

May 2008

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# MINNEKOTAN

Published by Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

## Bill's Pitch

We just had the first of what I hope will be many Growth Summits in the District. On April 19th 18 Kiwanians from six clubs in Region Five met for a three hour session in Sioux Falls. The session was titled Taking Your Club from Great to Good! The presenters were, Ben Kocourek of Kiwanis International and our own Stewart Ross as Membership Director for the District. Those in attendance were provided tools to assist clubs in becoming better than they are by looking at the club more fully and embracing changes. The feelings after the session were high, people felt that the information was presented well and will be useful to them and their clubs.



Kiwanis Gives - As Kiwanis clubs we annually donate funds to three major Kiwanis projects. First, we donate to the Outreach program which supports the training of our Key and Circle K Club leadership. Second, we donate to our Minnesota-Dakotas Foundation. This provides over 50 scholarship awards per year to students in our District. Please see to it that your club has sent in their donation. Third, we support the Kiwanis International Foundation. As you know KI is raising 37 Million dollars to support local leadership programs for youth, for communities in need of assistance in response to catastrophic occurrences, as well as grants to localities for youth projects. Please make sure your club is included.

Give a thought to attending the International Convention in Orlando, Fla. June 26-29.

Our Convention is following in August. Plan to be in Moorhead on August 7th through the 10th for what appears to be a convention filled with ideas for clubs in our three states.

Bill Daugherty, Minnesota-Dakotas District Governor

## Update from the Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer - May 2008

By Steve Handegaard, Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer

Following are some important reminders and updates:

**Call to Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Convention in August!!** 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 15. Register early! Also, remember that your Club Delegate Certification form needs to be returned by July 15. 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>



**2008-2009 Club Election Report Online:** Club secretaries should submit the results of club elections through the online reporting system as soon as elections are completed. Due date for the club election report is June 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Standard Club 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 1<sup>st</sup>. 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.

**Distinguished Kiwanis Club Status:** A new feature has been added to the KiwanisOne online reporting system. Club secretaries can now 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.

**District Kiwanis Foundation and Past Governors Meeting:** The District Kiwanis Foundation Board and Past Governors Meeting will be held on May 16-17 at the Public Library in Fergus Falls.

### **Electronic Monthly Club Reporting Update**

Once again, thanks to all of the clubs that are 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 in Orlando- 2008:** As of the end of April we have 41 Kiwanians and 6 guests from the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District registered for the Kiwanis International Convention in Orlando. The total registration count is at 2917. The total convention goal is 7758 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 Moorhead, Minnesota August 8-10, 2008.

### **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](mailto:secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org)

### **Leading to Serve by Bill Lardy, Governor Elect**

As you read this the Lt. Governor teams from each region will be meeting in Fergus Falls May 2 to 4 for the annual Education Conference, under the leadership of Larry Rittgarn, District Education Director. As usual it will be a full weekend of intense sessions covering all aspects of Kiwanis at the District, Region and Club level.



Topics to be covered include Kiwanis International organization and structure, effective communication, new club building and member recruitment and retention, Risk Management and District goals for 2008-2009. Responsibilities of clubs toward sponsored youth programs will also be discussed.

While some regions have elected Lt. Governor's Elect for 2008-2009, some are still searching for someone to fill the slot. Lt. Governors are past presidents of clubs. Readers of this article should approach their current club president, or past club presidents and encourage them to consider being nominated for the position. Or, contact the Lt. Governor team in your region and nominate the person yourself!

Keep the Kiwanis Spirit Burning!

### **Former Governor Stewart Ross to run for International Trustee**

It is my pleasure to announce the candidacy of former governor Dr. Stewart Ross for the office of International Trustee. As the Bylaws of our district require that we endorse a trustee candidate at the District convention the year before the next Kiwanis International Convention, we would like all of you to be aware and be ready to support his candidacy at this year's District Convention in Moorhead.

It has been many years since we have had an International Trustee who is a member of the Minnesota-Dakotas District, therefore this is an exciting opportunity for us to be a part of promoting and presenting Stewart to this prestigious office.

Stewart is the Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning at Minnesota State Mankato where he works with over 500 faculty members. Also, a consultant around the country presenting workshops on course design in higher education. He has been married for 26 years to Liz Lawrence-Ross (MN-DAK chair for the KI Foundation in 2006-2007 and past president of the Mankato Downtown Kiwanis Club. Stewart and Liz have two children - David, age 23 and Judith, age 21.

Stewart is qualified for the position as trustee as he has worked diligently for our district in many capacities:

- Joined in 1989
- Distinguished president
- Distinguished secretary (8 years)
- Distinguished Lt. Governor of Region 6
- Kiwanis Life Member
- District Life Member
- District Foundation Messer Fellow
- Governor of the District '05-'06
- Current District Director of New Club Building and Membership Growth
- Member of the K.I. Diversity Task Force
- Will Serve on the Kiwanis International Leadership Committee '08-'09

Awards:

- Tablet of Honor

- Diamond level 2 Hixson Fellow
- Kiwanis International Foundation Heritage Society
- Children's Fund

In future months, we will have more to say about his qualifications, but at this time we wish to make this announcement and ask for your support of a fine representative of our district.

Coralyn Dahl, Immediate Past Governor

### **Key Leader Event: Spring Registration is Encouraged**

The next Key Leader Event will be at Inspiration Point in Clitherall, MN on October 3-5, 2008. Check out the website: [www.ipoint.org](http://www.ipoint.org) . A scholarship of \$20 is available to the first 30 students that sign up through the generosity of Governor Bill Daugherty. Please have the student use the coupon code "excel".

Another website that is great for information and where students and adults sign up for the event is: [www.key-leader.org](http://www.key-leader.org) . You can recruit any student going into the 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade for 2008-2009 school year. This includes FFA, 4-H, Student Council, Foreign Exchange students, and key club members. Those who have had previous experience as a leader, have attended a key leader event, or are a current officer of their club are encouraged to apply as a student facilitator.

This link is a great handout for adults and students too! It answers the top ten questions about key-leader: <http://www.key-leader.org/about/klfaqs.asp> .

We are currently looking for five more adult chaperones for this event. Simple background checks are done on all adults attending. Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering for this event now! In addition, we also need help with promotion of this event. If you would like to be a part of that committee, please contact me now!

Yours in Service,  
Clover Ellingson  
[cloverjean@cablone.net](mailto:cloverjean@cablone.net)  
[clover\\_ellingson@fargo.k12.nd.us](mailto:clover_ellingson@fargo.k12.nd.us)  
Minnesota-Dakotas Key Leader Chair  
(701)729-7640

### **NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE 2008 REGION 6 GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE**

David Fairbrother, Lt. Governor of Region 6 of the Minnesota-Dakotas District, presided over the annual Region 6 Governor's Conference at the Holiday Inn Downtown, Civic Center, in Mankato, Minnesota on Saturday, April 12, 2008.

It was a day of food, fun, fellowship, sharing of conversation, ideas, learning, with a seminar on how to build membership and new Kiwanis Clubs with Ben Kocourek; plus, encouraging and positive remarks from Governor, Bill Daugherty and Lt. Governor, David Fairbrother;

plus Immediate Past Governor, Coralyn Brandt Dahl presented information regarding Stewart Ross; There was an outstanding performance by the Cast of the Kiwanis Aktion Club Theatre; the election of the 2008-2009 Lt. Governor-Elect; Kiwanians who bid on Silent Auction Items and voted to have the funds raised, \$429.00, be given to the "Kids Against Hunger" Program in Mankato, Minnesota which will feed 1,800 children a very nutritious meal; and winners were drawn for the donated Door Prizes. (A thank you letter was received from the Kids Against Hunger Program on April 28, 2008.)

