Leading to Serve ... Maximizing Summer Sunshine
Bill Lardy, District Governor

Summer is really here, it seems. With it comes all sorts of relaxing activities, including for, many, growing a garden. That should include every Kiwanian and every club planting seeds for membership growth.

Last month I met with Past Governors of the Minnesota Dakotas District. Each one present signed a memo and pledged to recruit at least one new member, asked all clubs to conduct a new member recruitment drive by June 30, and asked all Kiwanians to recruit a new member before September 30. By working your membership garden, as the Past Governors suggest, by September 30th your club will reap the rewards of a bountiful membership harvest.

Key Leader Camp
New participants in the camp are to use the code "MDF" when registering for the camp. The first 25 first-time attendees to register will receive a $20 reduction in the camp fee. This link will take you to the online registration site: Key Leader Camp Registration. You may need to copy it then paste it into your web browser.

HAPPY MEMBERSHIP GARDENING!
**Stewart Ross for Trustee Campaign**  
Submitted by: Coralyn Dahl, Campaign Chair

The campaign to elect Stewart Ross as International Trustee is moving forward to the goal! As a committee, we want to thank everyone who has made the commitment to attend the International Convention, those who have ordered shirts and those who have said they would help hand out brochures, buttons and Kazoo's!

We have a fine team to help us at the convention, and in talking to others throughout the United States, we find that many people are excited about Stewart's candidacy. Now, the exciting work begins. Have you ordered your shirt (Stewart for Trustee - Kazoo for Stew) yet? I believe I have sent letters to everyone who has registered for the convention. If you have not received a letter from me, please email me at clbdahl@aol.com. And if you have forgotten to let me know about your shirt size or how you want to help, contact me also.

If possible, show up for the caucus at the Merriott Courtyard Hotel, downtown Nashville on Thursday morning at 7:00 a.m. You will receive your assignment there. It will be fun and you will meet lots of people which will make this a memorable convention!

Remember, we are having a party at the hotel on Saturday afternoon/evening whether Stewart is elected or not (of course he is going to be elected)! Stewart and the campaign team want to thank everyone for the effort you will be giving, so make sure you come.

I'm excited about seeing you all at the convention. See you there!

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**AKTION is EXCITING**  
Submitted by: Carole and Dwain Petersen

Forming AKTION clubs in this District is an opportunity right in our own communities. Many AKTION clubs have already been organized and are up and running.

The Mankato Downtown Kiwanis Club sponsored an ATKION Theater club that currently has 40 Developmentally Delayed talented actors. In mid May, they performed a play, written by one of the members, at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter for a spring banquet of 84 Catholic Daughters of America. The women were touched by the enthusiasm and professionalism of the performance.

The director, Wilbur Neishwanger-Frink, is a dedicated Kiwanian, who has offered her expertise and motivational spirit to the success of this club. Currently, she is developing an AKTION Service Club at a local nursing home. The interested residents are excited about sharing their services in the community. They held a fund raiser by selling cookies with the proceeds covering the registration fees. The group is planning to package food for KIDS AGAINST HUNGER and partner with a youth Kiwanis club to exchange "life stories" and perhaps assemble into booklets.

Let us hear the stories from other clubs.

Dwain and Carole Petersen, AKTION Club Administrators, 124 Sapphire Court; Mankato, MN; 56001  
phone:507-345-6707 d2pete@aol.com c3pete@aol.com
Update from the District Secretary/Treasurer
Submitted by: Steve Handegaard

We still have 4 months left in the 08-09 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 this summer. To date 4800 registrations have been received for the 94th Annual Kiwanis International Convention in Nashville, June 25-28. So far we have 107 members and 29 guests attending from our district. Last year we had 58 members and 10 guests attending from the Minnesota-Dakotas District. I am sure much of the increase stems from the excitement surrounding the Stewart Ross for International Trustee campaign! You can check out some of the convention happenings at http://www.kiwanis.org/convention/ We also have a page on our District Website that highlights some of our district activities happening at the International Convention http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/public_district/pub_Content.aspx?Page=196

The District Kiwanis Convention in Watertown, SD, July 31- August 2, 2009, 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 1st. 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/

Distinguished Kiwanis Club Status for 08-09: Just a reminder that a new feature was added to the KiwanisOne online reporting system last year. Club secretaries can access an online summary from their “Monthly Report Launch Page” that will show you the points your club has currently accumulated towards the Distinguished Club Award. How is your club doing? You need 80 points to qualify. You have until September 30 to add to your points.

Thank you once again to Club Secretaries for submitting your Club Election Reports for 2009-2010. 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. The new Kiwanis year that starts in October is only 4 months away.

Has your club contributed to the Outreach Program this Kiwanis year? Our Circle K and Key Club District Boards are 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 or myself at secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org
92nd Annual District Kiwanis Convention
Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

The Watertown Convention Center, in Watertown, SD will be the headquarters for this year's 92 annual District Convention.

There are so many things planned for this convention, and the facility is probably the finest that we have ever had for our convention.

