

February 2007

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MINNEKOTAN

Published by Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

Governor Attends Momentous Occasion

This past weekend, I attended a milestone for Region 3 and for our Minnesota-Dakotas District when the Kiwanis Club of Friendly Duluth celebrated their 90th Anniversary as a Kiwanis Club. They were the third club chartered in MN-DAK and just the 33rd club to be chartered in the entire Kiwanis International organization.



What a wonderful, impressive night it was -- an elegant party in the gracious old Kitchi Gammi Club of Duluth. We felt the warmth of our Kiwanis family with the attendance of many members and many guests --quite a few from many miles away. There was a time of gathering -- a time to greet old friends and meet new ones, a time to absorb the history and pictures of times past.

The dinner was superb and the organization of the program, the flowers, the banners and the special awards showed the hours of planning and preparation that had gone into making this more than a special night!

We were treated by a Boy Scout troop who presented the colors through a series of flags from the inception of our nation. How very impressive and humbling to see the development of our country through those flags and what they meant to our young nation.

Words of greeting from several guests were given and there were many presentations and special awards made: a special Key Club Presentation to the outstanding Key Clubbers present, an address by the Andrew Reardon scholarship recipient, an outstanding history presentation in video, and the very moving award received by the elderly daughter of a long-time past significant club member.

At the end of the evening a special floral bouquet was given to Carol Lilyquist-Snoeyenbos, daughter of President Don Lilyquist. Carol had organized so much of the evening, and it was a triumph indeed. What a night! What a proud night for a 90-year-old club, still going strong and a vibrant part of our Kiwanis family.

Congratulations and Happy Birthday to all!

Update from the Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer - February 2007

By Steve Handegaard, Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer



We are so fortunate to be part of this world-wide organization that we call Kiwanis. Kiwanis provides a means for us to do worthwhile and significant service projects in our own communities and around the world. I know that each of you see first-hand the tremendous impact that your own club makes in your community. It is also very amazing to look at the sum total of our service projects...just in our own Minnesota-Dakotas District. With 131 of 170 clubs reporting during the months of October, November and December 2006, our District can claim **938 service activities**, involving a total of **33,699 volunteer service hours**. Also during that three month period these same clubs **donated \$148,456.00** to service activities. That is just the first three months of our Kiwanis year. Keep up the great work!

Following are some important reminders:

Electronic Monthly Club Reporting Update

As of this writing we have 131 of 170 clubs in our district submitting their monthly club reports online. Thanks again to all of the club secretaries that do such a great job of reporting club activities each month. Let's keep working towards 100% of our clubs reporting online. If your club is one of the few that are not reporting online, and you are in need of instructions to get started, just let me know.

Lt. Governors: We are still in need of Lt. Governor Elect Candidates in some regions. Contact your current Lt. Governor if interested. The Lt. Governor Education program will take place May 4-6, 2007 in Fergus Falls.

Governor Elect Candidates: If you are interested in running for Governor Elect for 2007-2008, please submit a picture and a short biographical sketch not to exceed 600 words, along with an endorsement from your home club, to the District Kiwanis Office, P.O. Box 735, Dalton, MN 56324 **no later than February 15, 2007**. Your information must be received by that date to be published in the March Minnekotan. Candidates can announce their intention to run at a later date, but will not be able to have an article in the MINNEKOTAN or district website. Governor Elect candidates must be a Past Lt. Governor. The election will take place at the District Convention in Fargo next August. A complete list of rules and regulations for District Office Campaigns can be obtained from the District Office.

Other District Leadership Opportunities: If you are interested in being a future Regional or District Chairperson, etc., please contact your Lt. Governor, other officer or myself. Each year the district is in need of interested and dedicated leaders. It can be a very interesting, rewarding and educational experience.

One more reminder about Kiwanis Clubs & IRS FORM 990:

Tax Exempt organizations are required to report revenue results each year to the IRS under most conditions. Each club Treasurer and President should be aware of their club status and requirements. Clubs are exempt from filing a report if annual gross receipts (dues, assessments, interest, dividends, rent, project revenue, special event revenue, etc) are less than \$25,000. If a club does receive a 990 package from the IRS it should file regardless of revenue. Clubs with revenue less than \$100,000 and assets less than \$250,000 can file form 990EZ. The IRS website www.irs.gov is your best source of information about requirements. Your return is due by February 15 each year.

