

June 2007

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# MINNEKOTAN

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## Governor attends 90th Anniversary and Discusses the programs of the MN-Dak Educational Foundation

“The Merry, Merry Month of May!” It has been a good month, full of activities. We attended a special 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Minneapolis Downtown Club (which I will mention later), a day at Lt. Governor Training, spoke to the Past Governor’s Association and attended the District Educational Foundation Board meeting.



I want to talk about the District Educational Foundation this month. Are you aware of what this Foundation does? It is a scholarship grant program of the Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International. These scholarships mean a lot to our graduating seniors as they go on to college. Are you aware of all the ways you can help our Foundation?

First of all, one can become a **Life Fellow**. This is open to any Kiwanian, and now that we are thinking about our officers who have served us so well in our clubs, please consider giving a special gift to your President or other officer as he/she leaves office in the fall. For \$100.00 your club can give a very meaningful gift to honor someone for a job well done!

We all can help in providing scholarships as our clubs contribute \$100.00 toward the **Century Club**. Your club receives a patch for its banner and is listed with other Century Club members. All of our clubs should be contributing to this fund.

Next is the **Joseph E. Messer Fellowship**. Mr. Messer was honored for his lifelong major contributions in securing college and university careers for deserving students. This fellowship is open to any individual who contributes \$500.00 or pledges that amount with a \$250.00 first payment and a second the following year.

Some of our clubs have contributed toward a **Designated Scholarship** in which the donor contributes an Endowment Fund gift of \$20,000 and then selects a local high school to receive at least one scholarship every year.

**Memorial gifts** to the Foundation Endowment Fund can be given in any amount in memory of any deceased person, and are not limited to Kiwanians and their families. What a nice way to remember a dear Kiwanian expressing the love and respect of the club or donor.

So, in many ways we can help to make sure that our students continue to receive the many scholarships which our Foundation provides, and at the same time, we can use the above designations to recognize, honor, and remember Kiwanians and others who are meaningful in our lives.

I just want to briefly mention that grand celebration as the **Minneapolis Noon Kiwanis Club**

observed their 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a Kiwanis Club. The lunch was lovely and the program meaningful as many of our state dignitaries either sent letters or representatives who expressed congratulations. Again, Region 7 was well represented with Lt. Governors, Past Lt. Governors, presidents and members all attending to celebrate with this great club. It was a distinctive day and one I was honored to attend.

## Update from the Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer - June 2007

By Steve Handegaard, Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer



Greetings to everyone. As of June 1<sup>st</sup> we still have 4 months left in the 06-07 Kiwanis year. You and your clubs have been doing many great things in the name of Kiwanis. Keep the momentum going! We also need to continue to open the Kiwanis door to new members. We need new members to share in this important service work and to share the fun as well.

- It is Kiwanis Convention time again! Both the District and International Conventions will provide some great learning and fun times during July and August. To date, over 5000 registrations have been received for the **92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kiwanis International Convention** in San Antonio, July 3-7. So far we have 61 members and 15 guests attending from the Minnesota-Dakotas District. You can check out all of the convention happenings at <http://www.kiwanis.org/convention/>
- The **District Kiwanis Convention in Fargo, August 3-5, 2007**, is going to be a great time. I hope to see all of you there. The Official Call to Convention letter was mailed to all Kiwanis Club secretaries the first week in May. The mailing contained registration forms and also your club's delegate certification form. Early bird convention registrations are due before July 10. Register early! You can also access and print a copy the District Convention Registration form and related information on our district website at: <http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/>
- Thank you once again to Club Secretaries for submitting your **Club Election Reports for 2007-2008**. The reports were due **June 1**, so if you have not entered your information online, please do so ASAP! Please include email addresses whenever possible. It is very important that we receive this information in a timely manner so that directories and mailing lists can be compiled.
- Has your club contributed to the **Outreach Program** this Kiwanis year? Our Circle K and Key Club District Boards are growing and very busy covering the three states building our Sponsored Youth Programs. They need our financial support. Checks can be made payable to Kiwanis Outreach and mailed to me at the District Office.
- Club Secretaries: Remember to file your **Monthly Club Reports** online by the tenth of each month. If you have any problems filing your report, contact [support@clubresource.com](mailto:support@clubresource.com) or

myself at [secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org](mailto:secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org)

Hope to see you at the District Convention in Fargo.

