

May 2007

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MINNEKOTAN

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Governor presents awards and attends final Regional Conference

It's May and the weather is just as it should be for spring – sometimes rainy and sometimes just glorious and warm. Either way, it feels good and makes us hopeful.

This month I want to talk about several very special events that I attended and also give you a couple of reminders of up-coming events.

I had the privilege of presenting Distinguished Club awards at two clubs in Region 3 after presenting several in Region 1 and 2 last month, and then Lt. Governor Chris Kellett-Sawdey presented one to my home club, too! These are such special awards as a club really needs to be aware throughout the year to make sure they qualify. The points add up fast and many more of our clubs should be achieving this distinction. If you are not sure your club is on the road to this year's Distinguished Club award, check with your club secretary, Lt. Governor or check on Kiwanis International website. I hope many, many clubs reach that goal this year.



Just a week ago my husband and I attended the 25th Anniversary celebration of the North Suburban Golden K club, and what a celebration it was. We were treated to a history – both oral and through display presented by Dennis Harris, a former Lt. Governor and club historian. This was beautifully done and historically complete. This is a good lesson for those of our clubs that may be soon approaching a special milestone. Don't forget to put dates on pictures, compile scrapbooks and retain those special program bulletins! Following a lovely meal, the mayor of Roseville spoke, as well as several others in tribute to this great club.

This past weekend Region 6 met in conference in Redwood Falls – nearly two months after their scheduled meeting. Do you remember early March when we received many inches of snow? That's why the date had to be changed! But there was no less enthusiasm or good programming for this conference which was unusual as it was a) held on a Sunday afternoon and early evening, and b) a Club Leadership Education session was held in conjunction with the conference. There were three workshops also held: Dawn Fairbrother presented the first with learning how to write articles and submitting them to local newspapers, Regional news and the *Minnekotan*. Loreena Ennenga presented one on service projects with great audience participation and examples, and Judi Rosendahl and Stewart Ross discussed membership development, club building and TAG team education. Those in the CLE session joined in the conference in electing Judi Rosendahl the Lt. Governor Elect for Region 6 and hearing from last year's Region Star nominees who had wonderful stories to tell. This was a totally satisfying and enlightening conference. It was a great way for me to complete my governor's visits to the seven regions. I have thoroughly enjoyed them all!

Next weekend the Lt. Governors will all be attending the Lt. Governor Education seminar in Fergus Falls. Governor Elect Bill Daugherty will be at the helm and Larry Rittgarn and Steve Handegaard will present the specifics that each Lt. Governor needs in order to lead each Region. We are so

thankful for the willingness of these men and women who have stepped forward and agreed to serve in this way. They each show the epitome of service as they prepare to make this a great district. Offer to help as you can. We have much work to do.

A couple of reminders: Each club should be nominating someone in their club for the Region Star award. You will be hearing more from your Lt. Governors on this very soon. Also Club Leadership Education weekends are coming up nearly immediately. Secretaries: watch for more information from Education Director Larry Rittgarn and get that information to your club leadership promptly.

Till next month – have a great May!

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

By Steve Handegaard, Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer



Following are some important reminders and updates:

Call to Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Convention!! The Official Call to Convention letter will be sent to all Kiwanis Club secretaries the first week in May. The mailing contains 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 the District Convention Registration form and information on our district website home page at: <http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org>

New this year.....2007-2008 Club Election Report Online: Kiwanis clubs that are submitting their monthly club reports on Club Resources (aka..Kiwanis One Portal) will process their election results online beginning immediately. Approximately 3200 North American clubs are currently accessing and processing their Official Monthly Reports through this system. In our district we have about 80% of our clubs reporting online.

When club secretaries log on to the reporting site they will be directed to enter their election reports online. No postage, no envelopes, no paper! (That means about 3200 fewer letters being mailed from Kiwanis International to clubs and 6400 fewer return letters from clubs to KI and District offices.) The due date for the election report remains the same – June 1st.