Tri-K District Board Meeting: Kiwanis, Circle K, and Key Club District Boards met in Willmar, MN on Friday, January 19 and Saturday, January 20, 2007. Minutes of the Kiwanis District Board meeting will appear in the March MINNEKOTAN.

Club Election Report: It is not too soon to begin thinking about election of club officers. Just a reminder that your club election report will be due June 1st.

Remember to mark your calendar: Minnesota-Dakotas District Convention, Fargo, August 3-5, 2007.

Kiwanis International Convention in San Antonio, July 3-7, 2007: All clubs should be represented at the International Convention. Kiwanis Clubs in good standing are allowed to designate two representative to the House of Delegates. Of course, you do not need to be a delegate to attend, everyone is welcome! Club Secretaries recently were mailed a hard copy of the annual

convention information and forms. Information can also be found in The February 2007 edition of the KIWANIS magazine and on the Kiwanis International convention website.

<http://www.kiwanis.org/convention/>

District Annual Audit: The Annual Audit of the Minnesota-Dakotas District Financial Accounts for the Kiwanis year 2005-2006 was recently completed by Westberg, Eischens and Van Buren of Willmar, Minnesota. The report is on file at Kiwanis International and the District Office.

Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office Contact Information:

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BILL'S PITCH

One of the themes for Kiwanis is that clubs need to define their individual missions. We are much more than a place to have lunch weekly. Most of our clubs have projects that they complete on a monthly or annual basis. We need to make sure that people in our communities know what we do, why we do it, and if there are other needs in the community that need to be addressed.



Clubs need to watch the back door of membership loss. When someone leaves the club we have to find out why, what could we do to make the Kiwanis experience more attractive to new and existing members. Remember we can grow as a result of the projects we do in our communities.

Keep in mind that Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time.

Treasure Map of Service

You are invited to discover the “Treasure Map of Service” at the 2nd Annual K-Family Extravaganza! On March 10, 2007 you have the opportunity to meet and mingle with fellow Kiwanians, Circle K’ers, and Key Clubbers in Fargo, North Dakota. The evening will include dinner, dancing, and a silent auction. All of the proceeds from the event will go to the District Outreach fund which supports our sponsored youth clubs. We look forward to seeing you in Fargo!

Please share information about this event with your club. All of the Extravaganza details are available here on the district website including event registration and silent auction donation information.

[Flyer](#)

[Registration](#)

[Letter to Kiwanis](#)

[Silent Auction](#)

What's happening at this year's International Convention?

Attending this year's Kiwanis International Convention can make you a better Kiwanian and help you to make your club a better club. "There's no place like the Kiwanis International Convention to get re-energized, rededicated, recommitted, and reminded that Serving the Children of the World is something worth being passionate about," says International President Nelson Tucker.

And then there are your fellow Kiwanians. "I love meeting new people," says Missy Flowers from the Cabot, Arkansas, club. She says the people she meets at International Conventions "are always so friendly – especially people from other countries."

The 92nd annual convention of Kiwanis International will take place in San Antonio, Texas, July 3-7. The Exhibit Hall actually opens at noon on Monday, July 2, for those who want to get a head start at the Kiwanis Family Store, Membership Center, and the many booths providing service and fund-raising ideas.

On Tuesday, July 3, the optional K University will be in session from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., followed by the Opening Session at 4 p.m., which features entertainment by The Second City comedy troupe.

Wednesday morning, July 4, features Forums with a Focus, where Kiwanians can gain expert insights into Kiwanis service, membership, and club management. That afternoon, the first business session will provide an opportunity for club delegates to determine Kiwanis directions and policies.

Thursday, July 5, begins with the Fellowship Breakfast and the second business session, followed by more forums and workshops in the afternoon. That evening, country star Clint Black is Live On-Stage at an optional concert.

On Friday, July 6, club delegates will elect the leaders of Kiwanis International at the third business session. Then, after a final round of forums, the Closing Session at 4 p.m. will celebrate the conclusion of another memorable International Convention and look ahead to the coming Kiwanis year.