You will be treated to some of the best entertainment, forums, workshops, and speakers that you have had, plus the theater seating for all of the convention will be one you will never forget.

Plan now to attend this great event, and join with Governor Bill Lardy and his leadership team to enjoy a weekend of fun, socializing and Kiwanis fellowship.

July 31, August 1-2, 2009.

2009 Kiwanis District Convention SPECIAL EVENT
Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

Have you driven south on I-29 and on you way through Watertown, SD wondered what was inside the very beautiful building right next to the highway?

Well this year when you attend the 2009 District Kiwanis convention, you will be treated to a tour of the TERRY REDLIN ART MUSEUM and have an opportunity to spend time there looking at all of the wonderful paintings that Mr. Redlin has done over his lifetime as an artist.

We will also be treated to a social while we are browsing so it will be a great time to really see the inside of this magnificent building.

That’s right this will be the location of part of the Friday Night family event, along with busing to and from the museum, as well as a wonderful hoedown type dinner and an evening of fun and dancing at the Convention event center with Greg Hanson and his Western band.

Break out the boots and Stetson and head to Watertown, SD.

Plan now to be at the District convention on July 31, Aug 1-2, 2009 in Watertown, SD

Hats and Mittens for Needy Kids
Submitted by: Pat and Larry Rittgarn

At the 92nd annual District Convention you can help to support a very needy cause and enjoy reading at the same time. This year’s used book sale at the District convention will be operated by the Watertown Key club members, and they will be raising money to provide Hats and Mittens for needy kids in and around Watertown.

Bring you books to the convention, take home a fresh supply and the proceeds will go towards helping to keep kids warm this next winter. Read for kids, what a great way to provide much needed warm clothing to kids that do not have the funds to buy that warm pair of mittens or a warm hat.

BAG those books and plan now to bring them to the Convention in Watertown, SD on July 31, and turn them into money, and take home fresh reading for yourself at the same time.

Everyone wins............See you in Watertown at the Book store.
K-KIDS ACTIVITIES - Worthington, Minnesota
Submitted by: Dale Carlson, K-Kids Advisor

K-KIDS ACTIVITIES - 2008-2009
PRAIRIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
WORTHINGTON, MINNESOTA

The K-Kids Club at Prairie Elementary School, Worthington, Minnesota just completed another successful year. This is the ninth year of the K-Kids Club at Prairie Elementary School. Approximately 90 students participated in this year’s K-Kids Club.

Here is a listing of the activities for 2008-2009:
1. Sponsored and organized a breakfast with a program to honor all veterans.
2. Collected food items for the Community Christmas Baskets.
3. Gave the gift of a treat from Java Nau for all staff just prior to the Christmas holidays.
4. Participated in the Catch and Release Book Program.
5. Collected a total of 1163 pounds of food for the Manna Food Pantry in March.
7. Assisted at the Volunteer Luncheon honoring Prairie Elementary School volunteers.
8. Helped the Early Risers Kiwanis Club with their Peanut Day in May.
9. Sponsored an open gym night for all K-Kids members.
11. Published two issues of a school newspaper.
12. Planned and organized the Spring Fling week at Prairie Elementary School.
13. Helped the staff prepare for Blues Week at Prairie Elementary School.
14. Collected at least 13,500 Campbell Soup labels to be redeemed for school play equipment.
15. On April 30 the Early Risers Kiwanis Club sponsored an Achievement and Recognition Breakfast for all K-Kids, their parents and Early Risers members.

Prairie Elementary School K-Kids is sponsored by the Early Risers Kiwanis Club of Worthington, Minnesota. Heidi Fritz and Tiffany Raymo, 5th grade teachers at Prairie Elementary School, are the school advisors for K-Kids. Heidi has been an advisor for all nine years of the Club’s existence and Tiffany for the past two years. They both do an excellent job. Heidi was recognized for her nine years of dedicated service by being presented with a plaque honoring her for her work with youth. Dale Carlson serves as the Early Risers Kiwanis Club advisor to K-Kids.

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Designated Scholarships
Submitted by: Jack Zierdt, Secretary/Treasurer Educational Foundation

The Board of Trustees of the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District Educational Foundation took action at their annual meeting on Saturday, May 16, 2009, that new Designated Scholarships will no longer be accepted into the program. All of the present 40 Designated Scholarships will, however, continue to be honored and awarded annually.

This action was taken so as to try to free up more funds, as the interest becomes more plentiful, so that we can hopefully offer larger dollar amounts to all of our scholarship winners. We would, also, like to be able to offer more opportunities for more winners in each region if more funds become available from the interest on our investments.

If there is any club and/or individual that is in the process of raising the necessary $20,000.00, at this time, with the idea that they were planning to have a Designated Scholarship, they will have until July 24, 2009, to notify Jack Zierdt, Secretary-Treasurer of this intent.
48th Birthday Celebration for Sioux Falls Kiwanis East
Club: Sioux Falls East - Submitted by: John Landegent, Pres.

