

February 2005

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MINNEKOTAN

Published by Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

Governor's Gab

by Walt Roetter

Service – Our purpose

Supporting immunization programs in your community, service for the future health of our children. Reading is Fundamental, service for the educational growth of our children. IDD, service for the survival of the children. All are examples of why we call ourselves Kiwanians, serving the Children of the World. Sometimes when we get involved in other aspects of our Kiwanis lives, we may tend to forget that service is our reason for being. Not club meetings, not membership drives, not conventions, but service. All the other things are important, but they are necessary to do service.



The wonderful feeling we get for doing service in our community is the reward we receive for our membership in the greatest service organization in the world. We, along with our other K-Family members, can be proud of the millions of community service hours we provide. Be proud, tell people about your clubs accomplishments. It is not bragging to let people know you are in the community serving the needs of your community. Without "advertising" how are you going to reach the people who need our help and the people who can help your club meet that need.

Are your service projects still valid? Are they meeting the needs of your two communities, the community in which you live and the community of your club members. This is an important question that all clubs need to address in a regular basis. Most service projects start because there is a new need in the community or someone in the club introduces an idea that excites the club, but too often the projects continues past the need or excitement. At that point it stops being a service project and becomes work. The service to both communities is no longer there and we lose purpose and membership commitment.

There are always new and exciting projects to get involved with. Read around the World, starting in February is an excellent example as is the program "Kids in Cars". Both are excellent Young Children Priority One programs and are a great way to involve other members of our K-Family in a joint service project. If you need more information ask your Regional Director of Service to help your club get started.

Service our purpose and our reward. Make it fun and exciting for your club.

Walt Roetter
Governor

District Secretary/Treasurer Article

Greetings to each of you,

- District Annual Audit: Our Annual Audit in the Kiwanis year 2003-2004 is now complete. It will be on file at Kiwanis International and the District Office.

- Dale Carlson: Thank you for auditing the Kiwanis Bank Statement and District Budget Book every month. I want you to know it is appreciated. Dale has been doing this project every month for a numbers of years.

- Lt. Governors - Elect 2005-2006: We now have names for Lt. Governors-Elect 2005-2006 for Regions 2,4,& 7. We need names from Regions 1, 3,5, & 6 in the District Office so we can plan for the Lt. Governors Education Training in Willmar May 6, 7, 8, 2005.

- Governor Elect 2005-2006: No names have been turned into the District Office as of February 1, 2005.

- Club Election Report: Please keep in mind that all clubs must have election of new officers and the paperwork must be



mailed to Kiwanis International and to the District Office by June 1, 2005. Forms will come out at a later date.

- Monthly Reports: REMINDER....The Monthly Reports are vital to our District. Please make it a priority to fill these out and mail them to the District Office each month and to your Region Lt. Governor each month.

- Conventions: Kiwanis International has an all Inclusive Package for the 90th Annual Kiwanis International Convention to be held in Honolulu, Hawaii July 2-6, 2005. Be sure and register today. It will be a great time for you.

Our District Convention will be in Aberdeen, South Dakota August 12, 13, 14, 2005. Please mark these dates on your calendar and plan to attend.

- New Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary-Treasurer: Stephen Handegaard will take over when I finish on April 15, 2005. Steve is a member of the Fergus Falls Noon Kiwanis Club. He was elected at the Mid-Winter Tri-K District Board Meeting. The search committee was Governor Walt Roetter, Governor Elect Stewart Ross, Pat Spott who is the current Lt. Governor of Region 3, Merald Enstad, Past Governor, and Past International Kiwanis President, and Jean Collins, Past Governor. More information will follow on the web page at a later time.

District Selects New Secretary/Treasurer

As we approach the retirement of Tom Horan our long serving and outstanding Secretary/Treasurer the District was blessed with several excellent candidates for the position. A selection committee of current and past District officers reviewed all the candidates and is proud to announce that Stephen Handegaard, current Region 2 Lt. Governor has been selected for District Secretary/Treasurer.

Steve brings a broad range of experience to the District office that will continue the strong leadership we have enjoyed from the office for many years. Steve has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills as the Lt. Governor and within his home club. Additionally, he has over many years of experience in managing volunteer organizations in the State of Minnesota Extension Service.