Last year's convention was "a totally satisfying experience," according to Graham Chick from the North West Christchurch club in New Zealand. "This was my first experience of an International Convention, and what an experience it proved to be."

Go to www.kiwanis.org/convention/ for a convention registration form and more information on entertainment, workshops, and other events planned for the 2007 Kiwanis International Convention.

District Administrative Director's Directions!

How are you doing on your interclub visits? To qualify for an interclub patch, your club needs to visit at least 8 (eight) different club meetings within your region. Visiting a sponsored youth club meeting qualifies; conventions and regional council meetings do not qualify. The deadline is June 15, so you still have plenty of time.

And it's always enjoyable to get acquainted with Kiwanians from other clubs!

February 15 is the deadline for filing Federal Income Tax Form 990/990EZ. However, if your club's gross receipts normally are not more than \$25,000, and if your club did not receive a Form 990 package from the IRS, you do not have to file.

If your club's gross receipts are over \$25,000 but less than \$100,000 AND your club's assets are under \$250,000, you must file Form 990EZ. If your club's receipts are more than \$100,000 OR your club's assets are over \$250,000, you must file Form 990.

Review Articles XI and XII of your club bylaws. Briefly, it describes the annual meeting, and election of officers. It's not too soon to set the date of the annual meeting and begin appointing a nominating committee.

Which leads to the next item for your consideration. It is important that club members willing to run for office and board positions be made aware of the club's expectations regarding those positions. In particular, they need to know of the requirements that the President-Elect and Secretary-Elect attend the CLE (Club Leadership Education) Session scheduled during the summer before they take office as President and Secretary, as well as the President-Elect's attendance at International and District Conventions. During the President's year of office he/she should also plan to attend any Regional meetings. If your club doesn't have a policy to outline these expectations, now would be a good time to work on that! You might also consider policy on reimbursement for these events. (This actually should have been taken into consideration when your club's 2006-2007 budget was finalized !)

One final suggestion: if your club has not been submitting monthly reports on-line, you are encouraged to make that a priority. The advantages are savings in time and postage, and the fact that your information will be tallied monthly regarding awards, interclub data, and end-of-the-year reports, allowing you to avoid having to submit these separately. Attendance at CLE and District Convention will give you opportunities for help. Contact District Secretary Steve Handegaard for more information.

Is this enough to keep you busy for the next couple of months? I hope these reminders and suggestions are useful. Questions? Contact me at hyde@cord.edu or 218-233-0508.
Submitted by District Administrative Director Colleen Hyde.

Mid-Winter Conference Tri-K Board Meeting Region 7 Presentation

- Woodbury Club Charter Night in October
- Region 7 Education Day and Governors Visit in November
- First Annual Kiwanis Family Beach Party and Day of Service was held in January. The service project was 600 "Healing Dolls" made for children in Tanzania, Liberia and the Twin Cities. Also, Valentine Day Cards were made for the Minnesota Troops in Iraq.
- Two sub-region meetings have already been held in the southern region, and two in the northern region.
- The Annual Hockey Tournament in Rochester was held in December and usually raises approximately \$40K for Rochester community needs.
- We recognized 2 members in the southern region.
 - Sue Ringhofer (President of Rochester West Kiwanis), EFM Community Outreach Coordinator, Rochester was named by the Minnesota Jaycees as one of their "Ten Outstanding Young Minnesotans."
 - Cathy Farley (2nd Vice-President Rochester Sunrisers Kiwanis), was honored in the Rochester Post Bulletin as the founder of "Lunch Buddies" which has now moved into 2 schools as "Read Around the World".
- Rochester Sunrisers gives each speaker a book which he or she signs, and this book goes into the library for the "Read Around the World" program.
- Bruce Klair and Mary Dierbeck have helped out with club visits and installations during the time we had no northern Lt. Gov. Elect

Assistant District Membership Director, Orin Dahl reports status of Membership Growth

Membership is the hot topic in this year's club and region activities. With the encouragement of last year's very successful club building, an impetus on new club building has been developed throughout the district as the best method of increasing new club membership growth. Over the last eighteen months, new clubs were formed in Mankato, Woodbury and Sioux Falls. St. Cloud has a development plan for a new club, Rochester is discussing developing a diversity club, Rapid City

and Hot Spring clubs talk of possibilities in Martin, SD and an e-club starting in the Black Hills area.

