Message from Governor Rachael - 6/8/2020
Submitted by: Rachael Disrud

Dear Fellow Kiwanians

This is a difficult month as I think about what to write in order to let you know I appreciate you. At this point, I am needing encouragement as we strive to make the last 1/3 of our Kiwanis year a great memory and launch into the future in the midst of COVID-19, riots, isolation and more.

Your board has been diligently working to make the best decisions possible for our clubs and how to handle convention decisions during the pandemic. A zoom meeting was held by your leadership team on June 2, 2020.

The decision was made by vote to cancel our traditional convention. On June 5th, you received a survey asking what you would like to experience as we move toward a virtual convention! Thank you for responding and we hope, if you have not, you will soon. Your opinion is important.

A virtual convention gives us an opportunity to develop a new and innovative way of communicating. At our virtual convention you will have a chance to hear a live Keynote address by Paul Palazzolo, former International President. You will be given a Ted Talk by our International Kiwanis advisor for MNDAK, Brad Boyd. Our International President Daniel Vigneron, from Belgium, will address MNDAK members since he was not able to visit us due to COVID. Workshops will include an amazing variety of subjects including Chris Martz from Kiwanis International and other presenters who will inspire us with a new way of thinking, operating and preparing for our future. This can be an exciting time for all of our clubs as we adapt and grow from the experience of this year.

Reflections:

Many new opportunities are being developed at this time.

- KI has provided opportunities for leadership development geared toward Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers and Membership committees. See details in a separate Minnekotan note. LTG teams will be in touch with clubs regarding this opportunity for leadership development.
- Lieutenant Governor Education has begun and will continue via zoom for a number of sessions.
- Brad Boyd has prepared a powerpoint on membership. We are sending it to LTG’s to share with clubs.
- Kiwanis International has waived the registration fee for new members through September 30th when they join an existing club. This is a great time to bring in those who wish for an invite. For many in our communities, loneliness is an issue. Kiwanis offers an opportunity to serve and fellowship with purpose.
- Minnesota Dakotas (MNDAK) has waived registration fee and dues for the remainder of the Kiwanis year which ends September 30 for new members who join an existing club between June 1 and September 30th, 2020. Invite someone to your zoom meeting!
- LTG (Lieutenant Governor) Teams and I are visiting with clubs in each Division via zoom. We are having good conversations about how everyone is doing as well as sharing about club projects and anything that is on the mind of clubs.
- Leadership is visiting about how we can assist in strengthening your club and is identifying communities in your geographical areas that need Kiwanis. #Kids need Kiwanis! We want to hear your ideas of what communities to invite into Kiwanis.
- KI Children’s Fund has received donations that will allow clubs to apply for a grant that will allow the club to assist the local community with a specific need as a result of COVID. Check this out!
New Jersey Kiwanis has developed a coloring book that is available to clubs upon request. This would be a great opportunity to share with children during the summer. The books can go out with summer school lunch programs for children in need, to laundromats or whatever methods fit your club and community. Information was sent to presidents. Let us know if you wish to learn more.

Our convention committee is meeting weekly as plans unfold. Stay tuned!

How can we help honor the clubs that are celebrating their 100th anniversary this fiscal year? Separately? An event together virtually as well as separate events? We need to celebrate with each other.

Check the Minnesota Dakota website for the new and updated directory that identifies your leadership team and more! If you have not taken advantage of the Ki website, MNDAK website and our MNDAK facebook page, please do it now!

Clubs are meeting via zoom, freconaersecall.com and some have met in parks where social distancing is possible. Many clubs are checking up on the health of each other through a buddy system. Some clubs are having speakers via zoom as well as board meetings. For some clubs, committees are meeting more often because they do not have to drive to a restaurant or dress up! Some are saying the pledge with a flag being held in front of the camera. They often say the defining statement together before starting a meeting. "Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time".

During this unique and difficult time in our history, we are growing better! We are becoming stronger! We are more united! Kiwanians live by six objects. I ask that we now focus on object number two because of the sadness we feel due to those that have harmed others in the last few days. "To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships".