**Read more details** about the event by going to the Region 6 News page  
<http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/news6.php>

In Kiwanis Spirit, Service, and Friendship; With Enthusiasm,

Lt. Governor, David Fairbrother, and First Lady of Region 6, Dawn Fairbrother

### **Pipestone Kiwanis Club Honors Long Time Club Secretary**

Ron Zetterlund was honored by the Pipestone Kiwanis Club for many years of service as secretary for the club. The club donated money to help the Children of the World in Ron's name.

Ron joined the Pipestone Kiwanis Club in 1968 and was sponsored by Al Opland. He was a very active member and took over the secretary job when Warren Argetsinger retired. Warren had 40 years of perfect attendance as of that time. Those were the days when Pipestone had over 80 members. We now have 40 members

He served as club secretary for over 15 years and retired turning the job over to June Farwick Stager. After several years June moved to Worthington and Ron again took over the secretary job for the club. This year makes him a 40 year member with perfect attendance with the exception of two and a half years ago when he had a stroke. Since then he has made a good recovery and now continues his membership and also his perfect attendance. During that time Evan Schiller took over as temporary secretary and Roger Raschke has now taken over the permanent job of secretary.

Ron is a life long resident of Pipestone graduating from PHS in 1958, He attended South Dakota State at Brookings where he majored in Country Journalism. He graduated from the University of South Dakota at Vermillion with a BA in Journalism. He was in the service for two years serving as a chaplains assistant. He then worked as a reporter/editor in Clear Lake, IA. then at the Clear Lake Courier in Clear Lake, SD. He returned to Pipestone as the News Editor at the Pipestone County Star. In 1968 Ron and Dennis Hansen opened Nicollet Press, a commercial printing company and produced high quality graphic design and printing until 1985. Nicollet Press was closed then and Ron went back to work for the Pipestone County Star as a graphic designer until his stroke.

To see a photo of Ron receiving the award go to the following link: <http://picasaweb.google.com/districtk>

Pipestone Kiwanis Club  
Dennis Hansen, Club Rep.

## Growth Summit -- More Than Just 2 Words in a Sentence

Bill Zortman

Region 5 Lt Gov 2006-2007

CLE (Club Leadership Education) has been around a long time -- and in 2008 is available for incoming officers in the months ahead.

But Kiwanis is looking to other tools that can work as well. And Governor Bill Daugherty called a Growth Summit meeting for Sioux Falls on April 19th. Ben Kocourek -- Club Development Representative from Kiwanis International and Stewart Ross -- Membership Director for the Dakotas and Minnesota guided the 20 or so that attended down the road to the future of Kiwanis.

Look to Governor Daugherty's column in the May Minnekotan for more information on the Sioux Falls Summit.

Here are some of the reactions from those facilitating and attending the Growth Summit in Sioux Falls:

Stewart Ross--co-facilitator:

"The co-facilitators, Stewart Ross and Ben K teamed up to present a workshop titled "Moving Your Club from Good to Great. We were impressed by the ideas generated by participants and some of the ways those who attended were going to go back to their clubs to make them even better.

I had had many positions in Kiwanis over the years, but helping others find ways to improve their clubs and develop a plan for continued membership growth and development has to be one of the most exciting and important.

I'm always amazed by the vitality and enthusiasm Kiwanians bring to workshops like these. I am honored to be given an opportunity to help in some small way. We hope to continue the momentum we saw today and begin to deliver other workshops such as this throughout the district in the next couple of years and beyond."

Amy DeBerg-Ferwerda, President Sioux Falls Club:

"Even though my year as President is 1/2 over, I was reminded at the Growth Summit that now is a great time to work with the incoming President and VP to help plan to ensure this year ends with strong results and a Great Club. Plus we learned how to really help our President elects get their year off to a strong start."

Rick Rysavy, President Elect Sioux Falls Club:

"The Summit was a great learning experience for me. It was good for me to remember what Kiwanis has to offer, and what makes me proud to be a Kiwanian. I particularly liked the discussion about how our town would be different without Kiwanis. As a result of the summit, I hope our club can attain our Membership growth goals that we set the beginning of the fiscal year."

Vickie Walters, Lt Gov 2004-2005, Madison, SD

"The Club Excellence Tool will only enhance how we recruit new members and help clubs to realize that they have to take care of their members as well. I hope to see the Madison Club look to see that their club meetings and activities are reality for people to join the Madison Club and get involved. I think Kiwanis International is doing a great job at providing clubs the tools to reach the Goal of 1 million members by 2015. The Growth Summit also gave me the assurance that it is up to me and clubs to take the responsibility to create great clubs and increase membership to help change the world one community and one child at a time. I would recommend that all areas of Minnesota Dakotas look at sponsoring a growth summit along with their Region meetings in the future."

Bill Zortman, Lt Gov 2006-2007, Sioux Falls Daybreak & Sioux Falls Diversity:

"With membership numbers declining in virtually every district in the country -- its nice to see Kiwanis is realizing that while we need to keep our base of veteran membership solid -- we have to look at where we are going in the future.

Not all clubs sing the songs that Kiwanis members have for years. They don't want to be told by older members how it use to be. What they want to know is what being a Kiwanian will do for me as I work for my community. The fact that Kiwanis International is working on the next generation -- Kiwanis Nexus --- means they have figured it out. The change of what service clubs can do will be changing in the very near future. We can only hope that the Kiwanis Nexus will be able to take the energy of the K Family school and college programs and step in line with the times to help our community. Ben Kocourek's explanation of that direction gives us all a renewed hope while realizing their will always be a place for the Kiwanis Clubs that are as much as 90 years old.

The only way to hear about the planning for the future is to attend another Kiwanis Growth Summit or a District or International Convention. Those with dreams, foresight, and hopes should attend at a site that is easily access. Or you can go on line to search for yourself.

## **Distinguished Kiwanis Club Clarification**

It has come to my attention that the 2007-08 Achievement Criteria as it relates to the participation in the George F. Hixson Fellowship and Tablet of Honor programs may be unclear. As such, I want to personally take this opportunity to clarify the requirements to obtain the Distinguished Club Award.

In the Distinguished Club Award section, clubs are encouraged to complete several requirements in the service category, including contributing \$5/member to the Kiwanis International Foundation Annual Club Gift campaign. Clubs contributing to the Annual Club Gift campaign receive 10 points for their support. In addition to this donation, clubs are invited to participate in the George F. Hixson and Tablet of Honor recognition awards for an additional 10 bonus points. The interpretation of participation for these awards has created the confusion.

In order for a Kiwanis club to qualify for the additional bonus points, the club or its individual members must give \$1,000 for a George F. Hixson Fellowship or \$2,000 for a Tablet of Honor. Clubs will not be recognized for teaming with other clubs to give either of those awards.

The bonus points were added this year based upon feedback from clubs and members who encouraged us to recognize and include financial support for the Hixson Fellowship and Tablet of Honor programs. In years past, only Annual Club Gifts were included as part of the Achievement Award program.