The Fargo-Moorhead clubs are organizing a massive membership effort by cooperative planning and execution of recruitment for all seven existing area clubs. Their plan entails the use of TAG team members, regional and area volunteers, and Kiwanis International consulting personnel.

Diversity club development, recruitment for existing clubs and sponsored club growth are the essentials of Kiwanis growth in service through the balance of our club year.

Will your club skip a meal for children?

Kiwanis clubs around the world will skip the usual meal during the week of April 22-28 and donate the cost to the Kiwanis International Foundation's Children's Fund. "Skip a Meal for Children" is an annual Kiwanis observance.

Funds raised for the Children's Fund will be dedicated to meeting the special needs of young children and promoting leadership development and the ideals of voluntarism among youth.

Kiwanis clubs will be joined by Circle K clubs, Key Clubs, Builders Clubs, K-Kids, and Aktion Clubs to make Skip a Meal for Children Week a Kiwanis family event.

"Our Kiwanis motto is Serving the Children of the World," says Kiwanis International Foundation President C. Edward Callis. "We raise funds and sponsor projects to benefit local children throughout the year. The Kiwanis Skip A Meal program is a special opportunity to join with thousands of other Kiwanis clubs and our sponsored organizations to do something for children around the world."

For more information about Skip A Meal for Children Week, go to <http://kif.kiwanis.org/kif/giving/skip.asp>

TIME TO PLAN FOR SAN ANTONIO

The time has arrived to make plans for San Antonio. It is very quick and easy to do online. Forms are also available in the Kiwanis Magazine. It has come to my attention that some in our District feel that Kiwanis International does not know MNDAK exists. Let me tell you that there is no district too small or isolated that is forgotten by KI. We have an International President Elect from MONTANA and that District is comparable to one or two of our seven Regions! What better way is there to help people know we exist than by making a strong presence at the International Convention?

The International Convention is another facet of the great opportunities Kiwanis International offers us all. I have also heard that some just do not like conventions. [I can predict you will love an International Kiwanis Convention in San Antonio.](#) Having personally attended a convention in San Antonio and many Kiwanis International Conventions over the years, San Antonio is the best venue that has come along in many years and Kiwanis Conventions are just plain fun as well as educational.

Please check with Barb Egan at BRiversong@aol.com for details on bus transportation and let her know of your interest in traveling in that inexpensive, ecologically sound and fun filled manner to San Antonio in July.

OPENING NEW CLUBS IN MNDAK AND THE WORLD

Diversity Clubs are being opened in MNDAK at St. Cloud and Rochester. Congratulations to Sioux Falls where a new Diversity Club is up and running. The Mankato Diversity Club is nearing its first anniversary of chartering and is going strong.

The new club in Northfield will be opened in the spring after some intensive effort last fall and later on this winter. Governor Coralyn has been helpful in Northfield along with Jean Collins, Beth Colway, Orin Dahl, Mike Daly, David & Dawn Fairbrother, Bruce Klair, Ben Kocourek, Dwain "Pete" Petersen, Bryce Stenzel and others.

Don Kennedy is working hard at getting an Online Club going in the Black Hills with support from around the District and the world as an online club is not limited geographically.

Frank Ferguson and Lyle Sonnenschein are hopeful to open a club in Martin, SD. The Fargo area is not looking to build another club but rather have an ambitious campaign to bring in new members in the Fargo-Moorhead area.

As soon as Kiwanis International gets the go ahead in China our director has contacts to open a new club there. With China being the most populous country in the world and the Mandarin language already one of the Kiwanis family languages in Taiwan, this could develop very rapidly.

Read Around the World tops service charts

According to the most recent summary of Annual Club Reports, Read Around the World is the most popular Kiwanis “branded” service program, with more than 23 percent of all clubs conducting reading and book donation projects last year.