Blessings to each of you. Rachael Disrud

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**Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Educational Foundation - 6/5/2020**

*Submitted by: Dave Odette*

As Kiwanians we take great pride in supporting our youth. This support comes in many forms through our volunteerism with our Club projects within our communities. Beyond our local Club we join forces as part of our Division, District and Kiwanis International. Our Minnesota-Dakotas District is fortunate to have had Kiwanis leaders in 1934 who saw the need to financially support the education of our youth. Their vision of joining forces to create an ongoing educational foundation lives today in our Minnesota-Dakotas Educational Foundation. Our Educational Foundation awards yearly scholarships to deserving high school seniors who are continuing in post high school educational programs. This spring sixty scholarships were awarded in our seven Divisions and one or more of your local high school seniors may have received a scholarship.

These yearly scholarships are funded by only the annual investment interest of the Educational Foundation’s Endowment Funds with all ongoing donation monies placed in the fund. There are several ways to support this wonderful scholarship program. The Vantine Life Fellowship is a $100 investment or a Joseph E. Messer Fellowship of $500 which can be a personal donation or a Club donation to recognize a member. A donation isn’t limited to these Fellowship amounts but can of any amount. Another way is a Century Club Membership of a $100 investment by your Club. Most Clubs make this an annual investment. Will you or your Club consider investing in our Educational Foundation?

For further information or

an application form please go to our Minnesota-Dakotas District website:
IMPORTANT: Updates & Notices - 6/4/2020
Submitted by: Loreena Luetgers

Club Leadership Education: Materials have been sent to each club for the 2020-2021 officers. Kiwanis International is updating the online modules and should be ready the first of September. We are still working on each Division for training via Zoom and would like to have this completed in July so officers can begin planning for October 1st.

IMPORTANT: this training cannot happen until all of the Club Election Reports are sent in. We need to know the club officer’s names and emails so they can be contacted and educated.
PLEASE, submit them as soon as possible as this can’t be done until we have the names. Thank you.

As materials and information become available from Kiwanis International, it will be placed on the District website under the Education tab. We will keep the clubs updated with this information so you can access it.

Lieutenant Governor Education: The first session was held in May via Zoom with a special guest: Kiwanis President-Elect Art Riley joined us with a personal greeting for the Lieutenant Governors and also information about leadership and membership. Very interesting and appreciated! Two other sessions will be in June and in July with the final one session the day before the District Convention, if possible.

ZOOM IN - 6/3/2020
Submitted by: Bettye Hoff

NEVER TOO OLD TO LEARN and IF I CAN DO IT, SO CAN YOU!  You have heard that before and it bears repeating. I am so impressed with how the clubs are staying connected and being so creative and effective in these times of isolation. Please read the following articles - you will be thrilled. Zooming offers so many opportunities to join other clubs, invite speakers, use educational tools, socialize......the limits are only limited to your imagination. The best part is you don’t have to go anywhere! It is also a great way to visit about elections We need those as soon as possible. Our work must go on. It is needed now more than ever.

Zoom is as easy as 1-2-3-4
1 - Type in zoomusa
2 - It will walk you through some information on yourself to enter
3 - Click on host a meeting on the top tool bar and pick a day and time for the meeting.
4 - It will ask who you want to send the invite to and you enter the emails you wish to invite.
When you receive the invite you just click on it and it will let you in to the meeting - you can choose to enter with visual or you don’t have to and to enter with computer audio so they can hear you.

I am so excited on upcoming learning sessions offered for the leadership teams. Be looking for emails regarding training for the officers in your club.

Thank you to the club secretaries that have submitted the Club Election Reports - if you have not had a chance to do that yet, PLEASE do so as soon as possible. We do need the secretaries in each club to submit their reports and information regularly to the website (preferably by the 10th). This information is critical in moving forward efficiently and effectively. Thank you for keeping on keeping on.

Keep in touch!
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**CKI District Board Training! - 6/2/2020**
*Submitted by: Jason Stewart*

The 2020-2021 Circle K District board, met the weekend of May 29-31 virtually to conduct its annual District Officer Training Conference. During the weekend the board worked to set goals, review club strength, make plans for future district events, and build skills as a leadership team to work together over the next year.

This is my 5th year serving as the Administrator for the Circle K district and I just want to say how very proud I am of this new board. Our college students have been working hard to continue to serve their communities while learning how to navigate life during a pandemic. Governor Jackson did a fantastic job leading the board.
6/8/2020

and facilitating positive and passionate dialogue that I know will help our district continue to grow and thrive during this next service year. This year's board is made up of hard-wording, dedicated student leaders looking to ensure that opportunities for service, leadership, and fellowship are available for our clubs throughout the year!

