As I write this column tonight we are preparing to fly tomorrow morning to Montreal for the Kiwanis International Convention. It is with excitement and great expectations that we pack and ready ourselves for the trip. Attending Kiwanis International Conventions helps us see the “big picture” of Kiwanis which is difficult at times in our own clubs.

Which leads me to the thesis for the article this month. While it is true that most of us joined our Kiwanis club (or clubs now that I am a member of three clubs now) for local reasons, we need to occasionally be reminded that Kiwanis is much, much more. We care deeply about how our Kiwanis clubs help local communities and this will continue to be a key part of why people join. By becoming Kiwanians we can do much more service with others combining forces in a powerful way. However, at an International Convention we see thousands of other Kiwanians from around the country and around the world!

What could be more exciting to a Kiwanian then being with other service minded people from California, New York, Paris, Manila…. What is frustrating is the fact that so few in our district attend International Conventions. This year will find less than 70 Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis members in Montreal. This means that we will have something like .4 members per club at the convention this summer (don’t worry, that is an average—we won’t have half people running around Montreal).

When you remember that some clubs are sending a number of delegates you realize just how few clubs are represented. This is a trend that has been continuing in Kiwanis and in our district for many years now. So why should we care? There are many reasons but the most important might be attitude. Those who attend the convention return to their clubs energized and enthused by the experience. They are often more willing to step into leadership roles back home and come away with a better understanding of why they are a Kiwanian and what it means to be part of a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world, one child and one community at a time (clever the way I got this in, isn’t it?). Of course, there are many reasons why most of our district members are not going to Montreal. However, most of those reasons don’t work for why one would miss the district convention in August in St. Cloud.

You don’t need to take a jet ride to get to St. Cloud (although some in Region 1 and 4 might want to do that). The cost of the hotel is much less than in Montreal and meals are provided in St. Cloud as part of the low convention registration cost. You will know many more folks in St. Cloud than in Montreal and you will hear a great choir in St. Cloud that is not a part of the convention in Montreal. I could go on but will stop.

The bottom line is if you can’t or don’t want to attend an International Convention, you owe it to yourself and others to attend the District Convention! You will come away refreshed and fired up to
do Kiwanis work, becoming a more dedicated member of your own club. So, my plea to those reading this column is this: miss the International Convention if you must, but don’t miss your own district convention beginning August 4th.

I have a dream that every club will send three delegates to vote on the dues adjustment proposal. Just think what a district convention would be like with every current president and president-elect in attendance. Wouldn’t it be great to see Larry Rittgarn rushing around bringing extra chairs into the house of delegates.

I would love to start the convention late to seat the EXTRA 200 Kiwanians in attendance. It is not too late to register for the convention. We promise it will be fun, interesting, and full of surprises. See you soon in St. Cloud!!

**Update from the District Secretary/Treasurer - July 2006**

By Steve Handegaard, Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer

Greetings! When this issue of the Minnekotan is released about 65 Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanians and 20 guests will be representing our district at the Kiwanis International Convention in Montreal, June 28 – July 2. Total attendance at this year’s convention is expected to be about 6000 participants. Next year’s convention is going to be held in San Antonio, Texas, July 4-8, 2007. Think about attending next year!

Following are a few reminders and updates:

- **Don’t forget to register for the Minnesota-Dakotas District Convention!!** Register now! You can also access and print a copy the District Convention Registration form and related information on our district website at:
  

- Thank you once again to Club Secretaries for submitting your Club Election Reports for 2006-2007. The reports were due June 1, so if you have not sent your form, please do so ASAP! As of this date 40 clubs are still missing! Please try to 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. You can find a copy of the election report on the Kiwanis International website: [http://www.kiwanis.org/lit/download.asp?id=244](http://www.kiwanis.org/lit/download.asp?id=244)

- Be sure your club is represented at the CLE program. (Club Leadership Education) All incoming presidents and secretaries are required to attend. A total of 15 different CLE sites were scheduled this year in our district! You can attend any location. As of July 1st the first 3 have been completed. There are still 12 sites to go. All club secretaries were mailed information and a registration form.