To build on this success, the main Read Around the World brochure and banner patch application form have been translated into eight languages: English, Chinese, Dutch, French, German, Korean, Spanish, and Italian.

Every child needs to discover the joy of reading. The first step is reading to them. The second step is to give them books they can treasure and read again and again. That’s the focus of Read Around The World, an annual Kiwanis-family event scheduled from February 1 to March 3. Kiwanis clubs around the world will encourage children – and their parents – to appreciate reading.

Read Around the World project ideas can be found in the Read Around the World Service Bulletin on the Kiwanis International website (listed under forms and literature, item 177), where you will also find promotional posters and scripts for public service announcements.

Reading is one of the most important skills any child can acquire. Through Read Around the World, Kiwanians can give children the power of literacy.

Region 5 Kiwanian of the Week Winners in 2006-2007

2006-2007 Region 5 Kiwanians of the Week

October 2 ---- Colleen Weiss -- Pierre
 October 9 ---- Jack Stengel -- Milbank
 October 16 -- Mick Niles ----Chamberlain
 October 23 -- Janice Manolis -- Huron
 October 30 -- Rose Pulford -- Madison
 November 6-- Kevin Terveen -- Sioux Falls Downtown
 November 13- Tracey Robinson-- Sioux Falls
 Dave Thomas --- Diversity
 Kim Hinrichs Nguyen -- Club
 November 27- Carol Woltjer -- Sioux Falls South
 December 4-- Mike Simpson -- Sioux Falls East
 December 11-- Donna Weiland -- Mitchell
 December 18-- Carl Bot -- Aberdeen
 January 2 -- G Todd Garry -- Webster
 January 8 -- Ruth Pliska -- Sioux Falls Daybreak
 January 15 -- Vickie Walters -- Madison (Lt Governor)
 January 22 -- Bill Daugherty -- Sioux Falls South (Gov Elect)

January 29 -- Bev Werner --- Aberdeen (Lt Gov Elect)
 February 5 -- Bernie Schuurmans -- Madison
 Clarence Tostenson -- Kiwanis

We do have a number of additional nominees that have been submitted for 2007. Fifteen of our 25 clubs have already had a Kiwanian of the month named from their club. We have ten other clubs we would like to include in the coming year. Submit your information to billtell.pre@midconetwork.com.

Bill Zortman
 Lt Governor 2006-2007
 Region 5

Region 5 Tells Their Story & Sticks to It!!

Region 5 – 2006-2007

Lt Governor – Bill Zortman 2006-2007

Bev Werner 2007-2008

Vickie Walters 05-2006

Administration – Randy Hohn –SF Daybreak

Lyle Terveen –SF Downtown

Activities -- Allen Herrboldt—SF South

Vern Kahre --- Huron

Tag Team -- Bobbi Nelson—SF Downtown

Brenda Kleinjan—Pierre

- Hosted 1st Region 4 and Region 5 Conference in Chamberlain with outstanding results – including more than 50 attending. Next year – Region 4 will host in Pierre. Saved time and money and created a new energy. Among the best was the opportunity for each club to share the projects they are doing – they took ownership. It was awesome – as was working together with Region 4.
- Chartered 1st new club. Diversity Kiwanis Club of Sioux Falls on November. Membership today is 52 according to President Richard Kamolvathin. The club went through some pains with new leadership with little or no Kiwanis experience. Thanks to a special Orientation by Rick Hoogendoorn from Sioux Falls Downtown and CLE from Vickie Walters for the club --- they are well on their way to understanding what Kiwanis is all about. Some of the fears about not wanting to be a “cookie cutter” Kiwanis Club have changed. The leaders have also gone

through some disagreements – but have survived. New leadership has emerged. Let's Face It -- - Diversity is Realty is a theme that the Multi-Cultural center is using – with a brown, black, native American, yellow and Caucasian face. The eyes grab you.