All other clubs that have not been using the online system should have received a hard copy mailing from Kiwanis International. As before those completing the hard copy will need to send a copy to both Kiwanis International and the District Office by no later than June 1st.

Bylaws state that clubs should hold their election of officers for the upcoming year between the first meeting in April and the second meeting in May. The club election report must be filed by June 1st. It is very important that this information is received in a timely manner so that directories and mailing lists can be compiled by Kiwanis International and the District Office.

Lt. Governor Elects 2007-2008: Welcome aboard! The following Kiwanians will be serving as Lt. Governor Elect during 2007-2008: Darlene VanderVorst, Region 1; Marwin Bogue, Region 3; Allen Herrboldt, Region 5; and Judie Rosendahl, Region 6. As of this date the Region 2, 4, and 7 positions have not been filled. The Lt. Governor Education program will take place May 4-6 in Fergus Falls.

501 (c) 3 Update: It has been over two years and the application to the IRS from Kiwanis International is still being considered by the IRS!! The District has also completed the necessary Bylaw changes and Articles of Incorporation amendments to qualify for the 501 (c) 3 status. At this point we can only continue to wait until the IRS approves the change. Once that decision is made we will inform all club secretaries of the necessary procedures to be eligible for 501 (c) 3 status.

District Kiwanis Foundation and Past Governors Meeting: The District Kiwanis Foundation Board and Past Governors Meeting will be held on May 18-19 at the AmericInn in Fergus Falls.

Electronic Monthly Club Reporting Update

Once again, thanks to all of the clubs that have been submitting their monthly club reports online. We appreciate the cooperation of all of the club secretaries. If your club is one of the few that has not been using the online version, contact your Lt. Governor or the District Office and we can get you started anytime. Your monthly club report can be entered online by the club secretary or any other designated person that has internet access.

International Convention San Antonio- 2007: As of the end of April we have 59 Kiwanians and 14 guests from the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District registered for the Kiwanis International Convention in San Antonio. The total registration count is at 4832. The total convention goal is 12,282 participants. There is still time to register for the International Convention. All club secretaries should have received information in the mail. You can also get all of the necessary forms and information on the Kiwanis International website <http://www.kiwanis.org/convention/>

More Kiwanis News and Information: Be sure to check out the District and International Kiwanis Websites often for more news and information.

<http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/>

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

Hope to see you at the District Convention in Fargo, North Dakota, August 3-5, 2007.

Steve

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

Club Brochure and Bulletin/Newsletter Contest

CLUB BULLETIN/NEWSLETTER CONTEST, 2007

A club bulletin/newsletter is a periodical document that informs club members and others of news and happenings from within the club, region, district, and international organization that would be of interest to the reader. It will be judged in a number of areas, such as appearance, reports, programs,

sponsored youth, service projects, activities, education, and entertainment to name a few.

Entries will be judged in the following categories:

White Category: 30 members or less

Blue Category: 31-45 members

Orange Category: 46-70 members

Silver Category: 71-100 members

Gold Category: 101 and over members

There will be one regional winner in each category in which there are any entries. Two copies of the winning entries will be sent on to the district for further judging. One district winner will be awarded in each category. The district will choose one Best Overall Club Newsletter/Bulletin to be sent on to International for judging. Winners will be announced at the District Convention .

Entries must be sent to the Regional Administrative Director by June 1.

Send two (2) copies of each of three (3) issues of your club bulletin/newsletter to the person listed below for your region. Include club name, club size, region, and name, address, phone, and e-mail of a contact person for your club.

CLUB BROCHURE CONTEST, 2007

A brochure is a document that is used to explain what a Kiwanis club is and does. It is used as an advertising and publicity tool, and contains general information about the club. It should be easy to read, attractive, and informative. Kiwanis International goals should be included along with club goals and a history of service activities. Information must be accurate and up-to-date.

Only one winner will be selected from each region. The district winner will be selected from the regional winners, and will be announced at the District Convention.

Entries must be sent to the Regional Administrative Director by June 1.

For the club brochure contest, send only one copy to the name listed below, and include club information (club name, region, and name, address, phone, and e-mail for a club contact person.)

