

January 2007

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MINNEKOTAN

Published by Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

Governor appreciates the work of K-Kids

by Coralyn Dahl, Minnesota-Dakotas District Governor

I would like to wish all of you a very Happy New Year! My hope for you is that you will allow yourself, after the busy holiday season, to sit back and take the time to contemplate the many blessings that you have received from Kiwanis, and how you have given back by serving your communities, your youth and your club. That's what I have been doing for the past few days. I read the newsletters that you send me and I read the *Minnekotan* and am blest by the service you do and the care you have for your communities.

I was particularly blest the week before Christmas. Our club has just started a K-Kids club at an elementary school in st. Cloud which is far and away the most ethnically diverse and one of the economically poorest schools in the community. but they are rich in having a compassionate and caring principal. She was excited about Kiwanis coming to help her school and to encourage her kids. The first project that the new K-Kids group decided to do was to ask their fellow students for change - pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters, so taht they could buy toys for Toys for Tots. They asked for our help to supervise this project. So we came for three straight days and watched as the students came in with their change - sometimes a few pennies, other times a handful of quarters. as they contributed, they were each given a picture of a train car, on which their names were printed, and they were to color and hang up in the hall. By the time we finished, we had nearly as many train cars taped to the long halls as students in the school! The K-Kids were elated and the students were enthusiastic about buying toys for others. At the end of the three days and with a little financial help from our club, they had raised over \$700.00. The K-Kids went out and shopped and brought many, many toys to the distribution area. They were so excited to give to others!

Why am I telling you this story? Many of your clubs also have done similar things, I know, but you see, nearly all the students who contributed to this project were themselves eligible to receive a toy from the Toys for Tots program. But they didn't think of that; they only thought of how they were helping someone else's Christmas merry!

So this is a good time to tell you that we now have a new K-Kids Administrator in place - Dawn Fairbrother from Owatonna, MN. Her husband David is currently serving as Lt. Governor Elect of Region 6 and together they have worked diligently for Kiwanis in the TAG team, as counselors at the Key Leader weekend and in serving their clubs. So I thank Dawn for taking on this new position, which is a good fit for her and her interest in serving children. Thank you, Dawn! And thank you to each of you who work so passionately for Kiwanis!

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

By Steve Handegaard, Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe we are now in the year 2007! I would like to wish everyone the best during the coming year. Even though the calendar year is just starting, our Kiwanis year is already over 3 months completed! Keep up your great service in Kiwanis.

One of the most asked questions: One of the questions that I get asked very often is how are the District and Kiwanis International member dues broken down? Here is the answer:

- District dues - \$30.00 per year
- Kiwanis International dues - \$42.00 per year
- Liability Insurance- \$11.90 per year

Kiwanis International Magazine - \$8.00 per year

Also, for new members:

Kiwanis International new member fee: \$50.00

District new member fee: \$5.00

Kiwanis International Convention in San Antonio: It is time to start thinking about the Kiwanis International Convention to be held July 3-7, 2007. All clubs should be represented at the International Convention. Be a delegate and vote for the future of Kiwanis! You can help shape the future of this great organization by representing your club as a voting delegate. 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 should have recently received a hard copy of the annual convention mailing. Convention information will also appear in the February 2007 Kiwanis Magazine and on the Kiwanis convention website.

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

Membership Information Form - Reminder to club secretaries: The Membership Information Form is available on the Kiwanis International website at

<http://www.kiwanis.org/lit/forms/mbrinfo.pdf>

This form is used to add, delete, change information and transfer members. The form should be sent to Kiwanis International with a copy to the District Office. If you are submitting a new member, enclose a check payable to Kiwanis International for the total new member fee of \$55.00. (Kiwanis International reimburses our District for the district portion (\$5.00) at a later date.) Be sure to submit adds/deletes/member changes as soon as they occur.