- As District Secretary I am required to notify clubs of resolutions or **bylaw changes that will**
be presented at the District Convention in August. On June 12 a letter was sent to every club secretary in the district with details on this year’s proposed amendment. This year we have only one amendment being proposed at the District Convention. The amendment being proposed by the District Board of Trustees asks to increase our annual district dues from $20 to $30 per member. The last district dues increase occurred in 1998.

- Thanks again to all of you that have been completing your monthly club reports online. Keep it up! We plan to announce some new features to the monthly online reporting at District Convention. I know you will find them helpful. Scott Smith of Club Resources will be with us at the District Convention and doing a couple of educational sessions. I know that many of our club secretaries have had email and phone communications with Scott as they implemented their online club reporting. Scott has been very helpful to everyone with questions about the online reporting system. Scott currently lives in Indianapolis so this may be one of the few times you will be able to meet with in person.

Hope to see many of you at the District Convention in St. Cloud!

RISKY BUSINESS . . .

Many times the need arises for Kiwanians to use automobiles to conduct Kiwanis activities. This could involve transporting Key Club members to a conference, taking children to a Kiwanis camp or outing, delivering Meals on Wheels, etc. Therefore, it is important for Kiwanians to understand just what coverage is afforded under the Kiwanis International Commercial General Liability Policy for these exposures.

However, we must first look at some basic definitions in order to fully understand how Kiwanis insurance coverage does or does not apply. For insurance purposes, and in simplistic terms, an “owned auto” would be an automobile owned by a Kiwanis Club or Kiwanis District. It could be a pickup truck owned by a Club that hauls the Club’s concession stand or perhaps tows the Club’s float in the 4th of July parade. It could also be a school bus used by a Club/District to transport children to and from a Kiwanis camp. **There is no coverage under the Kiwanis Commercial General Liability Policy for “owned autos”**. If your Club or District owns a truck, bus, or automobile licensed for over-the-road use, then it must purchase a Commercial Auto Policy to provide the Auto Liability insurance required by the state, as well as any Physical Damage coverage (Comprehensive and Collision) that the Club/District may want to carry on the vehicle.

A “non-owned auto” is an automobile that is NOT owned by a Club or District. Vehicles owned or borrowed by Club members would be considered “non-owned” autos under the Kiwanis Liability policy. **The Kiwanis Commercial General Liability Policy does provide Liability coverage for “non-owned” autos when used for Kiwanis activities**. Coverage would apply on a Primary basis for the Club or District, and would serve as excess coverage over and above a Club member’s personal Auto and Personal Umbrella policies.

For example, if a Club member was using his/her personal auto on club business, had an at-fault accident, and he/she and the Club were sued by the injured parties, the Kiwanis policy would be primary and defend the Club, and would serve as excess (additional) coverage for the Club member (driver), but only after all his/her applicable personal insurance [Personal Auto policy and Personal
Umbrella (if any) were exhausted. The Kiwanis policy would not provide any Physical Damage coverage (Comprehensive or Collision) for the Club member’s damaged vehicle.

Submitted by District Risk Manager Colleen Hyde
Questions: hyde@cord.edu, home: 218-233-0508, work: 218-299-3815.
Or contact Lisa Heindricks, Kiwanis International, 800-876-3061, lheindricks@kiwanis.org
Or Adam Reiff, Account Manager, Hylant Group, 800-442-7475 x7179, adam.reiff@hylant.com

Mitchell Club Celebrates 85th Anniversary

The Mitchell Kiwanis Club celebrated its 85th Anniversary on May 31, 2006 with the Rededication and Ribbon Cutting of the Mitchell Kiwanis Woodlot Park. On May 31, 1921, 118 individuals charted this active club. Special guests included Bill Daugherty, Past Lt Gov and Bill Zortman, Lt Gov Elect. The Mayor and City Council, Park and Recreation Board, Chamber Ambassadors, spouses and other Kiwanis friends helped the club members celebrate.

photo by Photography Unlimited

Gearing up for August Art Fair Food Booth

The Buffalo Kiwanis Club is preparing for another fund raiser this year. We have had two successful flower sales and now it is time for the "Kiwanis Snak Shak" at the Buffalo Arts and Crafts Sale in August. This is the fifth year the Buffalo Club has provided delicious meals for the crowd as well as the vendors.