Entries for both contests should be sent to the following people in each region:

Regional Administrative Directors:

Region 1: Cheryl Lane, 2105 55th St. SE, Minot, ND, 58701 lanec@minot.com

Region 2: Colleen Hyde 1708 19th St. S., Moorhead, MN 56560 hyde@cord.edu

Region 3: Don Lilyquist 1326 91st Ave W., Duluth MN 55808 lilybett@aol.com

Region 4: Barry Furze 1233 Deadwood St., Sturgis, SD 57785 bfurze@rushmore.com

Region 5: Randy Hohn 5412 Deer Creek Dr. Sioux Falls, SD 57106 radhohn@sio.midco.net

Region 6: Dawn Fairbrother 620 13th St. NE Owatonna, MN 55060 muffins3@charter.net

Region 7: Mary Dierbeck 252 South Cove Road, Hudson, WI 54016 mdierbeck@marudas.com

Submitted by Colleen Hyde, District Administrative Director

Join the MN-DAK Khorale to sing at the District Convention in August

The MN-DAK Kiwanis Khorale which will sing for the third time at the summer District Convention in Fargo, ND—August 2-5, 2007. If you are a good singers and can read music and are willing to attend the District convention please consider singing in this select group. Please note that each applicant needs to fill out the form enclosed, have it signed by the club president and send back to Stewart Ross, coordinator for the group. The address is on the bottom of the application form. The deadline to receive applications is June 15, 2007. Applications can also be sent electronically to: stewart.ross@mnsu.edu We know there are many singing clubs in our district and some wonderful singers in those clubs. There are probably many good singers even in clubs that do not sing! This is a great opportunity for those folks who take their singing seriously and would like to perform at the convention with other singers. Questions--contact: Stewart Ross Coordinator for the MN-DAK Kiwanis Khoir 720 Grant Avenue North Mankato, MN 56003 stewart.ross@mnsu.edu email 507-389-1098 day phone 507-389-1099 507-345-5180 evening and weekend phone APPLICATION FORM FOR THE MN-DAK KHORALE Singing at the MN-DAK District Convention in Fargo, ND August 2-5, 2007



Name _____
 Address _____ City/State/
 Zip _____ Club
 Name _____ Club President
 Signature _____ Voice Classification (Sop., Alto, Ten. Bass)
 _____ Singing
 background _____

_____ Do you read music?
 Yes _____ No _____ The MN-DAK Khorale will rehearse Thursday evening, August 2nd and will have their final performance on Sunday morning, August 5th. Please check your availability prior to sending in this application form. Send to: Stewart Ross 720 Grant Avenue North Mankato, MN 56003 or send electronically to: stewart.ross@mnsu.edu

Kiwanis Club of Jamestown Hosts Graduating Key Club Senior Ceremony

The Kiwanis Club of Jamestown hosted the Graduating Senior Ceremony for the Jamestown High School Key Club members on April 9, 2007 at the Jamestown High School. Twelve seniors were honored: Emerlee Andersen, Jordan Mathison, Ashley Roeske, Kim Schweitzer, Sam Larson, Laura Zink, Amanda Goldade, Chelsea Johnson, Peter Johnson, Nick Enderle, Andrew Lick, and Shalynn Jeske.

Bob Welsh, President of the Kiwanis Club of Jamestown honored the graduating seniors stating "As members of the Jamestown High School Key Club, you, the graduating seniors are valued to us. Through service we have developed friendships and a commitment to helping others. We thank you for your leadership, love for service, and friendship. It has been our privilege to serve with you".

"The Key Club members have served well their home, school, and community. They have maintained the club and assisted it to grow into the vital organization it is today. Kiwanis will follow in their footsteps and continue to provide service, build stronger character, and develop our leadership skills", stated Kimberly Murray, Kiwanis Vice President.

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time. Kiwanis meets every Monday, Noon at the Lantern Room in the Jamestown Mall. Key Club is an international student-led organization which provides its members with opportunities to provide service, build character and develop leadership. Key Club meets the 2nd and the 4th Monday, 6:15pm of each month at the Jamestown High School.