Sioux Falls Kiwanis East had its 48th Birthday Celebration on April 25, 2009. We had our party with spouses as our guest at the Cherry Creek Lounge which is the same place we have our regular meetings. We were honored to have in attendance our past District Governor, Bill Daugherty and his wife Arlyce, our present Lt. Governor Allen Herrbolt and his wife Marilyn, and our present District Governor Bill Lardy and his wife Dixie.

Governor Lardy presented the Legion of Honor to eight of our members that represented over 300 years of dedicated service to the various programs in our community, district, and International. Governor Lardy was asked to make some remarks and he challenged our club to strive to become a distinguished club by concentrating on increased membership. Thanks, governors for honoring us with your presence.

Several door prizes were awarded and the big prize was a weekend stay at the Black Hills cabin of one of our members Orv and Elaine Lonneman. Marilyn and Allen Herrbolt were the lucky winners.

We were entertained by the singing and playing of Joyce Tarrell, with several selections that connected us to the life of children.

The names of the Legion of honor from left to right

District Convention Service Project
Submitted by: Coralyn Dahl, District Service Director

I hope you had the opportunity to look at the list of things we hope to gather for Joy Ranch in Watertown, SD. I put a list in the April Minnekotan, so look back for ideas. We need board games, balls, outdoor games, and even some music to share with the children, many of whom are disabled to come to the camp. I hope you are talking about this at your club meetings and making plans to bring or send a few items to make this project a success and bring real joy to Joy Ranch.
**Port of Duluth Kiwanis Sponsors Summer Youth Program**

Club: Port of Duluth - Submitted by: Anna Tanski

Port of Duluth Kiwanis has sponsored the Kaleidoscope program at the Duluth Public Library for the past 28 years. Kaleidoscope offers FREE entertaining and educational programs for children every Tuesday in July.

Top performers from around the Midwest provide a valuable message through a variety of entertaining methods including magic, juggling, acrobatics and music. More than 800 children attend each performance on the Duluth Library’s outdoor plaza.

(Pictured above) Joe Hesch, Port of Duluth treasurer, presents Judy Sheriff, Youth Services Coordinator at the Duluth Public Library with a $1,500 check.

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**Port of Duluth Kiwanis Awards $1,000 Scholarship**

Club: Port of Duluth - Submitted by: Anna Tanski

The Port of Duluth Kiwanis Club recently awarded a $1,000 scholarship to Kacy Haatvedt, a junior at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth. Kacy is majoring in elementary education. (Pictured: Monte Wittmann, Port of Duluth scholarship committee presents check to Kacy Haatvedt, CSS Circle K.)

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**CORRECTION:**

In the May article on the Brochure/Newsletter contest there were errors in the contact information for Region 6. Please note the correct information as follows:

Dawn Fairbrother, 620 13th Street SE, Owatonna, MN. 55060-4111
E-Mail: muffins3@charter.net
Upcoming District and Regional Events

July 31-Aug. 2, 2009  Minnesota-Dakotas District Convention – Watertown, SD
October 2-4, 2009  Key Leader Weekend, Clitherall, MN


To view more news and current and past MINNEKOTAN newsletters go to www.mndak-kiwanis.org and click on “News”.

If you do not receive the MINNEKOTAN Newsletter directly to your email address each month you can find a subscription link on our district webpage. Be sure to select "MnDak Kiwanis Newsletter" from the list.

Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office Contact Information:

Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office
P.O. Box 735
Dalton, MN 56324-0735

Phone: 218-589-7581
Fax: 218-589-7582
Email: secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org
Responsibilities of Kiwanis Family Sponsorship

Appoint a “Kiwanis Advisor” for each Kiwanis Family Club and ensure that those Kiwanis Advisors receive adequate orientation for the role.

Ensure that Kiwanis Club members attend all meetings of every sponsored Kiwanis Family Club.

Maintain an expense line item in the Kiwanis Club’s “service account” to support the activities of each Kiwanis Family Club.

The Kiwanis Club leadership and the Kiwanis Advisor should meet with the principal of each Kiwanis Family Clubs’ school before the beginning of every school year. If the Kiwanis Family Club is a community-based club, the meeting should be with the manager of the facility where that Kiwanis Family Club is based.

Ensure that the Kiwanis Family Club members pay annual dues. (For Kiwanis Kids and Builders Clubs, the sponsorship fee applies.)

Ensure that the officers of each sponsored Kiwanis Family Club receive proper training following election. This can be accomplished with assistance from district leadership.

The Kiwanis Club holds a yearly planning session with each of their Kiwanis Family Clubs’ leaders and advisors.

The Kiwanis Club hosts or participates in at least two activities involving the membership of all clubs. This can include service projects and fun events i.e. bowling nights, mini-golf tournaments. (Invite parents of Kiwanis Family members as well.)

SPECIFICALLY FOR SPONSORING KEY CLUB AND CIRCLE K:

 Invite two members to attend every regular Kiwanis Club meeting.

Ensure that the club is represented at their respective district and international conventions.