I want to thank each of you for the privilege of being your Kiwanis Governor this year. It has been a great pleasure for me in every way! I feel that the only thing better than being a Lieutenant Governor is being Governor! Kiwanians are an impressive group of people! Everywhere Myron and I have traveled this year we have enjoyed being with Kiwanians. You are the most important people in Kiwanis! Without the local club members, nothing would be accomplished! Kiwanis is only as strong as the clubs and clubs are only as strong as the members. Thank you for working with me this year to change the world one child and one community at a time. We have truly built bridges for children to the future! Think of all the ways you have done this in your own community! Now that is impressive!

I also wish to thank everyone who attended our District Convention. It was a success because you were there! Each of you brought your own personality to the activities which truly enriched everyone. Thanks so much for giving your time to be at the convention.

Many clubs will be eligible for the Distinguished Club award and I will let you know how to apply as soon as I hear from Kiwanis International. To receive the Distinguished Club designation your club must complete six of the seven criteria requirements. Briefly they include ending the year with a plus 1 in membership, sponsoring a new Kiwanis club, having your club officers attend a CLE session either in person or online, attending a regional conference, District Convention, or International Convention, providing service for children, supporting Eliminate or the Kiwanis International Foundation, and sponsoring an SLP or donating to the District or International Foundation. Most clubs do those things routinely each year and we are so thankful for all that you do! Please check the criteria because possibly you only need to send in a donation or add one new member to receive the Distinguished Club award. There is still time to accomplish this and I hope you will consider doing it.

We still have one month to grow Kiwanis for 2013-14! It is not too late to put the Formula to work in your club! If we love Kiwanis and all that we do for the children of
our communities and the world, this is a great time to share it with others as we live it each day. Would you invite someone to visit your club? Many people would love to be in Kiwanis if they were asked! Let’s work together to finish this year strong! Just think what we can accomplish if we love a child today and change a life forever!

I have had a great year as your Governor but I am pleased to be turning things over to Sherry Scudder, your Governor for 2014-15. I know she will give you her best and that the Minnesota Dakotas District will continue to grow under her leadership! Again I want to thank each of you for giving me the privilege of being the Minnesota Dakotas Governor for 2013-14! I will always cherish this very special year!

September Update

08/29/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas

Special Thanks and Congratulations: The 2013-2014 Kiwanis year is not over until the end of September, but I would like to take this opportunity to give special thanks to Governor Judie Rosendahl and her husband Myron 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 Sharon Scudder who will lead our district beginning October 1. And last, but not least congratulations to Kent Hochgraber who will serve as Governor Elect during 2014-2015.

District Kiwanis Convention Photos: If you would like to view some photos from our recent 2014 Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Convention in Minneapolis click here. Thanks to Roger Olson and Jack Zierdt for taking the photos.

Thanks again to Club Secretaries for submitting the Annual Club Election Reports for 2014-2015. The reports were due June 1, so if you have not submitted your information online, please do so ASAP! We are still waiting for some club election reports! Please include email addresses whenever possible. It is very important that Kiwanis International and the District Office both receive this information in a timely manner so that directories and mailing lists can be compiled. When filed online and the report automatically goes to both Kiwanis International and the District Office.

Club Secretaries: Be sure that you have submitted all of your monthly online club reports for the 13-14 year. Remember that the September report (last report of the year) is due by October 10th, 2014. 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.

Update your membership roster before October 10th: A few days ago club presidents and club secretaries should have received an email from Joan Wilson at Kiwanis International Member Services. The email noted that on September 3, club secretaries can begin updating your club membership online. Club Secretaries should go
to the KiwanisOne Club Management portal at KiwanisOne.org/login and check to **be sure all non-returning members are deleted by October 10**. Beginning this year, you do not have to submit an electronic (online) roster. Kiwanis will invoice all clubs in late October 2014.

On the secretary dashboard, you may notice the addition of directors and officers insurance for all clubs in North America. For information and pricing see the risk management page at [KiwanisOne.org/Liability](http://KiwanisOne.org/Liability).