Citizenship Award

ATTN 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 Fargo in August 2007.

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 2006 and June 2007).
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, 2007 to:
 Paul Redlinger, President of the PDOA
 3006 Brookshire Lane
 New Brighton, MN 55112
Redlynn@aol.com

District Convention News

In addition to the various educational forums that we offer each year for you to learn more about Kiwanis and to take back to your members, we will offer this year some additional forums.

One will be presented by a leading jeweler from the Fargo area. This will cover such things as mining the diamonds to cutting the diamond, to taking care of the finished product.

Another forum will be presented by a local travel agent and she will be relating to what you need to think about when traveling both over seas and local travel.

There will be other forums as well, so plan now to have time to take in as many as possible when you attend the 90th Kiwanis convention this summer in Fargo, ND on August 3-5.



Owatonna Noon Kiwanis Club Annual Flower Basket Sale

Owatonna Noon Kiwanis Club is again for the 5th year selling beautiful hanging flower baskets. Sales began the beginning of April and run until May 2nd. Baskets are available for Mother's Day. We sell 6 types on flowers, deliver to customers home or business. We group together and deliver. We sell 160 plus baskets a season our profits go to our scholarship funds and childrens project in Steele County.

DISTRICT CONVENTION SPEAKER

Bruce Messelt, City Manager for the city of Moorhead, Minn. will be our Saturday morning featured speaker.

This workshop will be a added feature to be held Saturday morning. The workshop will feature ways and means of working with the new generations that continue to be a part of our communities.



Bruce has some interesting ideas and successful means of working with and recruiting the younger members into the volunteer areas of service.

This forum will be for all members of the Kiwanis family and their partners. We encourage you all to plan to attend this informative and educational program on Saturday morning August 4 at the Minnesota-Dakotas District convention.

Region 3 Joins the One Day One Way One K World Wide Service Project

The first annual World Wide Service Project, brought many of the 21 clubs in Region 3 together to partner with the Lake Superior Zoo and their annual Easter Egg Hunt. The various clubs got together over \$800 to help support the zoo that supports our area. We had three of our local Key Clubs also volunteer at the event and came as themselves and spent the morning as many different type of animals.

Clubs volunteered for service on April 7th were:

Cloquet Golden K, Ely, Friendly Duluth, Gitche Gume, Port of Duluth, Spirit Valley, Superior, as well as East, Denfeld, and Superior Key Clubs.

The Lake Superior Zoo also had financial support from Cloquet Noon, Cloquet Golden K, Friendly Duluth, Port of Duluth, Spirit Valley, Ely, Grand Rapids Noon, Moose Lake, St Cloud Sunrise, Superior, and Denfeld Key Club.

You could see some members handing out treat bags for the right colored eggs, some having their picture taken with the Easter Bunny, some greeting people at the gate and handing out "Terrific Kids" bookmarks. I think it was fun for all that attended, the day was cold but the feeling was very warm.

Events in which you could participate: Hide and find eggs, egg-a-pult, temporary tatoos, charicture face sketching, craft area - to make bunny ear headware, watch the clowns, and just roam the zoo and enjoy watching the animals eat from their special Easter treats.

Alexandria Golden K Wins Cribbage Challenge

After being defeated in the inaugural "Cribbage Challenge last year, Golden K members won the 2007 tournament and have the traveling trophy in their possession. The event began when Lincoln Elementary sixth grade teacher Jon Hennen asked the Alexandria Golden K club if members would be willing to play in a "for fun" tournament in the spring of 2006. More than a dozen Golden Ker's rose to the challenge and spent two hours competing against Mr. Hennen's students. The event was so much fun that it was done again this spring and seems destined to become an annual event. The teacher uses cribbage as a way to help students hone their thinking and math skills. Although there is an obvious competitive spirit in the room, the event provides a great opportunity for students and Golden Ker's to converse. Only one group can walk away with the traveling trophy, but all the competitors leave the event with smiles on their faces.