Kiwanis Family Store: Many members are not aware of the Kiwanis Family Store. Take a look at the great Kiwanis clothing and merchandise that is available. Club secretaries should have a hard copy of the catalog. Otherwise you can browse and even order online at

<http://stealth.onet.net/kicatalog/kiwanis/v40/default.asp?catalog=Kiwanis>

Kiwanis celebrates 92nd Anniversary on January 21: Here is a great opportunity to get some local publicity about your Kiwanis Club. If you go to the following link you will be able to download a sample news release that you can localize and send to your local media.

<http://www.kiwanis.org/lit/download.asp?id=306>

Distinguished Club Awards for 2006-2007: Please take a look at the criteria for receiving the Distinguished Club Award for 2006-2007. If you complete 80 of the required points your club can qualify. (I have included the criteria in a separate article.) Also, please remember that starting this year, in order to qualify for this award your Club Secretary must complete all Monthly Online Club Reports from October 2006 to September 2007. The data for determining the award recipients will be gathered from the monthly online reports. You will not need to submit a separate application form and you will not need to file the customary Annual Report at the end of the year. Currently we have over 75 percent of our clubs filing their club reports online. Special thanks to all of those clubs and club secretaries!

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.

District Leadership opportunities: If you are interested in being a future District Lt. Governor, 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.

Another Reminder - Receive Monthly MINNEKOTAN via email: Be sure to subscribe to receive the MINNEKOTAN directly to your email address. It is easy to do. Just go to the District Website and find the box that says "Sign Up to Receive News from Kiwanis". All you need to do is enter your email address and indicate which region you are from.

Tri-K District Board Meeting: Kiwanis, Circle K, and Key Club District Boards will meet in Willmar, MN on Friday, January 19 and Saturday, January 20, 2007. Check out some of our other District event dates on the District Website ----- <http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/story.php?articleid=628>

Thanks again for all your great work in Kiwanis!

Steve

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On to San Antonio

It's not too early to begin making your plans to attend the Kiwanis International Convention in San Antonio, Texas, July 3-7, 2007! Again this year, the Minnesota-Dakotas District is offering a bus trip to the convention as an alternative to the more costly air travel option. "On to San Antonio" co-chairs Dwain "Pete" Petersen and Barb Egan offer the details about the bus trip that have been developed thus far and invite your participation. Take advantage of the substantial transportation cost savings and enjoy the great CAMARADERIE you'll experience while traveling with fellow MNDAK Kiwanians!

We leave from somewhere in MNDAK (probably St. Cloud) Monday, July 2, on a leisurely bus trip with a pickup stop in Bloomington at Jerry's Super Value (US 169 & Anderson Parkway) and another stop along I-35, depending upon ridership. We will overnight each way in Emporia, Kansas, which is close to half way. We will be delivered directly to and picked up from our convenient MNDAK convention hotel, the LaQuinta Inn & Suites in downtown San Antonio, leaving San Antonio on Saturday, July 7, following the convention's closing ceremony or Sunday morning if closing activities run late. In any case, we will arrive back in MNDAK on Monday, July 9, 2007. More specific arrival and departure times will be announced as more convention information is made available.

The bus trip including driver expenses, VCR and monitor for movies, microphone for announcements, and bathroom can be yours for about \$200, if we get 42 passengers. If we get 55 passengers, we would use a larger bus with all of the above amenities, and the cost would be about \$155 per person. Of course, the overnight and meal expenses each way would be in addition to the bus charges.

Please give Dwain "Pete" Petersen and Barb Egan an early indication of your interest in participating in the bus trip by writing to Barb this month--January (Barbara Egan, 714 E. Turnpike Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58501, email BRiversong@aol.com). Include your return address and email address so that she can send you further details as they are determined, along with a registration form to return to her with your \$50 trip deposit by the April 15 deadline. And look for more information on the MNDAK bus trip in the February Minnekotan. Traveling together will add to the fun and excitement of the whole convention experience. Join us!

Diversity Brings Warmth of the Season

Diversity Warms Up with Immigrant Family Giving

The Sioux Falls Diversity Kiwanis Club -- worked its first project around the Christmas season by teaming up with Lutheran Social Services in a "Winter Warmth" campaign. For the newest club ---- it was a chance to roll up sleeves and help those immigrant families that have moved to South Dakota -- many unprepared for the chills of a midwest winter.