Dave Curry  
Kiwanis International President

## **SunRisers Make a Difference in the Lives of Area Children**

Each and every time Safe Kids Grand Forks is in need of lots of volunteers, the Grand Forks SunRisers Kiwanis "come up big for us" notes Carma Hanson, Safe Kids Grand Forks Coordinator. Over the years, this has been a partnership that has allowed the Kiwanis group to meet their community service goals and help out what they deem "a worthwhile program". Helping kids and keeping our community's children safe is a priority for this service club and Safe Kids Grand Forks is fortunate for the service they provide.

Each spring, the Grand Forks SunRisers Kiwanis Club provides many of the volunteers needed for the Annual *Kids Don't Float* water safety class. With 7 classes held over a 3 day period and over 500 people trained, many helpers are needed to pull off an event of this magnitude. Each year, the Grand Forks SunRisers Kiwanis show up in force and provide water safety education to the children that attend. They also have been known to assist with bike helmet distributions and with the numerous booths that Safe Kids has at the Altru "Here For Life" Expo.

Every few months, the Kiwanis group gathers at their regular 7:00 a.m. meeting time to fill bags with items related to safety for expectant parents. Altru Health System has over 1400 deliveries per year so that's a LOT of bags to be stuffed. For their on-going partnership with Safe Kids Grand Forks, we appoint the Grand Forks Sunrises Kiwanis as our "Safe Kids Stars".

## **Santa Village Benefits From Kiwanis International Grant**

Grand Forks Kiwanis SunRisers, in conjunction with the Grand Forks Park District, applied for and were awarded a \$5,000 grant from Kiwanis International to help fund the Park District's annual Santa Village (held in December 2007). The Kiwanis International grant was a key factor in making this event possible at no cost to community groups, group homes, nursing home residents and the many area families who enjoyed it. Some families shared that the day they spent at Santa Village was their "Christmas".

Santa Village was set up by the Grand Forks Park District at the Lincoln Golf Course Clubhouse two weekends in December and featured over 40 Christmas trees decorated in various themes. Mrs. Claus was the hostess to the many guests, with several of Santa's elves available to help with activities. There were also several guest appearances from Santa Claus himself.

Participants gained free admission with donation of a canned good or new toy. Santa Village had activities for all ages and it was a perfect place to spend time with family. Some families shared that the day they spent at Santa Village was their "Christmas". Some community favorite activities included making beaded candy cane ornaments, creating colorful buttons with holiday themes and mixing up a bowl of magic reindeer food. From schoolchildren to senior groups, participants enjoyed seasonal decorations over a cup of cocoa and a quiet chat with a friend. Many also savored the brisk winter air and smelled the fresh pine on one of Santa Village's free sleigh rides through Lincoln Park.

This past December 10,015 children and adults visited Santa Village. They gave canned goods donations totaling 1904 pounds of food, with an approximate value of over \$1,000. The canned goods were donated to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul food pantry in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

The SunRisers Kiwanis Club held their annual Christmas party at Santa Village with dinner catered in. It was an extremely festive setting, and all who attended appreciated the experience at Santa Village.

Inspired by the smiling faces on the many children who attended, the SunRisers Kiwanis Club plans to submit another grant application to Kiwanis International for the 2008 Santa Village.

To see photos go to: <http://picasaweb.google.com/districtk>

(Submitted by Tammy Adams)

## **CLUB BULLETIN/NEWSLETTER and BROCHURE CONTESTS**

### **CLUB BULLETIN/NEWSLETTER CONTEST, 2008**

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, 2008**

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: Jamie Soper (Minot)**

702 8th Ave. SW, Surrey, ND 58785

[wsoper@srt.com](mailto:wsoper@srt.com)

**Region 2: Colleen Hyde (Mhd. Vikingland)**

1708 19th St. S. Mhd, MN 56560

[hyde@cord.edu](mailto:hyde@cord.edu)

**Region 3: Don Lilyquist**

1326 91 Ave. W., Duluth, MN 55808

[thelilybett@aol.com](mailto:thelilybett@aol.com)

**Region 4: Barry Furze**

1233 Deadwood St., Sturgis, SD 57785

[bfurze@rushmore.com](mailto:bfurze@rushmore.com)

**Region 5: Randy Hohn**

5412 Deer Dreek Dr., Sious Falls, SDS 57106

[radhohn@sio.midco.net](mailto:radhohn@sio.midco.net)

**Region 6: Dawn Fairbrother**

620 13th St. NE, Qwatonna, MN 55060

[muffins3@charter.net](mailto:muffins3@charter.net)

**Region 7: Mary Dierbeck**  
**20 Yorkton Ct., Little Canada, MN 55117**  
[mdierbeck@marudas.com](mailto:mdierbeck@marudas.com)

Submitted by Colleen Hyde, District Administrative Director

## **Kiwanis One Day Is Fun Day!**

Stuff. Sew. Attach. Insert. Color. That is what 130 Kiwanis Members, Key Clubbers and community members did on Kiwanis Fun Day One Day held Saturday morning, April 5, 2008 at the Fridley Middle School. They collaborated in the Kiwanis International One Day Project which caused Kiwanians throughout the United States and the world to provide community services of many kinds. When finished they had completed 485 Hospital Dolls and 160 Dragonfly Cards.

“We wanted Kiwanis One Day Service Projects which would have both local and worldwide impact,” said Co-Chairs Mary Bowen of Columbia Heights/Fridley and Mary Dierbeck of St. Anthony Kiwanis Clubs. “The Hospital Doll construction and Dragonfly Card coloring provided such projects. We are pleased with the fine support of eleven Metro Twin Cities Kiwanis Clubs and three Key Clubs.”

The Hospital Doll construction involved stuffing a sewn together front and back panel with fiberfill, stitching closed the side seam used for stuffing, attaching a miniature backpack and filling the backpack with colored marker pens. Prior to the event, 16 members of the St. Anthony senior community sewed the doll fronts and backs together, cut them to the proper Hospital Doll shape and fabricated the backpacks.

A Hospital Doll is a 15 inch tall round headed featureless doll which looks like a gingerbread man. It is made of muslin and stuffed with fiberfill. The dolls are used in a variety of ways. They provide diversion and comfort children in hospitals. Children can draw on them with markers to make them look like themselves which provides distraction from pain and boredom. The soft squeezable dolls also allow them to express their anxiety. They can mark on the doll the location of the injury or draw their own feelings on the face of the doll. When medical personnel demonstrate the scheduled medical procedure on the doll, children are more cooperative. The children keep the dolls when leaving the hospital. These dolls remind them of their positive hospital experience.

The 485 dolls will go to nearby Children’s Hospitals, an orphanage in Tanzania and Children’s Surgery International (CSI). CSI will take 100 of these dolls on its mission trip to Ghana this fall where its medical staff will perform cleft palate and facial restoration surgery on young children. Imagine the impact as care workers distribute these dolls to youth throughout the world!

In a companion project, participants provided color artwork for 160 Dragonfly cards. Individuals send these cards with messages of comfort and dragonfly key chains to comfort families who have lost members through death.

This event was not all work. Can you imagine Kiwanians and Key Clubbers doing a service project without having food available? The event, which ran from 8:30 am to 12:30 noon provided breakfast, snacks and lunch to participants. A participating Kiwanis Club, which runs a malt stand at the MN State Fair, provided chocolate malts throughout the event. A Kiwanian, who owns a nearby Culver’s Restaurant, catered pork barbeque sandwich basket.

