you as well.

THANKS FROM DAVID FAIRBROTHER

I just want to acknowledge and thank all those MNDAK Kiwanians who supported and voted for me during my recent campaign earlier this month for Governor-Elect at the MNDAK District Convention in St. Cloud.

Please know that I'm not at all bummed out, but rather elated and amazed at the graciousness and warmth extended to me and Dawn, not only during the convention, but afterwards in the many e-mails, notes, and letters that we received, telling us to "hang in there", "keep your chin up", and "thanks for running".

I want to give a special THANK YOU to members of my campaign team who helped so much: Barb, Scott, Liz, Marge, and especially to my "unofficial campaign manager", my wife and chief booster, Dawn.

Looking back in retrospect, I had, believe it or not, an exhilarating experience! I loved meeting and greeting people at the campaign table, speaking and expressing my ideas during the Forums, and the support and encouragement from many friends afterwards. So, it wasn't the final outcome that I think about; but, the journey getting there!

The trip was the joy! So, with that in mind, and because I had such a great experience, don't count me out for next year! “If you don't succeed, try, try again”.

Good luck, Judie, congratulations on your win! Let's all get behind her and Cindy in 2012-2013! See everyone in Aberdeen! In Kiwanis service! David Fairbrother

Kiwanis Educational Foundation of the MN-DAK District

Actions at the District Convention, St. Cloud, Minnesota, August 3-5, 2012.

At the Friday afternoon convention session Jack Zierdt, Secretary/Treasurer of the Educational Foundation, presented the Foundation report. The endowment fund currently has about $965,000 in the investment portfolio. We are still striving to reach the $1,000,000 level in the endowment fund. Only interest from the endowment fund is spent each year. In April 2012 59 scholarships were awarded to students in the MN-DAK
District to be used starting in Sept. 2012. The majority of these scholarships are for $800.00. For the school year starting in Sept. 2013 we plan to award the same number of scholarships. The amount of these scholarships will probably be $875.00-$900.00 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. Jeff McKinney was elected to a 3 year term for one of the South Dakota Trustee positions and Jean Collins was elected to a 3 year term for one of the Minnesota Trustee positions of 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 19, 2012 were approved.
2. Jack Zierdt presented the Secretary/Treasurer report which was approved.
3. Dale Carlson was elected President for 2012-2013. Bill Lardy was elected Vice-President for 2012-2013.
4. The dollar amount for the 2013-2014 scholarships will be determined in early October (probably $875.00-$900.00), and will be based on interest earned in 2011-2012.
5. The number of scholarships for 2013-2014 will remain the same as for the previous year.
6. Jack Zierdt was appointed Secretary/Treasurer for 2012-2013.
7. 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 ($922.59) and at the memorial service on Sunday ($793.00). As a result $1715.54 has been placed in the endowment fund.

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.

**Club News**

**Club Newsletter Ideas**

*08/31/2012 - Club: Fargo - Submitted by: Courtney Taylor, Fargo Kiwanis Club*

I have been approached by fellow Kiwanians asking where I get my ideas for my club newsletters. They are everywhere! In a conversation, in the news, in a book - the possibilities are endless!

Each week, I face an exciting question: What now? The calendar and list of officers rarely changes, but the rest of the pages are prone to begin blank. Out of habit, my club likes to see who our speakers, greeters, and chaplain will be for the following week. For those who missed the previous meeting, I write a program summary. Sometimes this includes a quote from the speaker that may also inspire those who were in attendance. People love pictures, so I don't hesitate to include shots from our latest service project or new member induction. The Kiwanis Magazine and the Minnekotan are both great sources for headlines, trivia, and calendar items. My predecessor included inspirational and spiritual quotes, but I personally enjoy writing something that happened that day in history. You never know how many of your members remember when that event happened live!

Here are some other ideas that I use to fill blank space after I've covered the staple topics:
- What's new in SLP? Do you have a meeting or project schedule for your local Aktion
club? Does your Key Club have a service project that needs a chaperone or extra volunteers? Remind your members that Circle K students make great interns - and once they're in your company, you can recruit them to your club!
- What's happening around town? Will any public benefits be available for people looking to donate a few hours of volunteering?
- If I have a visible gap with absolutely no more news that I want to include, I look to the American calendar. Did you know that September is National Preparedness Month? Your members might be glad to read a list of what they should have in preparedness kits for their homes and cars, especially as we brace for another notorious Minn-Dak winter. By wishing your club a Happy Baby Safety Month, you may inspire a member to plan a new Young Children Priority One project. Wish your members a Happy National Book Month in October, and spark a Read Around the World project. October is also National Popcorn Poppin’ Month - surely you’ll find a fun picture to include with that in your news!