The clothing was distributed through Lutheran Social Services Refugee and Immigration Center. Nine members of the Diversity Club -- with less than a month from their November Charter Night delivered 100 coats, 20 snow pants and snowsuits, 100 hats and gloves, 10 pairs of boots and an assortment of sweat suits, sweaters, and pants for boys and girls. There were also three dozen wrapped presents for the kids.

Smiles were stunning on the Kiwanis members that came to help the children --- many from Sudan -- as they were fitted into coats and hats. The clothing was distributed to the 135 children who need the warmth of the coats and other gear in what could be their first South Dakota winter.

Henry McCall -- President-Elect of the new Diversity Club and Trish Garcia of Lutheran Social Services co-chaired the Winter Warmth Project.

For this new band called Kiwanians --- its just a start of what they want to do --- to help those that fly under the radar -- and are many times forgotten by service clubs during the busy holiday season.

ANNUAL TAX FILING

KIWANIS CLUBS, KEY CLUBS, AND CIRCLE K CLUBS are urged to file required tax reports to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) by the **February 15, 2007** deadline.

Form 990 and Form 990-EZ, as well as instructions on how to complete these are available from your nearest IRS office or by visiting the Internal Revenue Service website at: www.irs.gov. You may also file your return on-line via the Internal Revenue Service website.

The reporting period of **October 1, 2005** through **September 30, 2006** requires a **2005** tax form.

It is recommended that clubs obtain the service of a certified public accountant or other knowledgeable individuals who can assist in complying with new tax procedures. In addition, your state may require a copy of the federal return or may have other specific reporting procedures. Contact your state department of revenue for more information.

The IRS, on occasion, audits clubs, districts, and other nonprofit organizations. Therefore, it is important to make time and accurate filings. The IRS may assess penalties for failure to file reports on time. However if a notice of penalty is received, the penalty may be abated if the notice is responded to in a timely manner, stating, "no taxes are owed", and request that the penalty be waived.

Gross receipts of the club - are defined to include the following: membership dues and assessments, contributions, gifts, indirect public support, government grants, program service revenue, interest on investments or savings, dividends, rents, other investment income, special fundraising events and activities, and other cash receipt items during the annual accounting period, without subtracting any costs or expenses.

Gross receipts less than \$25,000

If your club's gross receipts are normally not more than \$25,000 and if your club did not receive a Form 990 package in the mail from the IRS, your club will not need to file a 990-EZ (the short form) with the IRS.

Gross receipts for more than \$25,000, but less than \$100,000

Your club needs to complete Form 990-EZ if your club's gross receipts are between \$25,000 and \$100,000 AND your club's total assets are under \$250,000. If the club's total assets are more than \$250,000, Form 990 must be completed.

Gross receipts for more than \$100,000

If your club's gross receipts are more than \$100,000 OR your club's total assets are more than \$250,000, Form 990 must be completed.

NOTE: If your club received a tax form and mailing label from the IRS, you are advised to file the return even if gross receipts are less than \$25,000.

Read Around the World is family affair

Kiwanis International's annual literacy effort, Read Around the World (RAW), is just around the corner, scheduled for February 1 through March 3.



For the occasion, Kiwanis-family clubs worldwide are encouraged to plan projects that promote and encourage literacy. That's a broad range that includes everything from reading to children to helping out at a library.

Additional ideas, a list of age-appropriate [books](#), [bookmarks](#), [posters](#), and more are available in [Kiwanis literature](#). From there, choose "service" from the pull-down menu and scroll down to Read Around the World items.

Key Club, which already is working on literacy through its [Read & Lead](#) Winter Season of Service project, also helps with RAW. This past year, for example, the **Key Club of Wetumka, Oklahoma**, co-hosted its school's annual book fair.

"There was something for everyone to help out with," says Key Club member Naomi Bremer. "Artsy-crafty types got to figure out how to arrange all the materials, members who like to work with their hands set up the displays, and others hung posters. Almost all of Wetumka's 29 members participated with gusto, pitching in and helping out whenever and wherever they could.