Members stretched their legs by standing to sing “When Kiwanis Calls” and the “Minnesota Rouser.” Various attendees moved from table to table to participate in different parts of the doll project, to color Dragonfly Cards, to brag about their artistic talents or to steal extra fiberfill from neighboring tables.

This project truly exemplifies the Kiwanis motto, “Young Children: Priority One” and the Key Club motto, “Caring: Our Way of Life.”

To view photos taken at this event go to the following:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/districtk>

Mary Bowen, Co-Chair Kiwanis One Day Committee

763-574-0576

marybowen@att.net

## **REGION 7 KIWANIS RESPOND TO IMPACT ON FAMILIES OF MILITARY WHILE DEPLOYED ON OVERSEAS TOURS OF DUTY**

At our Region 7 Governors' visit and Education Day, November 10, 2007, Carolyn Fick, Case Manager, US Veterans Administration, Twin City Office, Operation Iraq Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom, spoke. She talked with conviction and passion about the impact on military persons and their families that come from long overseas deployments. As a result of that presentation and with a huge boost from Clay Ruggles of the Lake City Kiwanis Club, "Operation Welcome Home" was put in place.

Nineteen military couples participated in a faith-based retreat the weekend of March 29 - 31, 2008, held at Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch, Stewartville, MN. The retreat was designed to give couples time away to reconnect and strengthen their relationships. Sessions on parenting, communication, dealing with anger successfully, healthy conflict resolution, finances, faith and making marriage work were offered. A number of Region 7 Kiwanis Clubs and American Legion Posts paid for sponsorships so all could attend.

The following excerpts were taken from an article written by Laura Gossman for the April 2, 2008, Rochester Post-Bulletin, Rochester, MN.

*Couples attended counseling sessions and enjoyed horseback riding, golf, scrapbooking and a spa was available where they could receive a free facial or manicure. On Saturday evening they were treated to a candlelit dinner.*

*Bob Bardwell, camp director, said, "Most of the soldiers are really just trying to put their lives back together. Things change when you're away from your loved ones for so long." He said the counseling sessions were meant to help them re-enter their marriages, communities and work places. Military Chaplain Jon Morris and two counselors volunteered their time for the couples.*

*The couples who attended were from Minnesota, Wisconsin and a few from Kentucky and Colorado.*

*Bob Bardwell said, "I've already gotten comments and e-mails from these soldiers saying the retreat has made a difference. It's amazing what can happen in a weekend."*

**Hats off to all Kiwanis Clubs  
who helped to make "Operation Welcome Home" a success!**

Richard Mussell  
Region 7 Lt. Governor

## Sioux Falls Shoes Arrive in Guatemala

By Bill Zortman

Region 5 Lt Gov 2006-2007

Since the closing days of 2007 -- Kiwanians in Sioux Falls have been collecting shoes and other clothing, blankets, medicine, toys, National Geographic Magazines, and pencils for children in Guatemala.

We now have pictures of them arriving and proud children holding the shoes. Organizers led by Carla Coeey of the Diversity Kiwanis Club recognized a number of the 700 pairs of shoes that were sent.

Coeey adopted a Guatemalan child a few years ago and working with Mayan Families -- started the project that touched Kiwanis Clubs all over Sioux Falls, as well as churches, businesses, and just those that heard about it.

It cost roughly \$200 a box to send the shoes and supplies to Guatemala. The biggest fund raiser was the Diversity Raffle of the Super Bowl score by quarters. \$500 was raised --- along with additional cash donated to send 5 boxes.

Carla Coeey upon seeing the pictures said "It's so great to see all the happy faces. Mayan Families staff emailed us that they are so excited to have so many shoes to hand out. They always have people at their door for shoes and it breaks their hearts when they don't have shoes to fit one child in a family. Thank you for all of your hard work with this project. When I'm in Guatemala in June, I'm sure I'll see a lot of kids wearing the shoes we donated including the Dollar General Flip-flops and the blue boots one girl is holding. Thanks to all those have helped with this project."

Mike Tolzin -- Treasurer of the Diversity Club summed it up for many of us that contributed -- "Carla-- it's us that should be thanking you for connecting Diversity Kiwanis to this great project. It's pretty humbling to see such joy from something that we take for granted."

Shoes that were bigger than size 8 were donated to Lutheran Social Services in Sioux Falls. Watch this space for information on collecting shoes for 2009.

## Sioux Falls Kiwanis Avenue Re-dedicated

By Bill Zortman

Lt Gov Region 5, 2006-2007

It was May 2nd, 1932 -- The Kiwanis Club of Sioux Falls took the message to heart and wearing overalls, carrying shovels, spades and hoes -- Mayor Burnside made the arrangements for tree plantings in Sherman Park North from 18th street. Seventy American white elms were planted along what was then Harvard Avenue from 18th to 12th. One tree was planted for each club member. With the name Kiwanis -- which means "We Build" -- the City of Sioux Falls named it Kiwanis Avenue on June 13th 1932.

It wasn't Mayor Burnside that was attending -- but Mayor Dave Munson who called a special Kiwanis Re-dedication Program to stand tall on April 19th, 2008. Carolyn Dick -- the best known historian of Kiwanis Clubs in South Dakota -- organized the event from trees to speakers -- cookies and lemonade on what was the best Saturday in April in snow-suffering 2008.

Amy Berg-Ferwerda -- President of the Kiwanis Club of Sioux Falls did the welcome -- Sioux Falls Kiwanian and

Minnesota-Dakotas District Governor Bill Daugherty talked about Kiwanis Yesterday and Today.

Immediate Past Lt Governor Bill Zortman announced a program in which each of the six Kiwanis Clubs presented a tree to Children and Schools in the Sioux Falls area.

Sioux Falls Downtown (started in 1920) choose the Children's Home Society, Sioux Falls South (founded in 1954) picked Hawthorne Elementary, Sioux Falls East selected the new Rosa Parks, Sioux Falls West (formed in 1961) tabbed Sioux Falls Christian, Sioux Falls Daybreak (formed in 1998) selected Oscar Howe School, and Sioux Falls Diversity -- christened in 2006 -- selected Jane Adams.

Mayor Munson accepted the trees to the City from two Oscar Howe students --- the grandsons of Nancy Meyers -- President Elect of Daybreak.

The marker for the Kiwanis Avenue Memorial was placed on the site on October 23rd, 1993.

Its the hope of 250+ Kiwanians in Sioux Falls that the trees will form the "roots" for the club to grow even taller in the next 75 years.

## 10 Year Old Celebrates Anniversary

Ten years ago --- the Sioux Falls Daybreak Kiwanis Club decided to become the only morning Kiwanis Club in South Dakotas largest city.

Ten years later --- having been graced with 10 different Presidents -- Sioux Falls Daybreak Celebrated a milestone anniversary.

Governor Bill Daugherty -- who has worked Bull Riding events with the Daybreakers -- challenged them to celebrate an anniversary every year -- not just wait for a 20th year. He thanked them for their dedication to the Spinoza Bear that has helped many a small child facing death or a difficult challenge.

It was John Raneck --- now with the Downtown Club with Nancy Meyer that started the Daybreak Club in 1998. Other charter members include Randy Hohn, Bob Reireson, and Ruth Pliska. Nancy Beck came a few years later.

If you are looking for a morning club with energy -- though not the biggest numbers come by and visit the Daybreak Club at the Pancake House and 41st and you guessed it -- Kiwanis.

During April -- Sioux Falls East observed their 47th Anniversary --- a club we are all very proud of. Its the home of former Governor Chuck Schroeder.