Breakfast burritos, brats and hotdogs are available as well as a variety of soft drinks and water. The sale's profits goes to the two $500.00 scholarships awarded to the Buffalo High School grads every year. The Buffalo club also awards grants to various local groups including the Boy and Girl Scouts, Crisis Nursery, The Joy Center, Rivers of Hope, Make a Wish as well as individuals who have a special need for funding. This club is extremely active considering it's size...only 12 members strong.

We may be small but we try to make a big difference for our kids. So if you are around the Buffalo, Minnesota area on August 12th, stop in and visit with your fellow Kiwanians and try the Breakfast burrito....YUMMY !!!!!

Alexandria Kiwanis Loses Distinguished Member

Sid had been a member of the Alexandria Kiwanis Club for over 60 years. His first acquaintance with the Kiwanis was as a guest speaker, in which he told of his experiences serving in WW II and spending nearly a year as a POW in Germany.

Sid Carlson was born on April 30, 1919, in St. Paul, MN. He grew up in the Alexandria area and graduated from Alexandria High School. He earned his bachelor's degree in music education from
the University of Minnesota in 1943. Sid had the privilege of marching in General Prescott's University Marching Band.

Sid enlisted in the US Air Corps in 1943. He served in the European Theatre during WWII until being shot down and spending a year as a POW in Germany.

Upon returning stateside in 1945, Sid became band director at New York Mills High School and later in Osakis and Barrett high schools. In 1948 he purchased and operated a small music shop in Alexandria while continuing to direct high school bands part-time. That shop would later become Carlson Music Center, now known as Carlson Piano World, run by Sid's son Ron Carlson.

During Sid's 60 years in Kiwanis, he rarely missed a weekly meeting. He was in charge of the music for the weekly meetings, scrawling out the weekly songlist on the paper tablecloths before the meeting. He then would direct the club in singing the songs before the meeting.

It is estimated that Sid attended an estimated 3,000 Kiwanis Club meetings and events. Sid Carlson was a truly dedicated and loyal Kiwanian who will be dearly missed.

2006 Thunder of Drums!

The Downtown Mankato Kiwanis will again sponsor the 2006 Thunder of Drums
Tuesday July 11, 2006 7PM
Blakeslee Field 170 Stadium Road Mankato State University Mankato, MN
Pre Show performance by 77 Lancers beginning at 6:30PM

All proceeds go to support Camp Patterson and the Mankato Area 77 Lancers
For tickets stop at Music Mart, Cubs Food stores, Hy Vee stores or Ray’s Market
Also you can call (507) 385-9129

Legion Of Honor Awards

Legion Of Honor Awards Kiwanis International allows clubs to recognize Kiwanians who have been members of a Kiwanis Club for at least twenty-five years. These awards are in five-year increments. At the May 17th meeting of the Sioux Falls Downtown Kiwanis Club, six members were honored with awards for membership years. Some of these individuals have been members of other clubs over the years. James Kopperud was recognized for over 55 years. Members Earl Gerlach, Merle Johnson, Robert Johnson, Don Kalda, and Milton Plucker each have over 50 years. Congratulations and thank you to these individuals who have served the children for so many years. (pictured – Merle Johnson, Don Kalda, Earl Gerlach, and James Kopperud)

eClub - Announcing new MN-DAK Internet Club

The MN-DAK e Kiwanis Club - “The only Internet based Kiwanis Club in
the MN-DAK District of Kiwanis International"

Mission Statement

The MN-DAK Kiwanis Club is an organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in our Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International. Our members place emphasis on Serving the Children of the World as We Build our local communities.

Membership Requirements

Membership in the MN-DAK eKiwanis Club is open to men and women of good character, 18 years of age or older. Membership is effective upon the chartering of the new club when 25 paid memberships are received and club officers are selected. The membership in this club will be individuals who are interested in belonging to a unique second (or third club) or for whatever reason are not able to belong to a traditional club because of distance, business, time commitment, mobility, handicapping condition, or other personal reasons. Although the club will need to decide requirements of attendance, it is expected that members must maintain an "in good standing" rating to continue as a MN-DAK Club member. It is suggested that this will mean 70% participation in all club meetings and activities.

Membership Benefits

The MN-DAK Kiwanis Club will provide an opportunity for individuals to become active members of the world's premier service organization. Membership in the club will provide opportunities for community service, professional development of leadership and management skills, and boundless networking possibilities. Other membership benefits will include the opportunity to interclub with other Kiwanis clubs, supporting a sponsored youth program, and raising funds for local, regional, and International level projects.