Thank you Kiwanians for your continued support of this important Service Leadership Program!

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**Children's Fund** - 5/31/2020  
*Submitted by: Kathy Welle*

#KidsNeedKiwanis

Here hoping everyone is healthy and safe, and enjoying the spring weather.

The most recent giving reports available for the Children’s Fund show that clubs and individuals have made contributions during April. **THANK YOU** for your continued commitment to support the Children's Fund.

Earlier in May, 140 Kiwanians hosted Facebook fundraisers that raised more than US $70,000 to help children — especially those facing hardships due to the COVID-19 crisis. To aid even more kids, the Children’s Fund matched $50,000 of those donations! It’s not too late to make a difference.

With grants from the Kiwanis Children's Fund, Kiwanis clubs around the world are delivering hope to their communities. In a time of crisis, clubs are working to ease the strain put on organizations that feed and shelter families in need.

**TIPS FOR RAISING MONEY DURING THE PANDEMIC**

KI presented two helpful webinars Wednesday, 5/27th and Thursday, 5/28th about fundraising. With fewer or no in person meetings, plus many club events canceled, there are some creative fundraising events that were shared. One was *Fundraising 101* and “*Putting fun in fundraising*”. Good helpful info!  
**Both sessions are available for your viewing at [https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com](https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com)**

It is strongly suggested to include other Kiwanis Family clubs: Key Clubs, Circle K, Aktion Clubs. And possibly other Kiwanis Club members too.
CHANGES - 5/29/2020
Submitted by: Sharon Scudder

JUNE BRINGS CHANGE

Change is inevitable; it is how we handle change that determines our outcome. During this time of COVID 19, it gives us new opportunities to discover and use social media, telephone and mail to connect with members, potential members and our Kiwanis family.

Many clubs are using Go to Meet, Zoom or teleconferencing to stay in touch and keep their clubs together, planning and organizing service projects, upcoming events and strengthening your members support of one another. If you have not tried to connect virally, make it a point to reach out in this manner. If you are unfamiliar with media devices, ask a fellow Kiwanian or SLP family member to help you set it up. I am sure you will not regret it and neither will your club members.

Here are a few members who reached out and obtained these new members for their clubs.

REGION 6  MANKATO  JEFFERY LOWRY  BY MATTHEW NORLAND
REGION 7  COON RAPIDS  RACHEL BOHNSACK  BY DARYL HERTMANN

Stop the Spread, Don't Stope the Service - 5/29/2020
Submitted by: Jackson Traas

To all in the Kiwanis Family, we hope that this article finds you and your loved ones safe and well, and that you may find inspiration in the ways our organization has managed to cope with and overcome the challenges we face these days.

As college campuses shut down this spring along with the rest of the country, the majority of college students returned home to their families, practically overnight, and all student group meetings, events, and plans were cancelled immediately. With club members scattered not only across states but continents, Circle K clubs were faced with the most challenging of circumstances.

But while many college student groups grieved the lost opportunities and shut down entirely for the rest of the semester, Circle K Northstar Lieutenant Governor Cassie Schmitz saw an opportunity. As more and more
individuals turned to online video calls for social time and Zoom became a household name, Cassie recognized that the geographic expansiveness of the Minnesota-Dakotas District could now be overcome with just a few quick clicks. Talking to the Club Presidents of the district, Cassie pitched the idea of having each club host a virtual event over the course of May through the end of summer that would be open to any member.

Inspired by the idea, Circle K clubs immediately jumped into action. Winona State University, led by President Victoria Anderson, set things in motion with a trivia-filled Zoom call on April 30 that tested members' knowledge on Circle K service initiatives and Disney. A smashing success, the event drew nearly 20 members from five different Minnesota-Dakotas Circle K clubs as well as the district’s international trustee. For University of Minnesota graduating senior Noah Siem, “it was nice to reconnect online with friends from across the district and see some new faces as well.” Even the district’s mascot, Bubba the Bear, made an appearance.