Worthington K-Kids Spring Fling

Minnesota-Dakotas Key Leader Event Club Patches for Sponsorship

The Key Leader event is October 5-7th at Inspiration Point in Minnesota. The Fergus Falls' Kiwanis clubs are hosting this event. There is still time to become a committee member. Email District Chair Clover Ellingson at cloverjean@cableone.net.

In addition, all clubs who sponsor at least one student for the event will receive a banner patch with a possible yearly attachment for every future event as well. Choose to be a part of the greatest leadership camp created by Kiwanis International by sponsoring students from your area high school.

Registration is open now at www.key-leader.org. More information and handouts are available at



this site as well. For questions, please contact Clover Ellingson.

Lake Agassiz Participates with Fargo North Key Club in Teeter-Totter-a-Thon

Fargo North Key Club held their first teeter-totter-a-thon near the end of March this year. Lake Agassiz provided food for the event. Kiwanis Advisor and Lake Agassiz President Sam Larson brought the food early in the day and also brought the teeter-totter.

Furthermore, Sam chaporoned the 4 A.M.-8 A.M. shift. (Check out the picture, it was taken at 8 A.M.) In addition, Kiwanian and Assistant Advisor Bonnie Nelson took a shift as well. Other teachers and staff helped with the other shifts . Faculty Advisor and Kiwanian Clover Ellingson remained the entire 24 hours at the school where the event was held and tried to sleep on a cot. Students continued their shifts on the teeter-totter throughout the night.

The students raised \$900 for the Ronald McDonald House and The Children's Miracle Network. After experiencing the event, the students will be tweaking their plans. Comments like "Maybe we should hold a rocking chair a thon or swing a thon instead".

Club Leadership Education (CLE) Information

Have you registered your club leaders for the 2007-08 CLE sessions?

There are 17 sessions scheduled so please look over the list, and make your decision as to where and when you will attend.

Region 1-(2 sessions)

4th Corporation, New Rockford, ND June 2 and Comfort Inn, Bismarck, ND June 9.

Region 2 (2 sessions)

Holiday Inn, Grand Forks, ND May 22, and Otter Tail Power Community Room, Fergus Falls, MN May 23.

Region 3 (2 sessions)

Our Saviours Lutheran Church, Cloquet, MN May 10, and Attonement Lutheran Church, St. Cloud, MN May 15.

Region 4 (1 session)

S. Dakota School of Mines and Technology, Rapid City, SD May 22.

Region 5 (3 sessions)

Sioux Falls Public Library, Sioux Falls, SD May 31, Crossroads Inn, Huron, SD June 2, Staurolite Inn, Brookings SD, June 7.

Region 6 (4 session to go)

Country Host Cafe, Slayton, MN May 19, Salem Lutheran Church Albert Lea, MN May 19, VFW Club, Madison, MN May 29, United Church of Christ, Mankato, MN June 5.

Region 7 (2 sessions)

Rochester Senior Center, Rochester, MN June 5, Culvers Community Room, St. Anthony Village, July 12.

Newly Elected Key Club Governor Announces Key Club Theme and Project

Anchors away!!

I am so excited to start off on another year of Key Club. This year's district theme is travel, so Key Club is our "Passport to Service". Together, throughout the next twelve months, we will be making a difference in our community, country, and the world. The journey will no doubt be filled with great times- ICON, Fall Rally, Spring Convention- as well as some tough obstacles- lower membership, raining on your event day. But because our district is solid and our will is strong, come the end of our year-long travels, we will be able to look back and see our success.

Though travel to a third world country is not in the itinerary, as a district we will still be using our "Passport to Service" to make an impact. For the 2007-2008 Key Club year, we will be raising money to build a school through World Vision. World Vision is a relief and development organization dedicated to helping children and their communities worldwide reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty. Children in countries around the world struggle to study in makeshift classrooms, dilapidated buildings, or in the open air with no building at all. The resulting danger and discomfort result in poor lesson quality, poor grades, and high dropout rates. This gift to construct a school will help provide a permanent, safe learning environment that can benefit hundreds or even thousands of children for years to come — and ultimately build a stronger community.