We appreciate your assistance maintaining accurate membership records and reporting your membership changes on time. If you need assistance with your membership records, contact the Kiwanis helpline at 1-800-KIWANIS, extension 411 or email memberservices@kiwanis.org.

Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office Contact Information:

Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office
P.O. Box 735 Dalton, MN 56324-0735
Phone: 218-589-7581 218-589-7581
Email: secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org

**Convention Corner**

08/26/2014 - **District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Liz Lawrence-Ross**

The 2014 Minnesota-Dakotas District Convention is now behind us and what an exciting few days it was for those Kiwanians who attended. Like anyone new to something this big, I was a bit apprehensive taking on the role of District Director of the convention but thanks to the help of so many dedicated people there is no question the convention was a success. We have now studied the evaluations and were heartened to see so many wonderful comments from the quality of the talent show and brass quintet concert, to the keynote address, to wonderful service accomplished.

Here are just a few highlights for those who were not able to attend this summer. Year two of the diaper project was bigger than ever. Attendees brought thousands of diapers as a donation to the Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery. We had another wall of diapers this year but now four and five stacks deep. The generosity of Kiwanians in our district is second to none. Our trustee counselor from Canada, Bruce Berven wrote that he was so impressed with the diaper donation that he is now working to make it a part of his own convention in Western Canada!

Our keynoter, Mark J. Lindquist was a huge hit, as we knew he would be. His presentation about what he learned in Key Club was not only right on target but kept the attendees on the edge of their seats. The talent show, which highlighted the Minnesota Valley Brass Quintet, was very entertaining. It was exciting to read how many people mentioned this as one of the top moments of the convention. Thanks to our fellow Kiwanians for volunteering to share their talents and to the very talented brass players who took time to perform for our convention.

Governor Judie did a great job in running the convention and we welcomed our new governor Sherry (in another month), and our newly elected governor-elect Kent to the executive board of the district. Our district is in good hands with these two servant leaders.
We had great hospitality in a wonderful hotel, which was capped by informative and interesting forums and presentations. The Sunday morning Memorial captured the solemn yet we celebrated the lives of those Kiwanis who we lost this past year. This new tradition for the convention continues to help us realize how important our members are to the success of Kiwanis.

From the opening pledge to the closing singing of Auld Lang Syne, it was a great time to meet and learn with our fellow Kiwanians. Mark your calendars now for August 7-9, 2015 when we meet again in Grand Forks, ND at the beautiful Alerus Center. You don’t want to miss the next convention. We are already planning for a great get-together. It won’t be the same without you!

Liz Lawrence-Ross

MN-DAK District Convention Director

Christensen earns distinguished awards at Circle K International Convention

08/23/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Tom Allen

Anne Christensen, a senior industrial engineering major from Sioux Falls, was recently honored with the Distinguished Governors Award at the Circle K International Convention in Nashville, Tenn. The Minnesota-Dakotas District, which is governed by Christensen, also received the Distinguished District Award.

Christensen has been active in Circle K International (CKI), the world’s largest student-led collegiate service organization, both locally and regionally. She has served as secretary, treasurer and president of the local chapter of CKI, as well as the lieutenant governor and district governor for the Minnesota-Dakotas region. As district governor, she led the district to complete more than 5,500 service hours and helped organize three district events – the District Large Scale Service Project, Fall Leadership Training Conference and District Convention.

Last April, Christensen was inducted into the SDSM&T Leadership Hall of Fame for her dedicated service to CKI and several other campus organizations. She has been an active member of the symphonic and jazz bands, Professional Development Institute, Institute of Industrial Engineers, Society of Women Engineers, SAE Baja and the Hardrocker Racquetball Club. Christensen has completed a co-op with UTC Aerospace Systems in Jamestown, N.D., and an internship with Raven Aerostar in Sioux Falls. She is currently interning at Polaris Industries in Roseau, Minn. She plans to graduate in December 2014 with a bachelor’s degree in industrial engineering and engineering management with a minor in mathematics and Six Sigma Greenbelt certificate.