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May 2008

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# MINNEKOTAN

Published by Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

## Bill's Pitch

We just had the first of what I hope will be many Growth Summits in the District. On April 19th 18 Kiwanians from six clubs in Region Five met for a three hour session in Sioux Falls. The session was titled Taking Your Club from Great to Good! The presenters were, Ben Kocourek of Kiwanis International and our own Stewart Ross as Membership Director for the District. Those in attendance were provided tools to assist clubs in becoming better than they are by looking at the club more fully and embracing changes. The feelings after the session were high, people felt that the information was presented well and will be useful to them and their clubs.



Kiwanis Gives - As Kiwanis clubs we annually donate funds to three major Kiwanis projects. First, we donate to the Outreach program which supports the training of our Key and Circle K Club leadership. Second, we donate to our Minnesota-Dakotas Foundation. This provides over 50 scholarship awards per year to students in our District. Please see to it that your club has sent in their donation. Third, we support the Kiwanis International Foundation. As you know KI is raising 37 Million dollars to support local leadership programs for youth, for communities in need of assistance in response to catastrophic occurrences, as well as grants to localities for youth projects. Please make sure your club is included.

Give a thought to attending the International Convention in Orlando, Fla. June 26-29.

Our Convention is following in August. Plan to be in Moorhead on August 7th through the 10th for what appears to be a convention filled with ideas for clubs in our three states.

Bill Daugherty, Minnesota-Dakotas District Governor

## Update from the Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer - May 2008

By Steve Handegaard, Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer

Following are some important reminders and updates:

**Call to Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Convention in August!!** 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 15. Register early! Also, remember that your Club Delegate Certification form needs to be returned by July 15. 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>



**2008-2009 Club Election Report Online:** Club secretaries should submit the results of club elections through the online reporting system as soon as elections are completed. Due date for the club election report is June 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Standard Club 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 1<sup>st</sup>. 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.

**Distinguished Kiwanis Club Status:** A new feature has been added to the KiwanisOne online reporting system. Club secretaries can now 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.

**District Kiwanis Foundation and Past Governors Meeting:** The District Kiwanis Foundation Board and Past Governors Meeting will be held on May 16-17 at the Public Library in Fergus Falls.

### **Electronic Monthly Club Reporting Update**

Once again, thanks to all of the clubs that are 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 in Orlando- 2008:** As of the end of April we have 41 Kiwanians and 6 guests from the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District registered for the Kiwanis International Convention in Orlando. The total registration count is at 2917. The total convention goal is 7758 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 Moorhead, Minnesota August 8-10, 2008.

### **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](mailto:secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org)

### **Leading to Serve by Bill Lardy, Governor Elect**

As you read this the Lt. Governor teams from each region will be meeting in Fergus Falls May 2 to 4 for the annual Education Conference, under the leadership of Larry Rittgarn, District Education Director. As usual it will be a full weekend of intense sessions covering all aspects of Kiwanis at the District, Region and Club level.



Topics to be covered include Kiwanis International organization and structure, effective communication, new club building and member recruitment and retention, Risk Management and District goals for 2008-2009. Responsibilities of clubs toward sponsored youth programs will also be discussed.

While some regions have elected Lt. Governor's Elect for 2008-2009, some are still searching for someone to fill the slot. Lt. Governors are past presidents of clubs. Readers of this article should approach their current club president, or past club presidents and encourage them to consider being nominated for the position. Or, contact the Lt. Governor team in your region and nominate the person yourself!

Keep the Kiwanis Spirit Burning!

### **Former Governor Stewart Ross to run for International Trustee**

It is my pleasure to announce the candidacy of former governor Dr. Stewart Ross for the office of International Trustee. As the Bylaws of our district require that we endorse a trustee candidate at the District convention the year before the next Kiwanis International Convention, we would like all of you to be aware and be ready to support his candidacy at this year's District Convention in Moorhead.

It has been many years since we have had an International Trustee who is a member of the Minnesota-Dakotas District, therefore this is an exciting opportunity for us to be a part of promoting and presenting Stewart to this prestigious office.

Stewart is the Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning at Minnesota State Mankato where he works with over 500 faculty members. Also, a consultant around the country presenting workshops on course design in higher education. He has been married for 26 years to Liz Lawrence-Ross (MN-DAK chair for the KI Foundation in 2006-2007 and past president of the Mankato Downtown Kiwanis Club. Stewart and Liz have two children - David, age 23 and Judith, age 21.

Stewart is qualified for the position as trustee as he has worked diligently for our district in many capacities:

- Joined in 1989
- Distinguished president
- Distinguished secretary (8 years)
- Distinguished Lt. Governor of Region 6
- Kiwanis Life Member
- District Life Member
- District Foundation Messer Fellow
- Governor of the District '05-'06
- Current District Director of New Club Building and Membership Growth
- Member of the K.I. Diversity Task Force
- Will Serve on the Kiwanis International Leadership Committee '08-'09

Awards:

- Tablet of Honor



- Diamond level 2 Hixson Fellow
- Kiwanis International Foundation Heritage Society
- Children's Fund

In future months, we will have more to say about his qualifications, but at this time we wish to make this announcement and ask for your support of a fine representative of our district.

Coralyn Dahl, Immediate Past Governor

### **Key Leader Event: Spring Registration is Encouraged**

The next Key Leader Event will be at Inspiration Point in Clitherall, MN on October 3-5, 2008. Check out the website: [www.ipoint.org](http://www.ipoint.org) . A scholarship of \$20 is available to the first 30 students that sign up through the generosity of Governor Bill Daugherty. Please have the student use the coupon code "excel".

Another website that is great for information and where students and adults sign up for the event is: [www.key-leader.org](http://www.key-leader.org) . You can recruit any student going into the 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade for 2008-2009 school year. This includes FFA, 4-H, Student Council, Foreign Exchange students, and key club members. Those who have had previous experience as a leader, have attended a key leader event, or are a current officer of their club are encouraged to apply as a student facilitator.

This link is a great handout for adults and students too! It answers the top ten questions about key-leader: <http://www.key-leader.org/about/klfaqs.asp> .

We are currently looking for five more adult chaperones for this event. Simple background checks are done on all adults attending. Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering for this event now! In addition, we also need help with promotion of this event. If you would like to be a part of that committee, please contact me now!

Yours in Service,  
Clover Ellingson  
[cloverjean@cablone.net](mailto:cloverjean@cablone.net)  
[clover\\_ellingson@fargo.k12.nd.us](mailto:clover_ellingson@fargo.k12.nd.us)  
Minnesota-Dakotas Key Leader Chair  
(701)729-7640

### **NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE 2008 REGION 6 GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE**

David Fairbrother, Lt. Governor of Region 6 of the Minnesota-Dakotas District, presided over the annual Region 6 Governor's Conference at the Holiday Inn Downtown, Civic Center, in Mankato, Minnesota on Saturday, April 12, 2008.

It was a day of food, fun, fellowship, sharing of conversation, ideas, learning, with a seminar on how to build membership and new Kiwanis Clubs with Ben Kocourek; plus, encouraging and positive remarks from Governor, Bill Daugherty and Lt. Governor, David Fairbrother;

plus Immediate Past Governor, Coralyn Brandt Dahl presented information regarding Stewart Ross; There was an outstanding performance by the Cast of the Kiwanis Aktion Club Theatre; the election of the 2008-2009 Lt. Governor-Elect; Kiwanians who bid on Silent Auction Items and voted to have the funds raised, \$429.00, be given to the "Kids Against Hunger" Program in Mankato, Minnesota which will feed 1,800 children a very nutritious meal; and winners were drawn for the donated Door Prizes. (A thank you letter was received from the Kids Against Hunger Program on April 28, 2008.)