I look forward to serving with all of you while "traveling" on this amazing trip we have in store. And I am very excited to actually be traveling with some of you to ICON 2007 (July 10-15, 2007) in Orlando, FL. To those of you who haven't registered yet, it must be done by May 11th. Talk to your lieutenant governors or district administrators for more information. If you are unable to travel with the district to International Convention, I encourage all of you to come have a blast at Fall Rally (November 3-4, 2007) in Fargo, ND and then again at Spring Convention (March 28-30, 2008) in Willmar, MN.

The board would love to hear ideas of projects you will be doing in the upcoming months. And who knows? Your idea may show up in newsletters all over Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota. We also want to hear what you have been doing with your Kiwanis Clubs. Make it a club goal this year to build stronger relationships with your sponsoring Kiwanians.

In order to have a smooth journey this Key Club year, we need strong communication. Clubs can do their part by sending in their officer contact information to our District Secretary Anna Renner or their lieutenant governor. And every month, club secretaries should be filling out monthly reports and point reports online.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

In service,

Gretchen Stolhammer, District Governor
Minnesota-Dakotas District of Key Club International

Dr Ellen Chaffee's Presentation to Region 1 and 2 Governor's Visit

**Kiwanis Region One and Region Two Governor's Conference
Jamestown, ND**

March 31, 2007

Ellen-Earle Chaffee, Ph.D.
President, Valley City State University

What Kind of World Do You Want?

First, thank you for helping to create the kind of world that I want:

- Volunteerism
- Focus on children
- Worldwide relationships and scope of thinking

Title is from a current song^[1]. Here are the opening words:

Got a package full of wishes,
A time machine, a magic wand, a globe made out of gold.
No instructions or commandments
Laws of gravity or indecisions to uphold.
Printed on the box I see
Acme's built a world-to-be,
Take a chance, grab a piece, help me to believe it.
What kind of world do you want?
Think anything.
Let's start at the start
Build a masterpiece.
Be careful what you wish for.
History starts now.

That song grabbed me three months ago and won't let go. Why?

- Troubled times – yearning for the ideal.
- Sense of hope.
- Focus on working together, empowerment.

Maybe I'm also feeling some wistful and unrealistic nostalgia, so I created a subtitle:

What Kind of World Do You Want?

Subtitle: You can't have it

Typical answer: I want a world that is familiar, comfortable, fulfills my values and dreams

At least three reasons why we can't have it –

As for values and dreams - You know we are a long way from fulfilling our values and dreams: your work in Kiwanis helps you close the gap through service

As for familiar - Note “world,” not nation, state, or community.

World is much more salient, irresistible in our daily lives than ever before. Darfur is in our back yard. Thousands of people, perhaps concentrated in the Middle East, loathe us because their values and dreams are very different from ours. Chinese entrepreneurs just bought the MG car brand from its English owners, disassembled the manufacturing apparatus, and rebuilt it in a new facility in NanKing. Time from start to first vehicle: 12 months.

Again, Kiwanis helps close the gap, helps make the world smaller on a personal level.

And comfortable? As in my favorite well-worn easy chair? As in feeling confident about my ability to predict and successfully relate to my environment? So much about comfort depends on things staying the same or resonating with past experience. The only way to be comfortable in the 21st century is to love change.

But sometimes we can learn from the past as we anticipate the future. For example, I got this news story just yesterday:

Daily Argus - Fargo, ND

After having dug to a depth of 10 meters last year, Scottish scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 100 years and came to the conclusion that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 100 years ago

Not to be outdone by the Scots, in the weeks that followed, British scientists dug to a depth of 20 meters, and shortly after, headlines in the UK newspapers read:

"British archaeologists have found traces of 200 year old copper wire and have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network a hundred years earlier than the Scots."

One week later, "The Nordic Klub", a Minot, North Dakota newsletter reported the following:

"After digging as deep as 30 meters in corn fields near Velva, Ole Johnson, a self taught archeologist, reported that he found absolutely nothing. Ole has therefore concluded that 300 years ago North Dakota had already gone wireless."