- In the year of the club we have gotten a lot of mileage out of working with the team – and asking Lt Governors and Governors from the past to support. Some suggested they would help but didn't. However they were asked and still feel apart of the system. Being asked takes away that --- they just won't know how to lead rhetoric that can happen. When you ask someone who has led to lead – they feel honored and take some ownership. That was the message Governor Daugherty and I delivered to clubs when we traveled together.
- I couldn't be happier with the work that Vickie and Bev have done. We hit all but the Miller Club --- and we are moving forward there too. My problem is having Vickie and Bev feel a part of the team. Bev being in Aberdeen has kept us from having face to face sessions – though we did see each other in Chamberlain at the Region 4 and 5 Conference and 10 days later in Sioux Falls for the Diversity Club session.
- What we are leaving Bev for 2007-2008 is a team that is working with clubs on reports. We are down to 4 that have not used the internet for reporting. We think that will get even better. Randy Hohn – 6 years as a club secretary – has become a super – secretary “big brother” of sorts. The others have been willing to help --- and Allen Herrboldt and Bobbi Nelson joined Randy Hohn, Bill Daugherty and I in having membership in the new Diversity Club.
- Each week I do an Update that comes out Monday or Tuesday --- and goes on the Region 5 webpage usually by Thursday or Friday with Arday. Included is the Kiwanian of the Week. We have a list of the Kiwanians we have named and can show you the new certificates.
- The Kiwanian of the Week is now part of my hour radio show on Monday from 10-11 on KELO-AM – 1320 on the dial. The “On Topic” Show is a professional show that includes topics of interest, and slices of life – that has its own siouxfallsontopic.com website.
- We have worked hard as a group --- but would have liked to have done more. Most important we have put Kiwanis on the front shelf with publicity in Sioux Falls. Last night I attended a special leadership meeting for pushing an education initiative in Sioux Falls and South Dakota. When the Supt of the Sioux Falls Schools spoke out speaking around the state and at Rotary Clubs --- I told her afterwards that mentioning 4 times you were speaking to Rotary Clubs should be a little less of a brag. After-all – we now have almost 300 Kiwanians with 6 clubs in Sioux Falls. She said that should would include Kiwanis in future considerations.
- Suggest that Sioux Falls Council, Fargo-Moorhead, Rapid City and other groups share what they are doing in monthly and quarterly meetings. The winners will be all the clubs.

Kiwanis Pack Boxes

The Huron, SD Kiwanis Club packed boxes for the Salvation Army Christmas Food Basket Program. Over 600 boxes were set up and then packed with canned goods and other non perishable items on Dec. 21. On Friday Dec 22 the perishable items were packed. There were 16 Kiwanians that put in about 125 hours in 2 days. This is an annual event for the local group.

New York Times reports on IDD progress

On December 16, a *New York Times* headline informed readers, “In raising the world's IQ, the secret's in the salt.” In an extensive report from Central Asia, reporter Donald G. McNeil Jr. reviewed the progress made in eliminating iodine deficiency disorders and noted that Kiwanis International has played an important part in the worldwide campaign.

“The 1990 World Summit for Children called for the elimination of iodine deficiency by 2000,” he noted, and the subsequent effort has been led by the International Council for Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders “along with UNICEF, the World Health Organization, Kiwanis International, the World Bank, and the foreign aid agencies of Canada, Australia, the Netherlands, the United States and others. Largely out of the public eye, they made terrific progress: 25 percent of the world’s households consumed iodized salt in 1990. Now, about 66 percent do.”

However, “like all such drives, it cost more than expected. In 1990, the estimated price tag was \$75 million – a bargain compared with, for example, the fight against polio, which has consumed about \$4 billion. Since then, according to David P. Haxton, the iodine council’s executive director, about \$160 million has been spent, including \$80 million from Kiwanis and \$15 million from the Gates Foundation, along with unknown amounts spent on new equipment by salt companies.”

Every Kiwanian can be proud of the fact that Kiwanis has provided half of the worldwide funding for the campaign against IDD.

The article also explained why eliminating IDD has been so difficult. In many developing areas, health authorities have to overcome widespread suspicion of iodization.

“In some nations, iodization becomes tarred as a government plot to poison an essential of life – salt experts compare it to the furious opposition by 1950s conservatives to fluoridation of American water.