Steve

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**Accident Claims Father, Husband, Diversity Club Member**

LeJuan Robinson was only 32. He called his wife Tracey at 3:00PM on May 24th and in the conversation told her "I love you". Little did Tracey or LeJuan know if would be the last time they would talk. Just a few hours later --- LeJuan was gone -- the victim of a motorcycle accident.

LeJuan was a "charter" member of the new Sioux Falls Diversity Club --- and though his work schedule with Syverson Tile Company didn't allow him to attend many meetings -- he did volunteer for events and projects. His wife Tracey has served as the "glue" with others for the unique new club as club Secretary.



A Memorial Service was held on Tuesday May 29th at the House of Prayer in West Sioux Falls. The little chapel -- just a few hundred feet from where the November 14th Charter Night for the Diversity Club was held --- had never seen such a turnout. More than 200 gathered and fought tears as a diverse congregation prayed, sang, and looked for a celebration of life. More than a dozen of LeJuan and Tracey's Diversity Club members attended.

LeJuan was born to Diane Patterson and John Robinson in March 1975 in Osceola, Arkansas. He moved to Sioux Falls in 1998 and married Tracey Watson in October 2005. He worked as a granite installer. In addition to Tracey -- survivors include two stepsons, Marcus and Payton, his mother and father, grandparents and many siblings and other family members.

Memorials or cards can be directed to Tracey's home address -- 6025 Winterberry Circle, Sioux Falls, SD, 57106.

A funeral service was scheduled in Osceola, Arkansas for Saturday June 2nd.

All of us in the Kiwanis Community need to remember this young family in our prayers and wrap our arms around Tracey, Marcus, and Payton in this very difficult time.

**ALL MINNESOTA-DAKOTAS KIWANIANs AND GUESTS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED!**

**THIS EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE:**

**7:30 P.M. FRIDAY, JUNE 08, 2007**

**ELIAS J. HALLING RECITAL HALL****MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS IN MANKATO, MN.****FEATURING PERFORMERS:****MR. DAVID ROSS, FLUTE****MR. NATHAN KNUTSON, PIANO****TICKETS: \$10.00 DONATION FOR ADULTS****\$ 5.00 DONATION FOR CHILDREN**

This is an opportunity for all Kiwanians to enjoy an evening of fantastic music performed by two very, very talented musicians and help the Kiwanis Diversity Club of Mankato, MN. raise funds to continue their work with the “Kids Against Hunger”™ International Food Relief Campaign that helps feed starving children and families all around the world!

Mr. David Ross, son of Stewart Ross and Liz Lawrence-Ross, played flute for all Kiwanians and guests at the Minnesota Dakotas Convention in 2006!

Won't you join in this most important effort so these fine Kiwanians can continue to help feed starving children and families all around the world!

If you have any questions, please contact Stewart Ross via e-mail at [stewart.ross.mnsu.edu](mailto:stewart.ross.mnsu.edu) or via his business telephone number of 507-389-1098, or via his home telephone number of 507-345-5180 or via his cell phone of 507-381-7515.

**GOLDEN “K” KIWANIS CLUB OF OWATONNA, MN. BAKES A CAKE TO HELP YOUNG LIFE YOUTH!**

**The annual Young Life Cake Auction Fundraiser took place on Saturday, April 14, 2007.**

**Various businesses and organizations either bake a cake or**

**have a cake baked and then a variety of items are either put inside the cake or given away with the cake. Some items are diamonds, gift certificates, jewelry, chamber dollars, etc.**

**The cake is then auctioned off to the highest bidder. This fundraiser earns money to support the activities and trips of this non-demoninational Young Life Youth Group.**

**The Golden “K” Kiwanis Club cake, which contained Owatonna Chamber of Commerce dollars gift certificates, brought in a bid of \$150.00!**

#### **Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District Lt. Governor Education Conference**

The Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District held its Lt. Governor Education Conference in Fergus Falls, May 4-6. Lt. Governors, District Directors, and others from each of the seven regions were in attendance. The purpose of the Lt. Governor Education Conference was to provide orientation on the role of a Lt. Governor, develop teamwork and to develop goals for the 2007-2008 Kiwanis year. Bill Daugherty will be serving as Minnesota-Dakotas District Governor during the 2007-2008 Kiwanis year.