Greetings, Minnesota-Dakota Kiwanians!

08/30/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Jane M. Erickson, Kiwanis
Greetings, Minnesota-Dakota Kiwanians!

As this administrative year comes to an end I want to thank you as your KI Counselor for 2013-14. Thank you for your hospitality, your time, your support, and most importantly for what you do to help children and your communities. It has been a pleasure to work with Governor Judie and her team this year and to connect with your district first-hand.

As you end this year and transition into next year please think about the fact that Kiwanis offers each of us an amazing opportunity to connect on many levels. We can connect with our communities and the needs of our children. We might not always know their names or see their little faces, but we know we are making a positive difference through our projects and programs. Second, we can connect with our fellow members in very special ways, ways that can’t be found anywhere else. Working side-by-side during our service projects provides a special kind of magic bond that only Kiwanians can experience and understand. Lastly, Kiwanis offers us a chance to connect on a more global level. It gets us out of the comfort zone of our own community and lets us meet other like-minded people from all over the globe. Kiwanis offered my husband, Gus, and I the opportunity to connect with all of you this year and for that we are most grateful.

We congratulate Governor Judie and her team for a great year and wish the best to 2014-15 Governor Sherry and her team. We look for great things to happen in the Minnesota-Dakota District in the future.

Now let’s all go out and make some more Kiwanis connections!

In Kiwanis spirit,

Jane M. Erickson
Kiwanis International Vice President Designate

Service at the MN-DAK District Convention

08/25/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Stewart Ross

I am happy to report that service was a major part of the MN-DAK District Convention in the Twin Cities recently. Attendees were asked to bring diapers for the Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery. Boy, did they bring diapers (see photos). We never counted them but estimates were as high as 10,000! The diapers were delivered to the Crisis Center on Wednesday of the following week and the staff were in shock. A special rental truck was needed! Those at the Crisis Center now know of the generosity and spirit of MN-DAK Kiwanians. Thanks to all the clubs and individual members who donated to a great cause. Besides the diaper donations the convention featured some of the best service projects in the Twin Cities area. The forum was
packed and many listed this as the highlight of the convention. We need to find more ways for clubs to share their best service projects with other clubs. There never should be a need to “start from scratch” in finding a good project with so many successful service projects already out there.

We also had a presentation on the new “Oasis Project” from Kiwanis International. Scholastic books has partnered with Kiwanis International to provide a special Kiwanis reading room in a local school. The local Kiwanis club sponsors the room and regularly reading to children and Scholastic provides books and even furniture for the room. If you want more information on this new project or a presentation to your club, please contact me at: stewart.ross@mnsu.edu

In looking at the evaluations of the convention it is clear attendees were delighted to have so much going on at the convention in terms of service. Many stated that was the highlight of the convention. We are already working on the next convention in Grand Forks next summer. We are hoping to feature the best service projects throughout the district. We will be in touch with clubs soon. Thanks for all you do for the children of the world through service. Keep up the great work!

To view some additional photos of project results Click here

It’s Time To Evaluate Your Recruiting Goals!

08/23/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Tom Allen

Recruiting goals you ask! Yes every club membership committee like every sports team coaching staff needs to evaluate their success when it is close to the start of the season. Our new season begins on October 1st! Is your club going to meet your goals?

Or, maybe like a lot of clubs and some sports teams you never got around to setting any goals! That’s too bad if we want our team (Kiwanis) to be successful both this year and in the future. Actually, it’s not too late yet. If you get new members now, they will be in place at the beginning of the new year. Right now is when we really need to use that “2nd Ask” for the program presenter who indicated they would think about it back in May. It’s time to use that ask for the new neighbor who just moved in down the block or that teacher that just retired in May. (Surely their “things to do list” has gotten shorter now.) The point is that there isn’t a one of us who wasn’t asked by a Kiwanian if we would visit a meeting and finally to join our club. Nice articles in the newspaper about your latest service project won’t have most people seeking your club out even if they are interested. YOU have to ask!