Meetings

The club meets twice a month, the second and fourth Sunday at 9:00 p.m. in our online chat room. Regular meetings are accessed by members only. Prior approval must be secured by guests. The club web site includes the chat room, message board, documents, club activities, calendar, links, pictures, and newsletter. The club will also hold meetings where club members will have the opportunity to have face to face contact. These meetings will be at the various region conferences, MN-DAK District Convention, Region Council meetings, CLE sessions, and the Kiwanis International Convention. The Board of Directors meets on Wednesday at 10:00 p.m. the last week of each month. Committees set up their own meeting time in the chat room with times posted on the web site.

Officers and Board of Directors

The officers of the club will include a president, president-elect, vice president, immediate past president (after the first year of operation), treasurer, and secretary. The chairs of the standing committees will serve as members of the board of directors. Committee chairs will be appointed/elected for staggered two-year terms. Standing committees are: Membership, PR, Newsletter Editor/Webmaster, Community Service, Fundraising, Youth Services, YCPO,
Sponsored Youth, Human and Spiritual Values, and Interclub and Fellowship. A vote of the executive committee and the board of directors can establish other committee chairs.

Membership Dues

Members pay a new member fee upon approval of their application for membership by the Board of Directors. The club will begin with 25 or more charter members. During the first year of operation this club will have dues of $55 ($50 to Kiwanis International and $5 as a new member fee to the MN-DAK District). The estimated cost of membership after the first year is $100.00 per year for dues payable on an annual basis which will be decided by the charter date of the club. The final amount of dues after the first year will be decided by the club members themselves.

Fund Raising

It is anticipated that the club will need to raise funds for service projects. This may include sale of souvenir items and other merchandise through our web site; sale of donated merchandise through online auctions such as eBay, and personally directed fundraisers approved by the club.

Community Service

Community Service is the heart and soul of our club. Each member is encouraged to participate in one of three levels of community service activities. Level one - each club member is encouraged to perform a community service project in his or her own community on a monthly basis. This project can be performed alone or with club members in the area, or with another Kiwanis club, with another community group, etc. Level two - each quarter the club will decide upon a project to do as a club. Members will submit project proposals over the web at a meeting for club approval. Club members will participate in the proposed project to the level of their ability. Level three - the club will perform a service project in the city of the District convention. Members will decide on the project and then perform the service while attending the convention. Other service projects will be decided by the club with approval by the board of directors.

Sponsored Youth

An investment in young people is essential to the future of Kiwanis. The All-MN-DAK Club will support Circle K, Key Club, Builders Club, and K-Kids on an annual basis. The club will donate to the MN-DAK Outreach program and will volunteer time to Circle K and Key Club in the district.

Newsletter/Web Site

A monthly Newsletter is sent out to members via their email address. In addition, club members can keep up to date by accessing our web site.

YCPO

Young Children are a Priority for our Kiwanis Club. Serving the needs of young children in a wide variety of projects will be emphasized on a quarterly basis.
Spiritual Aims

Club members are to be active in spiritual aims related activities within their communities.

Interclub and Fellowship

Many opportunities to network with other clubs either in person or via the Internet will be available to club members. The MN-DAK Club should be a leader in the number of interclubs completed each year.

Programs at Meetings

Like any other club there are brief but informative programs presented online at each meeting. These programs will include Kiwanis education, member education and information, sharing of ideas, human and spiritual values topics, etc. Club members take turns in presenting informational programs.

How do I Join?

If you would like to join the MN-DAK Kiwanis Club, please contact

Clover Ellingson

429 22St. S.

Fargo, ND 58103

Phone (701)729-7640

Email:  ellingsc@fargo.k12.nd.us or cloverjean@cableone.net

If you would like to be a charter member of this new club, fill out the attached membership form, print out, and send to Clover with a check for $55 to cover dues for the first year of membership. Make checks out to: MN-DAK eClub. Checks will not be cashed until there are 25 charter members signed-up and paid for membership. Anyone who joins during the first year of operation of this club will be considered a charter member.

Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District Outreach Program

Annually, a Kiwanis club which sponsors a Key Club or Circle K Club provides $500 to $2000 – and sometimes more – to support the activities of that club. This money supplements club dues, provides scholarship assistance to District Conventions and defrays transportation expenses to these conventions.
The Outreach Program allows Kiwanis Clubs which do not sponsor a Key Club or Circle K Club to aid these Sponsored Youth Programs at the District Board level.

Clubs are encouraged to give to the Outreach Program. Gifts are divided equally between Key Club and Circle K, unless specified otherwise. Interestingly, Kiwanis Clubs which sponsor a Key Club or Circle K Club are some of the most consistent givers to the Outreach Program.

Thank you to all of the clubs that have already sent in a donation for the 2005-2006 year.

If you or your club would like to give to the Outreach Program, make a check payable to: “Minn-Dak Outreach Program” and mail to:

Steve Handegaard, District Secretary/Treasurer
P.O. Box 735
Dalton, MN  56324-0735

The Key Club and Circle K Members of the Minnesota-Dakotas District thank you!

Pre-District convention events for Board members attention

Click here to download or see a pdf version of the schedule.

Annual Kiwanis Citizenship Award

ATTENTION ALL KIWANIS CLUBS: Each year, the Past District Officers Association (PDOA) selects a person or persons from within the Minnesota-Dakotas District to receive the “Citizenship Award.” Nominees are submitted by Kiwanis clubs of the Minnesota-Dakota District. The award recipient(s) will be recognized at the banquet at our Annual Minnesota-Dakotas District Convention in St. Cloud in August 2006.

There is not a formal application. If your club wishes to submit a nomination, please…

1. Submit a nomination of a person or persons who have been a part of a heroic deed this past year (between July 2005 and June 2006).
2. Include a short description of the circumstances of the heroic deed, any news clippings or other
supporting information.
3. Include the name of your Kiwanis Club & President, a contact person with contact information (preferably e-mail address) and the name of your Region Representative and Region Number.

The PDOA will inform the nominating club if their nominee was chosen for the award. The nominating Kiwanis Club is responsible for the travel and lodging expenses for the recipient to attend the banquet at the District Convention. The PDOA will pay for the recipient’s meal at the banquet.

The information must be submitted by June 30, 2006 to

Tim Huseth, President of the PDOA, 1366 Elm Ave., Harvey, ND  58341

timh@hav-it.org

phone 701-324-2204

Key Leader Event in Minn-Dak on September 22-24

Key Leader is an opportunity for service leadership “training”.

Points of importance:

- Open to all students who have completed the 8th grade through senior high students. He/she does not have to belong to a Kiwanis sponsored organization.

- Over 40 camps are scheduled for 2006 & participants can attend camp of their choice
  - Minnesota-Dakota's event is September 22-24 at Camp Lakodia, Madison, South Dakota.

- The mission of Key Leader is to inspire young people to achieve their personal best through service leadership. The program is centered around 5 key principles: Personal Integrity, Personal Growth, Respect, Building Community and Pursuit of Excellence.

- Key Leader is a program sponsored by Kiwanis International. It is designed to inspire young people to achieve their personal best through service leadership. The program was founded on the objects and core values of the Kiwanis International Family organizations.

- Cost is $150 and can be paid by any sponsor. Kiwanis International has announced that any Key Club members may register for $125, provided they indicate that on their application and are one of the first 100 applicants for the season.

- Curriculum includes such items as icebreaker activities, belonging to a neighborhood, goal setting, self-discovery for personal growth, building community, discussion of “Collector of
Bedford Street”, block party, and personal goal setting.

- Key Leader uses coaching, rather than telling or lecturing, as a critical element in delivering the message by facilitators and advisors.

- All participants must be pre-registered; signed medical form and Code of Values form must be presented at registration or participant will not be allowed to stay. Registrations must be received 21 days before the event to avoid a late fee of $15.

- Insurance is provided for this program under the General Liability policy of Kiwanis International.

- The Kiwanis International Board approved the following resolution on February 5, 2005: "That the Kiwanis International Board fully endorses Key Leader as the organization's exclusive youth leadership program, and that Kiwanis clubs, districts, and leaders be encouraged to provide active support for youth to become Key Leaders by participating in a Key Leader event."

- Additional information can be found on the Web at www.key-leader.org Contact Clover Ellingson at cloverjean@cableone.net or call(701) 729-7640.