“In others, civil libertarians demand a right to choose plain salt, with the result that the iodized kind rarely reaches the poor. Small salt makers who fear extra expense often lobby against it. So do makers of iodine pills who fear losing their market.

“Rumors inevitably swirl: iodine has been blamed for AIDS, diabetes, seizures, impotence and peevishness. Iodized salt, according to different national rumor mills, will make pickled vegetables explode, ruin caviar or soften hard cheese.”

Many Kiwanis IDD grants have been used to fund public education programs to convince parents that iodized salt is safe and vital to their children’s mental and physical development.

As part of its \$37 million endowment campaign, the Kiwanis International Foundation plans to raise \$1.5 million to help sustain the IDD program and ensure that our extraordinary investment is protected through close monitoring and preventative measures with UNICEF and other worldwide partners.

To learn more about the "You Can Make a Difference" endowment campaign, visit <http://kif.kiwanis.org> or, call 1-800-549-2647, extension 254.

Governor's Project-RMH

Governor's Project-RMH

By: Kathryn Sitter

Minnesota-Dakotas Key Club District Governor

As you may know, the Governor's Project for the 2006-2007 service year is the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

I chose this charity because there is so much you can do with it, besides simply donate monetary funds—you can donate your time and effort and sometimes that means a lot more.

The Ronald McDonald House provides a “home away from home” where families can stay while their children's medical conditions are being treated at a nearby hospital. Many times the thought doesn't occur to us that a large number of families must spend the what seem to be countless nights this way.

In the past, we've set district goals such as \$300 per club, for example. Coming from a small club, myself, I know how hard this can be for smaller schools.

At our board training in April, we discussed this problem and came up with what we believe to be “the perfect solution”. Instead of setting a club goal, we want you to set personal goals. The amount? As little as \$5 per member!

If each member in Minn-Dak donated \$5 we could raise around \$17,000 for the Ronald McDonald House.

I also encourage everyone to be collecting pop tabs for our drive at Spring Convention. It is an easy way to make a difference...all you have to do is remember.

There are 5 Ronald McDonald Houses in our District-Fargo, Sioux Falls, Bismarck, St. Paul, and Rochester. If your Kiwanis club is within one of these areas, or relatively close, I encourage you to go visit, clean, cook—whatever they need your help with. When you're doing it, don't forget to SMILE...it makes a world of difference!

The Ronald McDonald House of the Red River Valley (Fargo) has a “Share-a-Night Program” where donations are given to support a family for a night. While staying at a House, families are asked to pay only \$15 to differ from the financial burden which comes with medical bills and hotel rooms. With the “Share-a-Night Program” individuals make donations in \$15 increments to help this cause. The average stay for a family is 14 nights. Think about adding one more person to your gift list and consider sharing a night.

Iodine Deficiency Disorder

The battle against iodine deficiency disorders (IDD) is being fought and won in Kazakhstan, according to a December 16 New York Times article, “[In Raising the World's I.Q., the Secret's in the Salt.](#)” And one of the contributors to the victory, the article states, is Kiwanis International.

The Times reports that Kiwanis contributed \$80 million to the global fight against the leading preventable cause of mental retardation.

“Largely out of the public eye,” the article states, “Kiwanis, UNICEF, and other partners have made terrific progress: 25 percent of the world’s households consumed iodized salt in 1990. Now, about 66 percent do.”

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To learn more about the "You Can Make a Difference" endowment campaign, visit <http://kif.kiwanis.org> or, call 1-800-549-2647 .

LTG Report from Region 6

Our first major accomplishment last October was to meet all the clubs in the Region 6 and install the officers. This was accomplished even though we were one LTG short. We were able to ask past LTGs to help us out and in true Kiwanis Spirit they obliged.

We are happy to report that there are several clubs in the Region that are approaching or have reached the 25 per cent increase promoted by KI at the last International Convention. With a 25 per cent increase the new member KI dues will be waived for the year. However, clubs still need to send in the dues and it will come back in the form of a credit once it has been determined if the increase was achieved.

Our Region is supporting CAMP LOVE'S EMBRACE as a Region Service Project. The Camp was organized by a teenage girl, Whitney Buesgens of Slayton, MN AFTER 9-11. It is a camp organized to help children through the grieving process after the loss of a family member or close friend.