"During the week of service, our Key Clubbers learned one of the most valuable lessons in life: how to have fun while fulfilling the needs of others—and helping others to have as much fun as possible along the way too."

Lt Governor Hosting Weekly Radio Show

Region 5 Lt Governor Bill Zortman begins hosting an hour radio show in January 2007.

The show will air Monday mornings from 10-11 -- on KELO-AM (1320) in Sioux Falls. The program is called "On Topic" and will feature experts from finance, banking, marketing, dressing for success, house building, and much more.

During a portion of the call-in-show -- the Region 5 Kiwanian of the Week will be announced along with information from other service clubs in the Sioux Falls area. The idea being that service clubs -- including Kiwanians -- are forgotten for all they do and what they can do in communities. Listeners will be encouraged to get involved with a service club to give back to the community.

Lt Governor Zortman will be joined by the Mayor of Canistota -- Somer Ortman -- yes it will be the Ortman-Zortman show.

Website for the show will be located at Sioux Falls On Topic.com. Call-ins will be accepted as well.

Zortman spent 30+ years in television and radio -- and now is a real estate broker in Sioux Falls.

You may deserve a patch

Did a medical expert speak to your Kiwanis club about the importance of being vaccinated against influenza?

Did your club help publicize flu clinics by distributing fliers and/or posters?

Did you and your fellow Kiwanians volunteer at a vaccination event?

Did your club host a vaccination event?

If your club can answer yes to any of these four questions, it has earned a THRIVE banner patch. Simply fill out the [participation form](#), and notify your club's banner keeper to warm up the sewing machine.

THRIVE—Tackling the Health and Risk of Influenza with Vaccination and Education—is a three-pronged Kiwanis initiative designed to promote the facts and importance of flu vaccinations.

In addition to acknowledging your club's effort, the banner patch award form assists Kiwanis International in evaluating the effectiveness of the THRIVE program.

DISTINGUISHED CLUB AWARD FOR 2006-2007

DISTINGUISHED CLUB AWARD FOR 2006-2007
(based on club activities from October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007)

Just a reminder that your club can qualify for the 2006-2007 Distinguished Club Award if you accumulate **80** of the following points. *In order to qualify your Club Secretary must also complete all 12 of your monthly club online reports. The data for determining award recipients will be gathered from the monthly online reports.*

SERVICE

10 points

Club sponsored and fulfilled responsibilities to a sponsored organization or program (K-Kids, Builders, Key Club, Circle K, Aktion Club or Kiwanis Junior).

10 points

Club participated in the Kiwanis International Annual Club Gift campaign by contributing \$5 per member to the KI Foundation.

10 points

Club participated in the Young Children Priority One program.

EDUCATION

10 Points

Club provided all new members with orientation.

10 points

Club was represented at **both** the Region Conference **and** the District Convention 2007.

10 Points

Club was represented at the 2007 CLE session.

GROWTH

20 points

Club had a net gain in membership of at least one member during the 2006-2007 administrative year.

Beginning membership _____ (October 1, 2006)

Ending membership _____ (September 30, 2007)

*Club completed one of the following items for 20 points

1. Sponsored or co-sponsored a new Kiwanis Club in the community.
2. Sponsored a new club in developing Kiwanis Nation through World Link program.
3. Built and chartered a new sponsored organization or program (K-Kids, Builders, Key Club, Circle K, Aktion Club or Kiwanis Junior Club.)

*Please note: Clubs get 20 points for any one of these three items above AND a bonus of 10 points for each of the other two completed.

20 points for one completed

10 points for second completed

10 points for third completed

Inter-clubbing

Inter-clubbing

by Joe Hesch

How many members of your club have never visited another club? How many of your members don't even know Kiwanians in another club or even know which other K-Family clubs are near yours?

What a great way to get your new members involved and provide them with the opportunity to learn about Kiwanis from varied perspectives. How many of your long-time members need some good old-fashioned revitalization? How many of your club members can you get to go on inter-clubs this year? Don't let only a handful of your members have all of the fun. By going on only the required eight visits to different clubs as inter-clubs and qualifying for the Minn-Dak District Inter-clubbing Award, you should have at least sixteen members participate. Many clubs go on more than eight inter-clubs each and every year.