**Read more details** about the event by going to the Region 6 News page  
<http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/news6.php>

In Kiwanis Spirit, Service, and Friendship; With Enthusiasm,

Lt. Governor, David Fairbrother, and First Lady of Region 6, Dawn Fairbrother

### **Pipestone Kiwanis Club Honors Long Time Club Secretary**

Ron Zetterlund was honored by the Pipestone Kiwanis Club for many years of service as secretary for the club. The club donated money to help the Children of the World in Ron's name.

Ron joined the Pipestone Kiwanis Club in 1968 and was sponsored by Al Opland. He was a very active member and took over the secretary job when Warren Argetsinger retired. Warren had 40 years of perfect attendance as of that time. Those were the days when Pipestone had over 80 members. We now have 40 members

He served as club secretary for over 15 years and retired turning the job over to June Farwick Stager. After several years June moved to Worthington and Ron again took over the secretary job for the club. This year makes him a 40 year member with perfect attendance with the exception of two and a half years ago when he had a stroke. Since then he has made a good recovery and now continues his membership and also his perfect attendance. During that time Evan Schiller took over as temporary secretary and Roger Raschke has now taken over the permanent job of secretary.

Ron is a life long resident of Pipestone graduating from PHS in 1958, He attended South Dakota State at Brookings where he majored in Country Journalism. He graduated from the University of South Dakota at Vermillion with a BA in Journalism. He was in the service for two years serving as a chaplains assistant. He then worked as a reporter/editor in Clear Lake, IA. then at the Clear Lake Courier in Clear Lake, SD. He returned to Pipestone as the News Editor at the Pipestone County Star. In 1968 Ron and Dennis Hansen opened Nicollet Press, a commercial printing company and produced high quality graphic design and printing until 1985. Nicollet Press was closed then and Ron went back to work for the Pipestone County Star as a graphic designer until his stroke.

To see a photo of Ron receiving the award go to the following link: <http://picasaweb.google.com/districtk>

Pipestone Kiwanis Club  
Dennis Hansen, Club Rep.

## Growth Summit -- More Than Just 2 Words in a Sentence

Bill Zortman

Region 5 Lt Gov 2006-2007

CLE (Club Leadership Education) has been around a long time -- and in 2008 is available for incoming officers in the months ahead.

But Kiwanis is looking to other tools that can work as well. And Governor Bill Daugherty called a Growth Summit meeting for Sioux Falls on April 19th. Ben Kocourek -- Club Development Representative from Kiwanis International and Stewart Ross -- Membership Director for the Dakotas and Minnesota guided the 20 or so that attended down the road to the future of Kiwanis.

Look to Governor Daugherty's column in the May Minnekotan for more information on the Sioux Falls Summit.

Here are some of the reactions from those facilitating and attending the Growth Summit in Sioux Falls:

Stewart Ross--co-facilitator:

"The co-facilitators, Stewart Ross and Ben K teamed up to present a workshop titled "Moving Your Club from Good to Great. We were impressed by the ideas generated by participants and some of the ways those who attended were going to go back to their clubs to make them even better.

I had had many positions in Kiwanis over the years, but helping others find ways to improve their clubs and develop a plan for continued membership growth and development has to be one of the most exciting and important.

I'm always amazed by the vitality and enthusiasm Kiwanians bring to workshops like these. I am honored to be given an opportunity to help in some small way. We hope to continue the momentum we saw today and begin to deliver other workshops such as this throughout the district in the next couple of years and beyond."

Amy DeBerg-Ferwerda, President Sioux Falls Club:

"Even though my year as President is 1/2 over, I was reminded at the Growth Summit that now is a great time to work with the incoming President and VP to help plan to ensure this year ends with strong results and a Great Club. Plus we learned how to really help our President elects get their year off to a strong start."

Rick Rysavy, President Elect Sioux Falls Club:

"The Summit was a great learning experience for me. It was good for me to remember what Kiwanis has to offer, and what makes me proud to be a Kiwanian. I particularly liked the discussion about how our town would be different without Kiwanis. As a result of the summit, I hope our club can attain our Membership growth goals that we set the beginning of the fiscal year."

Vickie Walters, Lt Gov 2004-2005, Madison, SD

"The Club Excellence Tool will only enhance how we recruit new members and help clubs to realize that they have to take care of their members as well. I hope to see the Madison Club look to see that their club meetings and activities are reality for people to join the Madison Club and get involved. I think Kiwanis International is doing a great job at providing clubs the tools to reach the Goal of 1 million members by 2015. The Growth Summit also gave me the assurance that it is up to me and clubs to take the responsibility to create great clubs and increase membership to help change the world one community and one child at a time. I would recommend that all areas of Minnesota Dakotas look at sponsoring a growth summit along with their Region meetings in the future."

Bill Zortman, Lt Gov 2006-2007, Sioux Falls Daybreak & Sioux Falls Diversity:

"With membership numbers declining in virtually every district in the country -- its nice to see Kiwanis is realizing that while we need to keep our base of veteran membership solid -- we have to look at where we are going in the future.

Not all clubs sing the songs that Kiwanis members have for years. They don't want to be told by older members how it use to be. What they want to know is what being a Kiwanian will do for me as I work for my community. The fact that Kiwanis International is working on the next generation -- Kiwanis Nexus --- means they have figured it out. The change of what service clubs can do will be changing in the very near future. We can only hope that the Kiwanis Nexus will be able to take the energy of the K Family school and college programs and step in line with the times to help our community. Ben Kocourek's explanation of that direction gives us all a renewed hope while realizing their will always be a place for the Kiwanis Clubs that are as much as 90 years old.

The only way to hear about the planning for the future is to attend another Kiwanis Growth Summit or a District or International Convention. Those with dreams, foresight, and hopes should attend at a site that is easily access. Or you can go on line to search for yourself.

## **Distinguished Kiwanis Club Clarification**

It has come to my attention that the 2007-08 Achievement Criteria as it relates to the participation in the George F. Hixson Fellowship and Tablet of Honor programs may be unclear. As such, I want to personally take this opportunity to clarify the requirements to obtain the Distinguished Club Award.

In the Distinguished Club Award section, clubs are encouraged to complete several requirements in the service category, including contributing \$5/member to the Kiwanis International Foundation Annual Club Gift campaign. Clubs contributing to the Annual Club Gift campaign receive 10 points for their support. In addition to this donation, clubs are invited to participate in the George F. Hixson and Tablet of Honor recognition awards for an additional 10 bonus points. The interpretation of participation for these awards has created the confusion.

In order for a Kiwanis club to qualify for the additional bonus points, the club or its individual members must give \$1,000 for a George F. Hixson Fellowship or \$2,000 for a Tablet of Honor. Clubs will not be recognized for teaming with other clubs to give either of those awards.

The bonus points were added this year based upon feedback from clubs and members who encouraged us to recognize and include financial support for the Hixson Fellowship and Tablet of Honor programs. In years past, only Annual Club Gifts were included as part of the Achievement Award program.