At the convention in Minnetonka earlier in August the projections showed we had lost several clubs, but overall membership is up in the district. Let’s send Governor Judy out with a membership surge this last month of the Kiwanis year!

Kiwanis Educational Foundation Information

08/26/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Jack Zierdt, Secretary/Treasurer Kiwanis Education

Your Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis Educational Foundation Elected Bill Lardy from
Bismarck, North Dakota to another 3 year term as one of the trustees representing North Dakota on the board. Also, elected was Denis Cornell of Spring Valley, Minnesota to a 3 year term as trustee on the board as one of the two trustees from Minnesota. Denis is replacing Dale Carlson from Worthington, Minnesota. Dale opted not to run for another term after having served on the foundation board for 12 years. We thank Dale for his 12 years of service on the foundation board and the past 6 years as President of the board. During the annual board meeting at the convention Bill Lardy was elected President for this upcoming year and Jeff McKinney was elected Vice-President. Jack Zierdt was re-appointed to serve as Secretary/Treasurer for this year.

On Sunday morning August 10, 2014 the Kiwanis Educational Foundation sponsored the third annual Service of Remembrance to begin the last day of the District Convention. During this service we paid tribute to 56 Kiwanis members of the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District who were deceased between the District Convention of 2013 and the 2014 convention. This is a tribute that your Educational Foundation feels is befitting all of those Kiwanians that have gone to their final resting place.

Beginning the first part of this month of September, 2014 we will be paying out the awards to the scholarship award recipients and their respective institutions of higher learning. During the fall and early winter of this upcoming academic year we will be sending out 66 scholarship awards. As we send out the awards to this year’s recipients we are also in the process of putting together the application materials for next year’s applications from our high school seniors of this 2014-2015 academic year. The new scholarship application materials will be mailed out to the club secretaries during the first week of November, 2014.

With this discussion about funding of scholarships I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Foundation Board to thank you for the generous offering at the Service of Remembrance at the District Convention. We would also like to thank all of those clubs that have contributed to the Century Club fund this 2013-2014 Kiwanis year. All of your funds help us to be able to continue funding the annual scholarship program.

WHAT A GREAT CONVENTION

08/21/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Chuck Schroder

Our district can be proud of the great convention we had in Minnetonka, MN. and the wonderful job that Liz did her first year as convention chair. The hands on events that were available to participate in were great, and the amount of diapers that were collected is hard to believe.

The Kiwanis International Foundation raffle raised over $2,100.00 and we were able to share a portion of that with the District foundation. This was the beast raffle we have had yet and a BIG THANK YOU goes out to Mary and John Dierbeck and Paul Redlinger for their help in securing such great items. Also thank you to all who participated in the event. This puts us a little closer to our goal of
$30,000. We are about at $26,000 and I think we can make it happen. I have given the Lt. Governor's a plan of attack and I think we can do it.

Hats off to ELIMINATE for the great job they did raising funds. I enjoyed winning one of the silent auctions and they really had some great items.

The year is not over yet. We have one full month to go and we can make our goal. We all need to check with our clubs, and if they have not participated in the annual gift program, please have them send in their gift now, because after September 30th, it goes on next year's account. AGAIN THANK YOU ALL FOR WHAT YOU ARE DOING FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD.

The Eliminate Project

08/27/2014 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bill Daugherty

Hats off to those attending the District Convention in Minneapolis. The Eliminate Project silent auction was outstanding with more than 90 different items available. The proceeds are credited to the club that brought the item. This year, the total donated via the auction was $3,018.50 The partners book sale netted $382.50 which also went to the Eliminate Project. During the convention there were donations received for 5 Zeller Fellowships. Those were distributed at the Banquet on Saturday evening.

One of the first things that started the convention off was when Darlene VanderVorst came up to me and gave me a check from the Bismarck Golden K for $800 to the Eliminate Project. Later that day the Caines of Jamestown handed me a check for $10,444.50 which moved the Jamestown club over their Model Club pledge.