His extensive experience with computer based communication and data management systems will fit very well into the program we have started for the District.

Steve will be setting up an office soon and we will be announcing the new District office contact information as soon as it is ready.

Steve went to work immediately to find a replacement to complete his term as Region 2 Lt Governor and to serve the Region as Immediate-Past Lt. Governor next year. We proudly announce that Lori Larson of Fergus Falls Otter Risers will be the Lt. Governor of Region 2 beginning in April when Steve moves to the District office.

Our Thanks to Steve and Lori for their willingness to take on this very critical job and we all look forward to sharing a long and productive time together.

Walt Roetter
Governor

New Lt Governor for Region 2

As Steve Handegaard assumes his duties as District Secretary/Treasurer, Region 2 leadership will pass into the very capable hands of Lori Larson of Fergus Falls Otter Risers Club. Lori brings a wealth of experience in Kiwanis and outstanding leadership abilities. The District is lucky to have such outstanding leaders who are willing to step up to the leadership positions in the District.

Lori will assume the position of Region 2 Lt. Governor in April. We will be sending her contact information to the District as the transition happens. Lori is currently serving the District as our Webmaster and plans on continuing that role along with the Lt. Governor's position. This is the kind of leader you are getting in Region 2, someone who is willing and able to meet any challenge and succeed.

The District thanks you for your commitment to Kiwanis and the Children of the World.

Walt Roetter
Governor

New Membership Stabilization Plan Approved

The Board of Trustees approved the new plan to reverse our past downward trend in membership at the January TRI-K Board Meeting. This plan will be the long-range working document to help the District meet its membership and new club goals. The plan includes innovative new approaches to new club building, club revitalizing and to general membership growth. Developed by the 2004-2005 Leadership Team led by Governor-Elect Stewart Ross, the plan will be implemented immediately and use into the future for growth in the District.

Minnesota-Dakotas' new Membership Stabilization Plan is designed to make membership growth a reality in the District in order to:

- Make Kiwanis available to more people
- Improve service to our communities
- Keep clubs from failing
- Improve club morale in the District
- Develop pride in all clubs in the District
- Keep the District's budget balance through membership increases.

New club building will be focused in a long-term New Club Building Plan in each Region. This plan will be developed by the Regional Lt. Governor Team with help from the Regional Director of New Club Building. This new position in the region will be the same as the other Regional Directors with a counterpart at the District level who will have overall management responsibility for new club development in the District's K-Family of Clubs. By coordinating all club building in the District we will be able to insure that new clubs in the SOAP programs have sponsors and that new Kiwanis clubs are pointed in the direction of a sponsored program as their first service project.

The New Club Building Plan will contain a list of the potential cities in the District we can build club in, what year they will be built, who will do the building and who will be the supporting organization and people to get the new club started. Cities will be selected after community surveys have identified which towns in the District can best use the support of a Kiwanis club. This process will also establish which club(s) will help in the building process as well as the long-term support for the new club.

Where possible we want to place 2-3 "seed" members in the new club from successful clubs. These members will carry dual membership for the first two years of the new club with the membership in the new club free to the seed members. The New Club Building management team of the Region along with the Governor and Governor-Elect will maintain close communication with the club for the first two years of life.

Golden K clubs will be encouraged to start a new club of younger members in communities where they are the only club. This will bring Kiwanis to the younger professionals as well as provide a membership development program for the Golden K.

A revitalization team will be formed in each Region to assist clubs that are facing challenges maintaining strength. The team, made up of leaders in the region will identify clubs in need of aid and work hands-on with the club to build membership and increase service. This assistance will begin with a visit by the team to the club leadership for a direct discussion of the challenges faced by the club. The team along with the club leadership will develop an action plan to correct the problems.

A strong sponsoring club in the area will be identified to work with the club for one year to help the club achieve its revitalization plan. Where possible 2-3 members would be assigned to the club for one year as mentors for the club. These members would hold dual membership with the second membership paid by the District.

Any club below charter strength will be evaluated for revitalization, but numbers alone will not determine the need for assistance. If a club's charter is revoked because of inactivity, the community will be evaluated for its viability to support a Kiwanis club and the members of the existing club who wish to continue in Kiwanis will be used as the core to form a new club.