Dave Curry  
Kiwanis International President

## **SunRisers Make a Difference in the Lives of Area Children**

Each and every time Safe Kids Grand Forks is in need of lots of volunteers, the Grand Forks SunRisers Kiwanis "come up big for us" notes Carma Hanson, Safe Kids Grand Forks Coordinator. Over the years, this has been a partnership that has allowed the Kiwanis group to meet their community service goals and help out what they deem "a worthwhile program". Helping kids and keeping our community's children safe is a priority for this service club and Safe Kids Grand Forks is fortunate for the service they provide.

Each spring, the Grand Forks SunRisers Kiwanis Club provides many of the volunteers needed for the Annual *Kids Don't Float* water safety class. With 7 classes held over a 3 day period and over 500 people trained, many helpers are needed to pull off an event of this magnitude. Each year, the Grand Forks SunRisers Kiwanis show up in force and provide water safety education to the children that attend. They also have been known to assist with bike helmet distributions and with the numerous booths that Safe Kids has at the Altru "Here For Life" Expo.

Every few months, the Kiwanis group gathers at their regular 7:00 a.m. meeting time to fill bags with items related to safety for expectant parents. Altru Health System has over 1400 deliveries per year so that's a LOT of bags to be stuffed. For their on-going partnership with Safe Kids Grand Forks, we appoint the Grand Forks Sunrises Kiwanis as our "Safe Kids Stars".

## **Santa Village Benefits From Kiwanis International Grant**

Grand Forks Kiwanis SunRisers, in conjunction with the Grand Forks Park District, applied for and were awarded a \$5,000 grant from Kiwanis International to help fund the Park District's annual Santa Village (held in December 2007). The Kiwanis International grant was a key factor in making this event possible at no cost to community groups, group homes, nursing home residents and the many area families who enjoyed it. Some families shared that the day they spent at Santa Village was their "Christmas".

Santa Village was set up by the Grand Forks Park District at the Lincoln Golf Course Clubhouse two weekends in December and featured over 40 Christmas trees decorated in various themes. Mrs. Claus was the hostess to the many guests, with several of Santa's elves available to help with activities. There were also several guest appearances from Santa Claus himself.

Participants gained free admission with donation of a canned good or new toy. Santa Village had activities for all ages and it was a perfect place to spend time with family. Some families shared that the day they spent at Santa Village was their "Christmas". Some community favorite activities included making beaded candy cane ornaments, creating colorful buttons with holiday themes and mixing up a bowl of magic reindeer food. From schoolchildren to senior groups, participants enjoyed seasonal decorations over a cup of cocoa and a quiet chat with a friend. Many also savored the brisk winter air and smelled the fresh pine on one of Santa Village's free sleigh rides through Lincoln Park.

This past December 10,015 children and adults visited Santa Village. They gave canned goods donations totaling 1904 pounds of food, with an approximate value of over \$1,000. The canned goods were donated to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul food pantry in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

The SunRisers Kiwanis Club held their annual Christmas party at Santa Village with dinner catered in. It was an extremely festive setting, and all who attended appreciated the experience at Santa Village.

Inspired by the smiling faces on the many children who attended, the SunRisers Kiwanis Club plans to submit another grant application to Kiwanis International for the 2008 Santa Village.

To see photos go to: <http://picasaweb.google.com/districtk>

(Submitted by Tammy Adams)

## **CLUB BULLETIN/NEWSLETTER and BROCHURE CONTESTS**

### **CLUB BULLETIN/NEWSLETTER CONTEST, 2008**

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, 2008**

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: Jamie Soper (Minot)**

702 8th Ave. SW, Surrey, ND 58785

[wsoper@srt.com](mailto:wsoper@srt.com)

**Region 2: Colleen Hyde (Mhd. Vikingland)**

1708 19th St. S. Mhd, MN 56560

[hyde@cord.edu](mailto:hyde@cord.edu)

**Region 3: Don Lilyquist**

1326 91 Ave. W., Duluth, MN 55808

[thelilybett@aol.com](mailto:thelilybett@aol.com)

**Region 4: Barry Furze**

1233 Deadwood St., Sturgis, SD 57785

[bfurze@rushmore.com](mailto:bfurze@rushmore.com)

**Region 5: Randy Hohn**

5412 Deer Dreek Dr., Sious Falls, SDS 57106

[radhohn@sio.midco.net](mailto:radhohn@sio.midco.net)

**Region 6: Dawn Fairbrother**

620 13th St. NE, Qwatonna, MN 55060

[muffins3@charter.net](mailto:muffins3@charter.net)

**Region 7: Mary Dierbeck**  
**20 Yorkton Ct., Little Canada, MN 55117**  
[mdierbeck@marudas.com](mailto:mdierbeck@marudas.com)

Submitted by Colleen Hyde, District Administrative Director

## **Kiwanis One Day Is Fun Day!**

Stuff. Sew. Attach. Insert. Color. That is what 130 Kiwanis Members, Key Clubbers and community members did on Kiwanis Fun Day One Day held Saturday morning, April 5, 2008 at the Fridley Middle School. They collaborated in the Kiwanis International One Day Project which caused Kiwanians throughout the United States and the world to provide community services of many kinds. When finished they had completed 485 Hospital Dolls and 160 Dragonfly Cards.

“We wanted Kiwanis One Day Service Projects which would have both local and worldwide impact,” said Co-Chairs Mary Bowen of Columbia Heights/Fridley and Mary Dierbeck of St. Anthony Kiwanis Clubs. “The Hospital Doll construction and Dragonfly Card coloring provided such projects. We are pleased with the fine support of eleven Metro Twin Cities Kiwanis Clubs and three Key Clubs.”

The Hospital Doll construction involved stuffing a sewn together front and back panel with fiberfill, stitching closed the side seam used for stuffing, attaching a miniature backpack and filling the backpack with colored marker pens. Prior to the event, 16 members of the St. Anthony senior community sewed the doll fronts and backs together, cut them to the proper Hospital Doll shape and fabricated the backpacks.

A Hospital Doll is a 15 inch tall round headed featureless doll which looks like a gingerbread man. It is made of muslin and stuffed with fiberfill. The dolls are used in a variety of ways. They provide diversion and comfort children in hospitals. Children can draw on them with markers to make them look like themselves which provides distraction from pain and boredom. The soft squeezable dolls also allow them to express their anxiety. They can mark on the doll the location of the injury or draw their own feelings on the face of the doll. When medical personnel demonstrate the scheduled medical procedure on the doll, children are more cooperative. The children keep the dolls when leaving the hospital. These dolls remind them of their positive hospital experience.

The 485 dolls will go to nearby Children’s Hospitals, an orphanage in Tanzania and Children’s Surgery International (CSI). CSI will take 100 of these dolls on its mission trip to Ghana this fall where its medical staff will perform cleft palate and facial restoration surgery on young children. Imagine the impact as care workers distribute these dolls to youth throughout the world!

In a companion project, participants provided color artwork for 160 Dragonfly cards. Individuals send these cards with messages of comfort and dragonfly key chains to comfort families who have lost members through death.

This event was not all work. Can you imagine Kiwanians and Key Clubbers doing a service project without having food available? The event, which ran from 8:30 am to 12:30 noon provided breakfast, snacks and lunch to participants. A participating Kiwanis Club, which runs a malt stand at the MN State Fair, provided chocolate malts throughout the event. A Kiwanian, who owns a nearby Culver’s Restaurant, catered pork barbeque sandwich basket.