The donor report for September will show the results of these donations and how we are getting closer to our ultimate goal of $3 million. We need more clubs to step forward and pledge to be a Model Club. The key thing to remember is that the pledge is to be completed in five years from the date of pledging. Clubs can do it and Minn-Dak will complete the pledge by June of 2015 with all our help.

Club News

Nita Killebrew Guest Speaker

08/28/2014 - Club: Fergus Falls - Submitted by: S. Handegaard

Nita Killebrew, wife of the late Minnesota Twin's Hall of Famer Harmon Killebrew was a guest speaker at our regular club meeting recently. Nita spoke about her life with Harmon and his great dedication to the Hospice program. During Harmon's retirement years he devoted much of his time to promoting hospice care and education people on its benefits. She and others are working hard to keep his passion for Hospice alive. She also commented on the 2nd Annual Harmon Killebrew Hospice Day which was held at Target Field Twin’s game on August 16.
Climbing a Mountain

08/25/2014 - Club: Fargo Rough Riders - Submitted by: Courtney Taylor

Following the Kiwanis International Convention I decided to climb Mount Fuji. I started my journey at 8:39am, waving farewell to my traveling companion Rachael and marching boldly into the foggy trail. I ditched my fancy new Kiwanis cover-up after just a few minutes, sweating from the exertion of the slope. I saw rain, snow, and sunshine within the first 75 minutes. As soon as the sun appeared, so did the bugs, but both faded back into the clouds a short time later. By the time I reached the 7th Station (10:53am), I acquiesced to the concerns of my fellow (Japanese) hikers and covered my arms again for the duration of my adventure. After the “8.5th Station,” close to noon, I was above the clouds. The Subashiri Trail had merged with the Yoshida Trail; this, compounded by people’s slower paces as the elevation increased, meant that I was no longer alone on the trail. It still wasn’t too crowded to go at my own rate, and it was exciting to peer at so many others above and below me. I can’t imagine how many other reasons people had for starting the journey, but we were all headed to the same summit. I reached the top at 1:18pm, some 5,000 feet in elevation away from where I started. The shortcut for the descent was a sandy slope. I was once again surrounded by fog, alone to risk sliding too fast and cartwheeling to the bottom. I took a chance, let go of my hesitation, and found a rhythm to reach the bottom an hour faster. The entire journey involved nine hours of hiking complicated terrain, connecting with complete strangers, and pondering life in some of the most peaceful surroundings imaginable.

The mountain provided many lessons: better to over-prepare than fail, following blindly may be appropriate, the journey should be even more spectacular than the view from the top, and so forth. However, the biggest lesson was to remember, no matter what, one step at a time. One more donation for The Eliminate Project, no matter how small. One new member, regardless of how few meetings she/he is available to attend. One additional service project, even if the effort is low, the impact unseen. One step at a time, that is how to climb a mountain.

Jamestown Kiwanis donates to Back-To-School program

08/25/2014 - Club: Jamestown - Submitted by: Katie Ryan-Anderson
Jamestown Kiwanis donated backpacks, pencils and markers to Community Action Region 6’s Stuff-the-Bus drive.

Kiwanis allocated $250 of its annual budget to the project, which members decided to dedicate to Back-to-School supplies.

“Helping children is our main mission at Kiwanis,” said President Janna Bergstedt. “This school-supply drive was a natural fit.”

Stuff-the-Bus is an annual fundraiser at the Buffalo Mall. Through Community Action, it helps families in need provide school supplies for their children. Community Action helps low income, disabled and elderly households in nine counties.

Secretary Krysten Perkins purchased all the items locally.

In addition to Community Action, Jamestown Kiwanis also helps organizations like Salvation Army, Anne Carlsen Center, the Kiwanis Eliminate Project and many others.

For more information on Jamestown Kiwanis, visit Facebook.com/JamestownKiwanis or email JamestownKiwanis@gmail.com.

Cutline: Kiwanis members donated more than $250 worth of school supplies to the Stuff-the-Bus program in Jamestown, N.D. The program benefits children in need within a nine-county area. From left, Jamestown Kiwanis Vice-President Katie Ryan-Anderson; Buffalo Mall Administrative Assistant Bev Dawson; Jamestown Kiwanis Board Member Tim Perkins; and Jamestown Kiwanis Secretary Krysten Perkins.