All club will be encouraged to utilize the tools available to ensure their continued growth. Maximizing for Success, community surveys, evaluation of service projects, development and implementation of a new member orientation program, the use of exit interviews to determine why a member leaves are some of the tools that can be used to increase the effectiveness of a club. Each club will be encouraged to develop a club brochure to be used in recruiting new members. Additionally, a District public relations plan will be implemented to support member recruitment.

The District will develop a method for K-Family members to move effectively from one club to another as their location and job require.

Better use of electronic media including a state of the art website will be used to attract and inform members of District

happenings. E-mail will be used as a fast efficient communication media between clubs, regions and the District. The appointment of a Club Representative/Public Relations officer who has access to the internet in each club is critical to this development.

Electronic publication of the Minnekotan is part of this process and is already underway.

A part of the CLE program will be devoted to educating new club leaders on the Membership plan. Additionally, the District will develop DVD/CD-ROM covering the essential elements of a club's operations and meeting to be used by the club leadership to improve the quality of their meetings.

Appropriate awards for clubs that achieve distinguished status along with clubs that assist other clubs will be presented at District Conventions. This will allow other clubs to see the successes in our District and be able to look to those clubs for ideas and ways to improve their own clubs.

These are the highlights of the plan, but the critical element of it is the individual club members. Individual members and clubs must want to grow and be able to increase their service in the community for any plan to succeed. Pride in being in Kiwanis and telling our story is an essential element in our future growth. We need to start turning Kiwanis members into Kiwanians.

Our future is in our hands.

Walt Roetter
Governor

Interested in K-Kid / Builders Conference

We have discussed two formats. One would be held on Saturday, March 18, as part of the Key Club convention in Fargo. The other is bringing interested people to the District convention in Aberdeen next August. This would be a chance not only train young people and their advisors, but also show them about Kiwanis and what we do.

We need your feedback as soon as possible. Contact Nancy McDonald (Builders) mcnancy@gra.midco.net or Del Larson (KKids) larsondel@aol.com

We recognize there have been difficulties with the new fee system so please let us know if there is something we can do to help. We would also like to hear from you about your successes.

Don't forget to share with the Minnekotan.

Del Larson, KKid Administrator

Entries for the Bulletin and Brochure Contest Due June 1

CLUB BULLETIN/NEWSLETTER JUDGING PROCEDURE

Entries will be judged in the following categories;

White category 30 members or less.

Blue category 31-45 members.

Orange category 46-70 members.

Silver category 71-100 members.

Gold category 101 and over members.

CLUBS:

Entries must be sent to the Regional Chairperson by June 1.

Send two copies of three issues of your club Bulletin/Newsletter to your regional judging committee chairperson. Make

sure to include your club name, club size, region, and contact person. Include e-mail address and telephone number.

Send only one Club Brochure to the Regional Chairperson. There will be one Regional winner in each Region to be sent to the District. The District winner will be announced at the District Convention.

Send Entries To:

Region 1
Berniece Olson
Box 592
Tioga, ND 58852
701-664-2394
bbolson@nccray.com

Region 2
Mary Ann Berg
3031 Hickory
Fargo, ND 58102
#701-235-7827
berg@fymymca.org

Region 3
Don Lilyquist
1326 91st Avenue West
Duluth, MN 55808
(218) 720-3054
thelilybett@aol.com

Region 4
Earl Stucke
2126 Cedar Dr.
Rapid City, SD 57702
605-399-2067
egstucke@earthlink.net

Region 5
Lyle Terveen
4804 West 39th St,
Sioux Falls, SD 57106.
605-361-6729
lt@sio.midco.net

Region 6
David Fairbrother
620 13th St. S.E.
Owatonna, MN 55060,
507-451-5939,
muffins3@msn.com.

Region 7
Gordon C. Marten
1312 Willow Circle
Roseville, MN 55113 - 3235
651 636 5537
email - marte005@umn.edu

REGIONS:

Regional winners must be sent to the District (Jo Hittner) by July 1.

1340 conrad Dr.
Winona MN 55987
507-452-3481
johittner@hbc.com

Regional judging committees are picked by the REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION. They will pick one winner in each category and give two copies of three issues to the REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION to forward to Jo Hittner. Notice: clubs DO NOT send your entries to Jo Hittner. Send them to the region chairperson listed above.