Members stretched their legs by standing to sing “When Kiwanis Calls” and the “Minnesota Rouser.” Various attendees moved from table to table to participate in different parts of the doll project, to color Dragonfly Cards, to brag about their artistic talents or to steal extra fiberfill from neighboring tables.

This project truly exemplifies the Kiwanis motto, “Young Children: Priority One” and the Key Club motto, “Caring: Our Way of Life.”

To view photos taken at this event go to the following:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/districtk>

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## **REGION 7 KIWANIS RESPOND TO IMPACT ON FAMILIES OF MILITARY WHILE DEPLOYED ON OVERSEAS TOURS OF DUTY**

At our Region 7 Governors' visit and Education Day, November 10, 2007, Carolyn Fick, Case Manager, US Veterans Administration, Twin City Office, Operation Iraq Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom, spoke. She talked with conviction and passion about the impact on military persons and their families that come from long overseas deployments. As a result of that presentation and with a huge boost from Clay Ruggles of the Lake City Kiwanis Club, "Operation Welcome Home" was put in place.

Nineteen military couples participated in a faith-based retreat the weekend of March 29 - 31, 2008, held at Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch, Stewartville, MN. The retreat was designed to give couples time away to reconnect and strengthen their relationships. Sessions on parenting, communication, dealing with anger successfully, healthy conflict resolution, finances, faith and making marriage work were offered. A number of Region 7 Kiwanis Clubs and American Legion Posts paid for sponsorships so all could attend.

The following excerpts were taken from an article written by Laura Gossman for the April 2, 2008, Rochester Post-Bulletin, Rochester, MN.

*Couples attended counseling sessions and enjoyed horseback riding, golf, scrapbooking and a spa was available where they could receive a free facial or manicure. On Saturday evening they were treated to a candlelit dinner.*

*Bob Bardwell, camp director, said, "Most of the soldiers are really just trying to put their lives back together. Things change when you're away from your loved ones for so long." He said the counseling sessions were meant to help them re-enter their marriages, communities and work places. Military Chaplain Jon Morris and two counselors volunteered their time for the couples.*

*The couples who attended were from Minnesota, Wisconsin and a few from Kentucky and Colorado.*

*Bob Bardwell said, "I've already gotten comments and e-mails from these soldiers saying the retreat has made a difference. It's amazing what can happen in a weekend."*

**Hats off to all Kiwanis Clubs  
who helped to make "Operation Welcome Home" a success!**



Richard Mussell  
Region 7 Lt. Governor

## Sioux Falls Shoes Arrive in Guatemala

By Bill Zortman

Region 5 Lt Gov 2006-2007

Since the closing days of 2007 -- Kiwanians in Sioux Falls have been collecting shoes and other clothing, blankets, medicine, toys, National Geographic Magazines, and pencils for children in Guatemala.

We now have pictures of them arriving and proud children holding the shoes. Organizers led by Carla Coeey of the Diversity Kiwanis Club recognized a number of the 700 pairs of shoes that were sent.

Coeey adopted a Guatemalan child a few years ago and working with Mayan Families -- started the project that touched Kiwanis Clubs all over Sioux Falls, as well as churches, businesses, and just those that heard about it.

It cost roughly \$200 a box to send the shoes and supplies to Guatemala. The biggest fund raiser was the Diversity Raffle of the Super Bowl score by quarters. \$500 was raised --- along with additional cash donated to send 5 boxes.

Carla Coeey upon seeing the pictures said "It's so great to see all the happy faces. Mayan Families staff emailed us that they are so excited to have so many shoes to hand out. They always have people at their door for shoes and it breaks their hearts when they don't have shoes to fit one child in a family. Thank you for all of your hard work with this project. When I'm in Guatemala in June, I'm sure I'll see a lot of kids wearing the shoes we donated including the Dollar General Flip-flops and the blue boots one girl is holding. Thanks to all those have helped with this project."

Mike Tolzin -- Treasurer of the Diversity Club summed it up for many of us that contributed -- "Carla-- it's us that should be thanking you for connecting Diversity Kiwanis to this great project. It's pretty humbling to see such joy from something that we take for granted."

Shoes that were bigger than size 8 were donated to Lutheran Social Services in Sioux Falls. Watch this space for information on collecting shoes for 2009.

## Sioux Falls Kiwanis Avenue Re-dedicated

By Bill Zortman

Lt Gov Region 5, 2006-2007

It was May 2nd, 1932 -- The Kiwanis Club of Sioux Falls took the message to heart and wearing overalls, carrying shovels, spades and hoes -- Mayor Burnside made the arrangements for tree plantings in Sherman Park North from 18th street. Seventy American white elms were planted along what was then Harvard Avenue from 18th to 12th. One tree was planted for each club member. With the name Kiwanis -- which means "We Build" -- the City of Sioux Falls named it Kiwanis Avenue on June 13th 1932.

It wasn't Mayor Burnside that was attending -- but Mayor Dave Munson who called a special Kiwanis Re-dedication Program to stand tall on April 19th, 2008. Carolyn Dick -- the best known historian of Kiwanis Clubs in South Dakota -- organized the event from trees to speakers -- cookies and lemonade on what was the best Saturday in April in snow-suffering 2008.

Amy Berg-Ferwerda -- President of the Kiwanis Club of Sioux Falls did the welcome -- Sioux Falls Kiwanian and

Minnesota-Dakotas District Governor Bill Daugherty talked about Kiwanis Yesterday and Today.

Immediate Past Lt Governor Bill Zortman announced a program in which each of the six Kiwanis Clubs presented a tree to Children and Schools in the Sioux Falls area.

Sioux Falls Downtown (started in 1920) choose the Children's Home Society, Sioux Falls South (founded in 1954) picked Hawthorne Elementary, Sioux Falls East selected the new Rosa Parks, Sioux Falls West (formed in 1961) tabbed Sioux Falls Christian, Sioux Falls Daybreak (formed in 1998) selected Oscar Howe School, and Sioux Falls Diversity -- christened in 2006 -- selected Jane Adams.

Mayor Munson accepted the trees to the City from two Oscar Howe students --- the grandsons of Nancy Meyers -- President Elect of Daybreak.

The marker for the Kiwanis Avenue Memorial was placed on the site on October 23rd, 1993.

Its the hope of 250+ Kiwanians in Sioux Falls that the trees will form the "roots" for the club to grow even taller in the next 75 years.

## 10 Year Old Celebrates Anniversary

Ten years ago --- the Sioux Falls Daybreak Kiwanis Club decided to become the only morning Kiwanis Club in South Dakotas largest city.

Ten years later --- having been graced with 10 different Presidents -- Sioux Falls Daybreak Celebrated a milestone anniversary.

Governor Bill Daugherty -- who has worked Bull Riding events with the Daybreakers -- challenged them to celebrate an anniversary every year -- not just wait for a 20th year. He thanked them for their dedication to the Spinoza Bear that has helped many a small child facing death or a difficult challenge.

It was John Raneck --- now with the Downtown Club with Nancy Meyer that started the Daybreak Club in 1998. Other charter members include Randy Hohn, Bob Reireson, and Ruth Pliska. Nancy Beck came a few years later.

If you are looking for a morning club with energy -- though not the biggest numbers come by and visit the Daybreak Club at the Pancake House and 41st and you guessed it -- Kiwanis.

During April -- Sioux Falls East observed their 47th Anniversary --- a club we are all very proud of. Its the home of former Governor Chuck Schroeder.



Published by Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis.  
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