Building on the success of Winona State’s event, Cassie’s home club - Minnesota State University, Mankato Circle K - followed up with a District-Wide service event a few weeks later. This time, members made virtual cards online for children in the hospital and engaged in a little friendly competition on the website freerice.com – a trivia website that donates the money generated by ads to purchasing rice to help undernourished individuals.

As spring turns to summer, the Minnesota-Dakotas Circle K clubs don’t plan to let up, taking on the motto “Stop the spread, don’t stop the service.” We all have an important role to play in each.

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**Lake Agassiz Kiwanis Resume Meetings - 5/29/2020**
*Club: Aberdeen - Submitted by: Kristi Engelstad*

After a nearly two-month break, the Lake Agassiz Kiwanis were happy to see each other again! The first meeting of May was spent hearing from everyone and catching up. Other May meetings included speakers from Sanford Hospital and F-M Ambulance, who spoke about how COVID has affected their operations.

Although the Lake Agassiz Kiwanis will probably not be meeting face-to-face for a while, we've managed to stay connected through these virtual meetings!

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**IN THIS TOGETHER - 5/28/2020**
*Submitted by: Hycha Thao*
The Fridley Key Club would like to share with all of you a picture for the June publication. The Fridley Key Club had decided to do this by showing our love and caring to everyone who have been working so hard to help their communities and one another. In this picture, the words are "We Are All In This Together! Stay Strong! We Can Get Through This! Our wish is to send you this message and to give love, kindness, honor to everyone in our community that help people be safe and healthy.

Hycha Thao
President of Fridley Key Club

Grain by Grain - 5/28/2020
Club: Chamberlain - Submitted by: Renae Bunker

This is Chamberlain Kiwanis/Aktion Clubs latest project!
We have some wonderful people that work in our area that are from the Philippines. Originally, our project was to help the area affected from the volcano eruption. Now with the Coronavirus affecting that area also, it is even more in need. One of the guys that works here always saves his tips from carrying out groceries and gives a portion to the Aktion Club. This time the group decided to give him a check for $100 AND give back the tip money when he gave it this spring. I decided I would match that donation as well. In the picture you will see the transactions and the RICE purchased with the monies. I also have more pictures of this mans son delivering some of the donations. He was unable to fly home due to the virus to deliver this, so had his son do.

Renae Bunker
President

Plans do change - 5/28/2020
Club: Aberdeen - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

How many of you have been seeing your members looking like this?
FARGO South Point kiwanis members have been meeting on line for several weeks, so many of our spring
projects were canceled. Special Olympics games, our BUG honors breakfast as well as an awards presentation program were some of our treasured programs that could not be done this year.

In addition to the world problems, our club meeting site went out of business, so we had to move our meeting materials to one of our members garage. Will this change the way we function? Will this force us to rethink how we move forward with the service and fund raising that we are so used to doing? What do we need to put in place to make the changes all work? Zoom is a new meeting term. Can this be the beginning of a new Kiwanis direction?

The future for all of us has changed and may not be as we were used to. Change is now the new direction, and it may be time for us to ZOOM ahead with new plans and ideas.

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Is this the "New Normal" - 5/26/2020
Submitted by: John Loken, Service Director

The past weeks have raised questions that most of us had never considered. And those weeks have allowed us to realize that conquering COVID-19 is going to take a while, a lot longer than we can stay buttoned up and isolated, so that we need to live with the virus in our communities.

Frankly, while I know we need to adjust to a new reality, I am unable to see clearly how that will look and work. Mostly it will require self-discipline and a measure of consideration of others welfare. Noticing the television coverage over the Memorial Day weekend showing mobs of folks gathering at parties and the beaches in very close proximity to each other, leaves me wary of whether society on the whole is really ready to do what will be needed to live with COVID-19. Being in the that vulnerable over 70 age group with an underlying condition or two pushes me toward a bit of paranoia.

My club, Alexandria Golden K, has started twice monthly club meetings via Zoom, at the best we have gotten only 1/3 of our members involved in any one meeting. All of our members are retired and most are over 70 years of age, which leaves about 1/3 without internet savvy or hookup and another 1/3 with little or no digital skills and experience. In the last month we started having programs via Zoom with mixed success and find that some of our presenters will do a presentation on Zoom and some shy away. Board meetings have been done on Zoom and work well, with full board involvement; all directors materials are put out on the club website behind the “Members Only” gate ahead of the meeting. And we have yet to address the issue of fundraising which in the past has been a single full day pancake day in October.