DISTRICT:

The District Judging Committee will pick one winner in each category for the District award. The winners will be announced at the District Convention.

INTERNATIONAL:

The District will pick one winner to be the Districts Best Overall Club Newsletter/Bulletin. This will be sent to the Kiwanis International Committee for judging. The winner will be notified prior to the International Convention

Sioux Falls' Kiwanis Presidents Begin Meetings

There are 5 Kiwanis Clubs in Sioux Falls that meet each week -- but for the last few years the clubs have not exchanged ideas regularly. Now that's changing.

They come from east, west, south, downtown, and daybreak. 5 clubs with one common ingredient -- Kiwanis membership.

Now with the blessings of Lt Governor Bill Daugherty -- the 5 club Presidents have begun meetings to look for common goals and ways to work together to help Kiwanis ideals and charities.

The first meeting for all five clubs was January 14th. All around a soup and sandwich lunch along I-29 to look for opportunities.

No Chair, no formal organization, but ways to communicate and grow Kiwanis for the future. The group has decided to meet on the 2nd Friday of each month at noon. President-elect's will be added to those attending -- so to make sure that future years will continue sharing of thoughts.

Amazing it may seem --- the session worked very well.

Daybreak Kiwanis shared information on its June 10th Golf Tournament to be played at Elmwood in Sioux Falls. Daybreak is looking for not only players for the 2-person swat but help in prizes and sponsorships. One club President asked if members could volunteer to work the tournament.

The Westside Club is selling ice melt... something others didn't know about. That information will be taken back to the other four clubs meetings within the week -- and instead of using ice melt from a department store or grocery -- it will be available through a Kiwanis Club in Sioux Falls.

Another club circulated information about a \$600 scholarship available for a son, daughter or grandchild of a Kiwanis member who will attend a South Dakota 4 year institution. Most of those in attendance didn't even know it existed. The deadline for submission is March 15th. The Club Presidents talked about ways to raise money in a joint project that could create additional scholarships.

Among the topics discussed for the future -- a July picnic for Sioux Falls Kiwanis members and their families. It would be the first time that the Kiwanis have tried a city-wide picnic. Clubs will be asked if they prefer a Saturday or Sunday.

Also doing volunteer hours with all Kiwanis Clubs at the Sioux Falls Zoo -- fixing up and cleaning up where necessary. Volunteer projects will be shared with the 200 and some Kiwanis members throughout Sioux Falls at future meetings.

A future project could be the work of all five clubs in a Chess Tournament to raise funds for needy projects.

The next move for this group will be to share information, look for ownership on working together, and moving forward in a real Kiwanis Community. Stayed tuned -- we'll keep you informed.

Sioux Falls Kiwanis Presidents include Kathy Lueth, Downtown, Terri Fischer, West, Bryan Satter, South, Mike Simpson, East, and Bill Zortman, Daybreak.

Fairmont Early Risers launches Success Academy - a Junior High Mentoring Program

The Success Academy mentoring program is now in its 5th month and is off to a good start. The program involves Early Risers Kiwanis members mentoring 15, seventh and eighth grade students at Fairmont Junior High School. The group meets every third Wednesday from 11:35 to 12:10 at the school with Kiwanis supplying lunch.

During lunch a short program designed to assist the students in enjoying greater success in school. The program is followed with each mentor visiting one on one with their mentee on individual needs.

Programs to date have been:

Meet and get to know each other;

How to achieve goals;

High School seniors on getting involved in school;

High School Activities Director Randy Soma on programs available to students;

Nicole Kuhl on Scouting Programs for girls and boys.

Kiwanis Mentors are Dick Adams, Mark Bauman, Joe Burns, Glen Davis, Del Ellis, Harlan Gorath, Roger Holety, Daron Johnson, Char Kahler, Nicole Kuhl, Don Milbrandt, Dave Olson, Jim Simser, Jim Smith and Cathy Thiesse. Future meetings will be held on January 26, February 16, March 9, March 30, April 20, and May 11. An awards program/banquet will be held in May to recognize all students and parents involved in the program.

Sioux Falls Downtown moves

The Sioux Falls Downtown Kiwanis Club is returning to their prior home beginning with their Feb 2nd meeting. They will once again be using the Westward Ho Country Club for their weekly meetings.



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