Through inter-clubbing Kiwanians learn that all Kiwanis clubs are not exactly alike. It's safe to say that no two clubs are exactly alike. You have no idea what a visit to another club can lead to. This is a super way of energizing your own club with fresh ideas for new programs, new service projects or social activities.

To count as an official inter-club, it only takes two of your club members attending a meeting of any Kiwanis club – any club, anywhere - or any sponsored youth club. Please remember, however, you can only count a visit to any one club once toward the award. You must visit 8 different clubs during the year to count for the award. Be sure to visit as many sponsored youth clubs as you can this year. They love to see Kiwanians at their meetings and it means a lot to our young people to show we are interested in them and their club. Please remember, however, that conventions, region meetings, non-meeting oriented fundraisers etc. do not count as inter-club visits. An inter-club is just what it says- a visit to another club's meeting.

When you go on an inter-club, be sure to report it on your monthly and also record it on your club's inter-club list. When you have at least eight, send me your Inter-club Report Form by June 15th and I'll be very happy to present your club with an Inter-clubbing Award banner patch at the Minn-Dak Convention in August.

To report your list of inter-club visit, you can either send me an e-mail at: JHESCH@AOL.COM or send your list via regular mail (a.k.a. "snail mail") to me at 3854 E. Superior St. Duluth, MN 55804.

There is no standard form for reporting your visits. Any legible format will do. However, please include the following in your report to ensure credit: date, club visited, city of visited club, the names of your club members who went on the visit and one-way mileage traveled. Also, please be sure you have your club name and region number along with the name of your reporting interclub chairperson included on your report so I know which club should get credit.

If you send your report to me via e-mail, I will send a reply indicating I received it. I will not mail a written reply back if you use regular mail for submitting your report. However, if you include an e-mail address in your mailed report, I will be happy to send you an e-mail to

indicate I received your report.

Finally, please remember, you will receive your patch at next year's Minn-Dak convention. The patches are not available until the convention in August, so please do not expect a patch by return mail when you submit your report. They will not be ready until the Minn-Dak District convention.

Have a great inter-clubbing year and I hope to see many more club reports in 2007.

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.

New! Kiwanis Club Banner

Introducing the new Kiwanis club banner! In lightweight, washable, polyester fabric with brilliant, full-color imprinting of an image of Kiwanis's mission of serving the children of the world, this banner is customized at no additional cost with your club name and organization date. A full 3' X 5' size, the banner comes with rod, cord, and tassels. Price \$135.00

For more information go to the Kiwanis Family Store:

<https://stealth.onet.net/kicatalog/kiwanis/v40/default.asp?catalog=Kiwanis&category=181>

Fargo "4" Jokes About Sioux Falls in Kiwanis Outing

It was the first time the "Fargo 4" has visited Sioux Falls in more than a few months and they were center-piece of a special Kiwanis night that began in the Old Courthouse Museum with apple cider and ended with "The Blenders" in the Old Orpheum Theatre.

Obviously the theatre held more than just Kiwanians -- but it was night that representatives of the 6 Sioux Falls Kiwanis Clubs came together to enjoy the holiday season and find one more way to enjoy the benefits of being in Kiwanis.

Jon Martin of Sioux Falls South brought the idea to all the clubs --- and while it wasn't a money-making event -- there were many that felt it was another step like the Sioux Falls Canaries' Night that let the Kiwanis Community enjoy good fellowship.

The Blenders are originally from Fargo and on this December night in Sioux Falls they joked about the warmth in South Dakota vs that in North Dakota --- and referred to the relationship of Fargo and Sioux Falls (lovingly).

Some thought they said Sioux Falls was "Junior" to Fargo and others thought they heard that Fargo was "Junior" to Sioux Falls. Kiwanis "Miracle Ear" Bob Reireson was at the event --- so we may never know.

What we do know -- it was another great night to be in Kiwanis!!



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