#### **THE GOLDEN “K” KIWANIS CLUB PRESENTS 6 SCHOLARSHIPS!**

On Tuesday, May 08, 2007, this Kiwanis Club held their annual meeting to present scholarships to the Owatonna High School Seniors who were selected.

The following six (6) Senior High School Students, from Owatonna High School, were the recipients of \$1,000.00 scholarships and a \$500 Scholarship: Caitlin Kasper, who is also a finalist in the 2007 Dairy Princess Pageant and Scholarship Program; Kathie Moore, Rebecca Rasp, Anne Raetz, James Ebeling, and Christa Wille, who was the recipient of the \$500.00 Scholarship.

### **ARBOR DAY TREE PLANTING AT SPRINGBROOK**

Thirty-five Fridley High School Key Clubbers planted 1,000 seedlings at Springbrook Nature Center in Fridley on Arbor Day, Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. The day resulted in having fun, getting exercise, getting tan and working very hard to plant the 1,000 trees in four hours. Bailey Nurseries of Newport donated the trees.

The City of Fridley is building an industrial plant behind Springbrook. To complete this construction, it had to cut down trees on the Springbrook property and build a berm. The Key Clubbers restored the area by planting the trees which when fully grown will replace the removed trees. The area will look nice again.

While working the girls decided they wanted to look dirtier than the guys so they put dirt all over their faces. It was very interesting. The guys just got dirtier by working!

When all the trees were planted, the guys formed a bucket brigade to get water for them from a lower lying stream. In the process, some of them fell into the stream and got a bit wet.

When first arriving at Springbrook, each person was clean, energetic and ready to plant trees. By the end of the day, however, everyone was dirty, tired but satisfied with the finished job. Many participants commented that they wanted to return in ten years to see the results of the plantings.

Ericka Naber, Publicist  
Fridley Key Club

#### **HAPPY 86TH KIWANIS CLUB ANNIVERSARY!**

**Congratulations to the Mankato Downtown Kiwanis Club on celebrating their 86<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Monday, February 19, 2007!**

**Also, Stewart Ross, our Immediate Past Governor and Club member, also celebrated his birthday! We promised we wouldn't tell anyone his age!**

**Congratulations to the Ten (10) members of the Club who were honored, with engraved clocks, for having performed over forty-five (45) years of service to Kiwanis! Listed below, front row, left to right: Claire Faust, Lee Nordgren, George Sugden, Brett Taylor, Lee Snilsberg, Russ Sparks, Paul Meyer, and Don Linder. Back row, left to right: Stewart Ross, Immediate Past Governor of the MN-DAK District, and Myron Erstad, 2006-2007 President. Not pictured was Kelly Gage.**

**Shown below is a picture of the former presidents of this Club who attended the 86<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Club meeting: Left to Right, Stewart Ross, Claire Faust, Chuck Heaberlin, Randy Berkland, Jim Manahan, Liz Lawrence-Ross, Dave Cowan, Lee Nordgren, Bryce Lindsay, Russ Sparks, and Denny Wahlstrom.**

## 129 YEARS OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE!

**Congratulations to the six (6) members who received perfect attendance tabs for 2 to 47 years of perfect attendance:**

**Russ Sparks, 47 years, Claire Faust, 32 years; Dwain “Pete” Petersen, 27 years; Liz Lawrence-Ross, 7 years; and Daardi Sizemore, 2 years. That is a combined total of 129 years of perfect attendance!**



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