For more ideas, feel free to browse the News at www.fargokiwanis.org. (The news for February 21 was pretty juicy, and I’m rather fond of articles in the May 22 and July 10 editions.) Remember, the best way to encourage others to read your news is to have fun writing it. If you are excited about your publication, people won't be able to resist looking for the next usual article!

K-Kids go nuts for Squirrels

08/25/2012 - Club: Vikingland, Moorhead - Submitted by: Dan Graning, Vikingland Kiwanis Club of Moo

When the K-Kids club at Ellen Hopkins School in Moorhead were approached by their school’s service learning coordinator to help out the local zoo they responded with a resounding yes. The service learning coordinator had been approached by the local zoo and asked if the school would be interested in donating time and resources to replace the well-worn houses of the Russian Red Squirrel. The coordinator immediately took the request to the K-Kids adviser and asked if the club would be interested in taking on the project. When the project was presented to the club they voted overwhelmingly to take it on.

Because it was a service learning project it consisted of two parts; learning about the squirrels, which included a trip to the zoo as well as a trip to the school’s library and the building of the houses. At one of their meetings they all boarded a bus and headed for the zoo. While at the zoo one of the animal keepers told them all about the Russian Red Squirrel and why their houses needed replacing. At their next two meetings they split the club in half. Half of the members went to the library to learn more about the squirrels while the rest of the club built houses. At the next meeting the two groups swapped places. By the time the project was complete they not only had a pretty good knowledge of the Russian Red Squirrel, they had built four houses.

Take me out to the ball game

08/25/2012 - Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

Fargo South Point Kiwanis Club members and friends, night at the Red Hawks baseball game. 24 members and guests attended a Red Hawks baseball game at Newman Field in Fargo, ND.

The evening was spent in a luxury suite with plenty of food and drinks for all. Once a year for the past 3 years the South Point members have taken advantage of this fun night at the ball park. The evening was enjoyed by all, and the RED HAWKS WON!

Watertown Kiwanis Donates to Boys and Girls Club

08/20/2012 - Club: Watertown - Submitted by: Tim Oviatt
Watertown, SD Kiwanis Club recently donated nearly $1,900 to the Boys & Girls Club of Watertown. The funds represent the proceeds from Kiwanis’ annual fertilizer sale last spring. Pictured left to right are Kiwanian Curt Trego, Lisa Dahl, resource development director of the Boys & Girls Club, Louis Canfield, Kiwanian and club services director at the Boys & Girls Club and Heath Heggelund, chief professional officer at the Boys & Girls Club.

North Dakota State Fair Parade

08/16/2012 - Club: Minot, Golden K - Submitted by: Richard Sabol-Sec.

Members of the Minot (ND) Golden K, participated in the North Dakota State Fair Parade. Members Loren Baglien and Larry Crabbe designed and constructed the float for the parade. Members rode the float, waving, smiling and greeting the thousands of spectators along the parade route. Fun was had by all.

ST. ANTHONY AKTION CLUB ROCKS VILLAGEFEST

08/12/2012 - Club: Saint Anthony - Submitted by: Mary Dierbeck

St. Anthony Aktion Club has grown to 19 members and I am extremely proud that 11 of those members participated in St. Anthony VillageFest the weekend of August 3, 4 and 5th.

Starting with the Parade on Friday night with 8 members of Aktion Club we walked with Builders Clubbers, Key Clubbers and K-Kids and Kiwanians and handed out peanuts to the crowd. The enthusiasm was evident in the wide smiles. Saturday Aktion Clubbers helped in the Kiwanis Food Booth and ran their own "Bean Bag Toss" game. They raised $21.00 at a quarter a chance! Sunday was time for the Pancake Breakfast and many were back to work as servers and greeters. They proudly wore their T-Shirts and showed their warmth and caring ways with all their work over the weekend.

At our regular meeting on August 7th, they had lots of "happy quarters" for the fun they had. Now they are looking forward to helping run the games at the annual Halloween Party put on by Community Services on Oct. 26th.

Other plans for the fall include officer elections in September, bingo with the St. Anthony Care Center residents in November, and Holiday Craft making in December. Club meets the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30PM at the St. Anthony Community Center.

Mary Dierbeck, Kiwanis Advisor