Many clubs are doing an excellent job of reporting online and there are some who still need some prodding. Once secretaries realize the ease with which it can be done and that they won't have to do an annual club report, we may realize all clubs using it.

Our Mid Winter Conference is scheduled for March 3, 2007, at the Redwood Area Community Center in Redwood Falls. It runs from 9AM to 3:30PM and will feature sessions on membership, service, administration and education. The education part of the Conference will be a Club Leadership Education(CLE) class. It's early in the year, but realizing the difficulty of getting members to participate on a summer weekend, it hopefully will be a good alternative. The Conference will feature comments by our District Governor, Coralyn Dahl, and shared Kiwanis moments from last year's Regional Star nominees. Fun activities including silent auction items and door prizes will add to the day.

We're happy to report that a new Key Club is being organized at the Worthington High School and is sponsored by the Worthington Noon Club.

Well, we were told to keep it brief so I will end here. In true Kiwanis Spirit--Curt Pearson, LTG Region 6

Trauma Doll Project

TRAUMA DOLL

A hospital experience can be overwhelming for an adult. Imagine what it is like for a sick or injured child.

The child enters a strange environment of bright lights, strange noises, weird smells and many strangers asking questions. He/she is poked and prodded. Clothes are removed. And, throughout all of this, there is pain and fear.

The Fridley High School Key Club, University of Minnesota Circle K, area Kiwanis Clubs and local Key Clubs as well as community members will gather on January 6th at 1:30 PM in the Fridley Middle School Cafeteria. At this time, the 145 plus group, will stuff 600 trauma dolls and sew up their side seams. These dolls will go to nearby Children's Hospitals and Children's Surgery International (CSI). CSI will take 100 of these dolls on their mission trip to Liberia this fall where they will perform cleft palate and facial restoration surgeries on young children. The trauma dolls are made of plain beige muslin material and filled with polyester. Each doll is 15" tall with a round head, a torso, two arms and two legs. They look like a gingerbread doll with no features.

These dolls are used in a variety of ways. They provide diversion and comfort. They are soft and squeezable when the child is anxious. Children can draw on them with markers to make them look like themselves. This provides a distraction from pain and boredom. The doll also allows them to express their feelings. They can mark on the doll the location of injury or draw their feelings on the face of the doll. Research has shown that when medical personnel demonstrate the procedure on the doll the child is more cooperative. The children will keep their dolls when leaving the hospital. Hopefully, these dolls will remind them of a positive hospital experience.

Mary Bowen, Advisor

YOUNG KIWANIS, KEEP A BUSY SCHEDULE AT HOLIDAY TIME

The recently organized **Key Club**, at **Worthington Senior High School**, was given a huge pre-holiday assignment. The local Chamber of Commerce asked for their assistance to judge the city holiday lighting contest. It tested the organizational skills to divide and cover the entire city within the time allowed. The service project was completed and winners were announced in the *Worthington Daily Globe Newspaper*.

At the **Worthington Middle School**, the **Builders Club**, now three years old, made cards and/or ornaments and delivered them to the South Shore Nursing Home. They were well received and the residents enjoyed visiting with the young members so much that they even joined together to sing Christmas carols in the Visitor's room. It was rewarding to the young Kiwanians to have the extra voices sing along with them. "Let's do it again" was the comment heard as they left the nursing home.

The **K-Kids** at the **Prairie Elementary School** numbers about seventy-five members. Faculty advisors are **Heidi Fritz** and **Elizabeth Wacker**. These members and advisors, together with the members of the supporting club, the **Worthington Early Risers**, quickly and cleverly made enough angel decorations for the entire staff at school. Within a half-hour the students had accomplished the task of creating an angel from ribbons, clips and beads. The following week just before the Christmas break was the most fun meeting. The excitement, smiles and warmth of feeling was vividly expressed as they gave the teachers and other staff the ornament and offered a holiday cookie. "I get to do my teacher" or "I'd like to give to this person" were often heard expressions. It was all a matter of finding the right spot as they lined up in an orderly fashion. Appreciation was evident and the Holiday Spirit abounded!



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