**Back to School**

*08/25/2014 - Club: Rough Rider Country, Dickinson - Submitted by: Ninetta Wandler*

Well its that time of the year again when our children are headed back to school, MDU was so kind as to put out a large banner that goes across Highway 22 which is also 3rd Ave West here in Dickinson, reminding everyone that school is open so please drive carefully. Along with that our soon the be Vice-president Jason Jacobs spear headed our smaller drive carefully back to school signs. A huge thank you to our club members that helped place the signs and another huge thank you to MDU for helping. Life is busy here in Dickinson as in a few other places so here's hoping everyone has had a great summer.

Ninetta Wandler

**Eliminate Fundraiser**

*08/14/2014 - Club: Early Risers, Worthington - Submitted by: Clair Williams*

The Early Risers of Worthington, MN donned paint clothes and gathered up paint scrapers and brushes for a fund raiser to raise money for the Eliminate Project. A business owner in Worthington approached one of the Kiwanis members and asked if the club would be interested in painting a house that he sponsors in Pioneer Village. It seemed like a natural since the Worthington Club had painted over ten buildings at the Village over the last few years. It was presented to the membership and was unanimous
that we go ahead with the project, with the proceeds to go to the Eliminate Project. With the generous contribution of the sponsor, over $1500.00 was raised for Eliminate.

The house was built in 1869 in St. James, MN and in 1871 was moved to Worthington by oxcart to become the home of the Ludlow family. It was the boyhood home of this generous businessman who now sponsors the house.

**Minot Golden K speaker**


Kirsten Baseler, North Dakota Superintendent of Public Instruction spoke to the Minot Golden K, on August 11. She gave us updates on education in ND and spoke of upcoming activities of the department.

**Proud to be an American**

08/04/2014 - Club: Fargo - Submitted by: Courtney Taylor

The Kiwanis Club of Fargo elevated a regular meeting by transforming its usual gathering space at the Fargo Country Club into a courtroom for the naturalization ceremony of past-president Arday Ardayfio.

The meeting opened with the usual Kiwanis singing and handshaking. Then Amy Strankowski was called to the podium to open the court session for the honorable Judge Karen Klein. Fargo South Point Kiwanian Mark Lindquist led the crowd of roughly 100 Kiwanians and friends in singing the National Anthem. Guests were too numerous to announce individually, but Arday recognized his wife, their two daughters, his sister, and his in-laws who were present for his celebration.

Judge Klein explained that naturalization is a favorite task among judges as one of the few positive reasons a person goes to court. She discussed the proceedings of a naturalization process, verifying that Arday had completed all items. Arday was then called to the podium to recite the Oath of Allegiance, following which every person present joined in a standing ovation. When the crowd quieted, Arday led the Pledge of Allegiance for his first time as a United States Citizen.
Fargo Kiwanian and District Judge Wade Webb spoke about the value of being a U.S. citizen, reminding those of us who were born to such status not to take privileges or responsibilities for granted. He spoke of his late father Judge Rodney Webb, who had also been a member of the Kiwanis Club of Fargo.

The next speaker was Fargo Kiwanian Ned Halilovic, who had become a citizen under Judge Rodney Webb in 2001. Ned described what a positive transition he had felt upon moving to the U.S. from Bosnia in 1996. He emphasized that he and Arday are proof that the American Dream is real and that we are truly free to accomplish whatever we wish as long as we work hard. He added that, when he visited Kiwanis for the first time two years later and was warmly greeted by Judge Webb, he was immediately sold on joining our organization.

In thanking those who had helped him reach this day, Arday reiterated how interwoven his American life was with Kiwanis, from friends who might as well be family to business people who had helped him succeed professionally.

Before closing the session, Judge Klein declared that it had been one of the most festive naturalization ceremonies over which she had presided. The Kiwanis Club of Fargo too will remember this as one of their most celebratory meetings ever.