Ah, if only we could dig down and find the future. As it is, if we try to envision the future, we don't even know where to look. One thing is certain – it will not be the same. But there is another certainty – the seeds of the future are here now. And frankly, I am deeply concerned.

An obnoxious college freshman in some other state once told a much older person, "You grew up in a different world, actually an almost primitive one. We grew up with space travel, nuclear energy, electric and hydrogen cars, personal computers, cell phones..." The elder interjected, "You're right,

son. We didn't have those things.....so we invented them. Now, you arrogant little meathead, what are you doing for the next generation?"

The answer is, "Not nearly enough." We are leaving the next generation with everything except the education that would enable them – and us - to succeed in the 21st century. Of the 30 most-developed nations today, only two have a rising generation with LESS education than those dominating the workforce today – Germany and the United States. Ireland's rate of college-going is more than double that of the U.S. and its economy is soaring.[2]

Experts are pointing out that there has been an evolution in outsourcing to other nations:

Low-skill jobs for low wages – routine manufacture

Moderate-skill jobs for low wages – tax returns

Higher-skill jobs for low wages – software development

Meanwhile, those countries have developed their educational and economic systems to the point that they are now able to create new products, services, and enterprises that in many cases rival those of the more developed nations. Indeed, nations are changing categories.

In light of these developments, experts indicate that the only way the United States can stem its losses on the international scene – we clearly have very little claim to #1 status on many dimensions – is through massive commitment to innovation. Innovation comes from research and development, from astute analyses and clear thinking. Innovation comes from well-educated people. Furthermore, I believe that the future of democracy itself is at stake.

But the US is not on track for success in that area. A new report defines demographic shifts, a changing economy, and divergent skill distributions as "America's Perfect Storm." Every state in the nation is awakening rapidly to shocking facts that seem to have snuck up on us overnight. For example:

- The United States is replacing a workforce of nearly 80 million baby boomers with about 40 million less-educated workers. The boomers will live longer than their parents, leaving the new workforce, half as large, with two to three times as many elders to support.
- Nearly half of the projected job growth will be in occupations requiring higher education and skill levels.[3] "Now, the average American must have the knowledge and skills formerly needed by only the top 20 percent of students." [4]
- The United States will need to produce 37 percent more undergraduate degrees beyond currently expected levels if the nation is to keep up with its peers.[5] Minority and low-income populations are growing much faster than white middle- and upper-income populations. Immigration is projected to account for more than half our population growth through 2015. In North Dakota, the overall high school graduation rate is 83 percent, which is very high nationally. But North Dakota's Hispanic student graduation rate is only 28 percent.
- "In the nation at large, roughly 72 percent of whites graduate from high school, while the number for Hispanic and African-American students is 20 percentage points lower at just over 50 percent. According to data from the National Governors' Conference, 'Only 18 percent of African Americans and 9 percent of Hispanics complete a bachelor's degree by age 29, compared with 34 percent of whites.'" [6]
- So - The potential student pool is less able to participate in higher education financially, socially, and academically, just when we need them most.
- And we are not helping them nearly as much as we used to. The average U.S. student loan is nearly \$18,000, more than double 10 years ago after adjusting for inflation.
- You and I will be supported in our old age by half as many working adults as our parents have

been. Our children and grandchildren will have to work two full-time jobs simultaneously if they are to keep the economy going as it is now. To qualify for those jobs, twice as many of them will need a college education, for which most of them are significantly less prepared.

I don't know about the other states represented here, but I imagine we are more alike than not. Conditions in North Dakota are mixed. Most of our youth go on to college. Good news. But our youth population is shrinking. Very, very bad news. North Dakota's higher education system is one of the five most productive in the nation. Good! But our institutions have only 51 cents on the dollar per student compared to their peers, pay is dead last, and facilities are deteriorating. Our total state population is stable or shrinking. Our elderly numbers are increasing.[7]

If we let the future happen to us, the state's population will continue to decline and age – perhaps even faster as other states ramp up their efforts to recruit talented young people to their colleges and good jobs. In the 1980s and 1990s, North Dakota lost young people because there were no jobs. Now we are losing jobs because there are no people.[8] If we let the future happen to us, we might as well start shutting down everything but senior centers and nursing homes, with the bleak hope that enough qualified people will be here to care for them. Us.