If you have read this far, you can see that my crystal ball is still foggy on the issues of how will Kiwanis clubs be
changing service projects and methods in the new normal while fulfilling our mission of serving children and youth in our communities and around the world. This will challenge our gifts of innovation and service that exist in every club and community. This time calls us to work together, to collaborate, to share out best ideas and successes as the world changes from no-COVID-19 to one with COVID-19. May God Bless each of you and your club as you meet each new day.

Leadership - “Qualities of a Good Navy Man” - 5/26/2020
Submitted by: Leadership Development Coordinator

Leadership has many definitions which can be utilized by anyone.

I found a book that was kept in the family of a deceased Navy soldier when he enlisted during World War II. I would like to share this because I believe it is adaptable for each of us and our clubs:

“The Bluejackets’ Manual - United States Navy”
1944 Twelfth Edition, Chapter 1, page 4
“Introduction to the Navy”

“Qualities of a Good Navy Man”

“Be loyal, Stand up for your ship, officers and crew; show your loyalty.

Obey orders, Carry out orders willingly, cheerfully and promptly.

Show initiative, Look ahead; watch for things that need doing. Show that you can be trusted to do the right thing in an emergency.

Be a fighter, Stay with a hard job. Never say “I can’t.”

Be reliable, Do your job thoroughly; don’t be satisfied with less than your best.

Keep a clean record, Uphold the standards of the Navy; this is a big part of Navy teamwork and the first requirement for promotion.

Be fair, Be square with others and expect the same in return.

Be honest, Tell the truth, even if it hurts.
Be cheerful, Keep your chin up when the going is tough. Don't lose your temper over little things.

Be neat, Be proud of your uniform; keep it in good condition.

Thank you to each veteran and military personnel for your service. You are examples that we can follow.

Kiwanis Club of West St. Paul Issues Scholarships - 5/25/2020
Club: Aberdeen - Submitted by: Cassandra

The Kiwanis Club of West St. Paul, that serves the communities of West St. Paul, South St. Paul, Mendota Heights, Inver Grove Heights and Eagan, is pleased to announce that even though the Club's largest Spring fundraiser will be postponed until the Fall, the Club is still able to award 8 graduating Key Club seniors a scholarship to the college of their choice! We congratulate all the graduating seniors of 2020 and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

SO PROUD OF “MY KIDS!” - 5/25/2020
Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Mary Bowen

SO PROUD OF “MY KIDS!”

“There is nothing fun to do right now.” “We are in lock-down along with our friends.” “What kind of projects can we do by ourselves?” Well, the Fridley Key Club Board Members found answers to the above comments. They came up with six fun and worthwhile projects!

They embraced the World of Hearts organization by making and decorating their homes and with paper hearts. Some designs were made to look like trees while others did a cross or a bunch of balloon hearts. Yet others did psychedelic designs. Another project the members pursued were Chalk Art in their nearby parks or at the end of their driveways. Many had very nice messages such as "April Distance Brings May Existence." Yet another project was to take a Teddy Bear and put it in a window or tree. I tied mine to a mailbox as I had no other options. The purpose was to be a part of the “Teddy Bear Hunt” for young children. These children were to look for teddy bears while walking or driving around in their neighborhood.
Our most popular project was to decorate Meals on Wheels Bags. Currently the Club has decorated 525 bags since Quarantine first started. The bags were donated by the Meals on Wheels organizer.

The last project that took the group some time to implement and plan was the writing of notes and ordering of 100 plastic bracelets for the local Hospital Staff, Policemen, Firemen, Postal Workers and UPS drivers. The decision as to what to put on the bracelet took some thought but ultimately it was “STRENGTH-COMMUNITY-HOPE” on the top of the bracelet with Fridley High School Key Club on the back. These were delivered along with the thank you notes.

The current project is the making of 500 construction paper 3-D stars. The Club plans to put five stars in 100 snack bags and label them with “You are a Five Star Teacher” and put them in the the teachers cubbies once school is open.

As I write this, I am overcome with pride. These kids did not let the Quarantine stop them from doing service projects. They overcame their lock-down and got busy doing good deeds!

Crzy Mary Bowen, Fridley Key Club Kiwanis Advisor
Columbia Heights/Fridley Kiwanis Club