Or we can create the future. We can work to keep our young people here and to attract the best and brightest from elsewhere to study, graduate, join the tax rolls, and invent for their children as our elders did for us. And we can engage minority, immigrant, and low-income parents, work with them to help them and their children succeed.

I want to encourage you to let the big picture inform your decisions. Think of the future in terms of years and generations, not just weeks and months. Embrace change and help shape it.

History starts now.

The future will not be familiar. It may well not be comfortable. Will it fulfill our values and dreams? Again, thank you for your roles in Kiwanis and otherwise to help make it so.

[1] "World," on the album *Two Lights* by Five for Fighting. See <http://www.fiveforfighting.com/> and <http://www.whatkindofworldyouwant.com/>

[2] Jon Marcus, "The Celtic Tiger," *National CrossTalk*, Winter 2007, page 2.

[3] Educational Testing Service, "America's Perfect Storm," 2007, Executive Summary, page 4. Based on Bureau of Labor Statistics data

[4] Paul E. Lingenfelter, "How Should States Respond to *A Test of Leadership?*" *Change*, Jan/Feb 2007, page 14.

[5] Travis Reindl, "Hitting Home: Quality, Cost, and Access Challenges Confronting Higher Education Today," Lumina Foundation, March 2007, page 5. Based on data from the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS).

[6] <http://www.carnegiefoundation.org/perspectives/sub.asp?key=245&subkey=2315>

[7] Associated Press, "Seniors Population to Swell by 2020," *The Forum* (Fargo), 2/19/07.

[8] John Edison, "Workers Hot Commodity," *Grand Forks Herald*, 2/18/07. Mike Nowatski, "Numbers Confront F-M Area," *The Forum* (Fargo), 10/15/06.

District Kiwanis Educational Scholarships

In 1934 an idea which had been in the mind of Joseph E. Messer of Watertown, South Dakota became a reality. His idea was to create a fund from which graduating high school seniors could apply for income to fund a college education. Without this financial help further education for many of the students would be impossible. The money was invested and only the earnings were available

for student loans. In later years the loans were changed to scholarships which the students did not have to repay.

Today 14 scholarships of \$800 each are given out each year (2 for each region of the Minnesota-Dakotas District). There will also be 39 Designated Scholarships and one District at Large Scholarship for a total of 54 scholarships a year.

Mr. Messer himself has been the biggest contributor to the fund over the years. Mr. Messer died in 2001 at the age of 98.

There are several ways that Kiwanians can contribute to this very worthy cause. We can become a "Life Fellow" with a one time donation of \$100. This money will be put into the fund and only the earnings will be used year after year after year.

There are clubs in our District who have over 100 members who are "Life Members".

Would you like to be a member of this elite group? Send in \$100 donations to:

Kiwanis Education Fund
Jack Zierdt
914 Southern Pine Lane South
Rochester, MN 55902

Another way that "Clubs" can participate is to become a "Century Club". With a \$100 donation the club will be recognized with a banner patch. If the club does it every year, the club becomes a "Sustaining Member". The \$100 check can also be sent to the above address.

Please Consider It!!

Ed Reich

Past Lt. Governor of Region 3

90th Annual District Kiwanis Convention plans

Forums will include:

Making Effective Public Presentations

K-Kids, and New Beginning

Individual and Club Recognition

Key Leader Program

Tag Team, Membership, New Club Building

Computer Web sites

Key Club

Special presentation by:

Joel M Hektner, Ph.D. entitled "Measuring the Quality of Everyday

Life."

Plan now to attend the 90th Annual District Kiwanis Convention in Fargo, ND at the Holiday Inn, on August 3-5, 2007



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