



Kiwanis®

MINNEKOTAN

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Welcome to the latest news from around our Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District. In addition to articles by some of district leaders you will also find many interesting articles and photos from Kiwanis Clubs in our district.

As always we encourage clubs to submit news articles about their activities, service projects or fundraisers. To submit an article go the District News on our website and find “News-News Story Submission” page <http://mndak.portalbuzz.com/Page/1013>

This document is a PDF summary of the latest news that can also be found on the district website. If you prefer you can also view all of our news articles directly on the district website. You can search by District, Division or Club and view or print each article individually or as a group. In addition the photos appear in a larger format on the website. Here is a link to the website <http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/Page/1012>

An archive of current and past MINNEKOTANS can be found on our district website <http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/Page/1014>

Steve Handegaard
District Secretary/Treasurer
Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis International

Strategic Planning - 1/31/2018

Submitted by: Dan Leikvold

The District Strategic Planning committee recently met in Fergus Falls, MN. The Strategic Planning Committee consists of Governor Dan Leikvold, Governor-Elect David Harms, Immediate-Past Governor Peter Larsen, Membership/Growth Director Sherry Scudder, Service Director Al Vanderlaan, Education Director Colleen Hyde, Administration Director Denis Cornell, District Secretary/Treasurer Steve Handegaard, and District Convention



Director Judie Rosendahl. During the day, we covered a lot of important ground. Our time was spent reviewing the District I-Plan (Inspiration: Membership and Engagement; Impact: Meaningful Service; Image: Our Kiwanis Image; and Investment: Financial Viability).

Below are the eight current goals in Minn-Dak's strategic plan and a brief summary of what we discussed.

Membership Growth

We have plans in place to help grow our membership through new club building and club revitalization. A big thank you to so many who have been working very hard on increasing membership. We discussed the need to get more folks throughout the district trained as club openers and club coaches. We also talked about the need to enhance new member mentoring.

Education

We talked about Club Leadership Education (CLE). We agreed that CLE is required for all incoming Presidents and each division can decide if training is online or face-to-face for them. Per Kiwanis International, Club Secretaries must take the online training. All Divisions are strongly encouraged to hold face-to-face CLE trainings and asked to invite all members who may be interested in becoming club leaders. We also discussed the need for clubs to utilize the Achieving Club Excellence (ACE) tools. We will continue to promote the use of Kiwanis education videos and online training and look for ways to enhance the District Convention (DCON).

District Convention and Division Conferences

Growing attendance at the DCON and Division Conferences was a major topic of discussion. We recently surveyed members throughout Minn-Dak in order to seek input on how to enhance the district convention experience. The Convention program will be modified based on responses. We also discussed ways to create incentives for more members to attend these events. We talked about the importance of continuing to develop the DCON program with the perspective of the member

attending in mind, not from the district officer perspective.

District Structure Review

We reviewed the current division alignment and decided not to recommend any changes at this time to the number of divisions, nor to the number of LT GOVS. We did discuss the possibility of adding one or two Governor Assistants per state to assist the LT GOVS in their duties. The importance, value, and necessity of quality club visits by LT GOVS was also discussed at length.

Service Leadership Programs

We focused on the need to start new Service Leadership Programs (SLPs) in each Division and encouraged cooperation on service projects between Kiwanis Clubs and SLPs. It is our hope that the district will have 70% of all clubs sponsor at least one SLP. We are currently at about 50%.

Service

The district will work to encourage all clubs to develop or maintain a signature service project. A signature service project has the following attributes.

- Recurring. At a minimum, the project should take place annually.
- Brand enhancing. The project design elevates the Kiwanis brand in the local community.
- High impact. The project should have a demonstrable positive impact on the community.

The District will continue to promote the following: Oasis book project, diaper collection project at DCON, human trafficking awareness, and the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) book project.

Communication

We all agreed that the district website and the MINNEKOTAN are, and should be, the main communication tools for the District. We will continue to encourage clubs to submit articles on service projects and other events of interest to the membership. The District Convention, Division Conferences, and club visits by LT GOVS are also major components in promoting excellent communication in the District. We are committed to ongoing efforts to enhance communication between the district and divisions, divisions and clubs, and clubs and members. We will develop a best practices and “frequently asked questions” link on the District website.

Donations

The district will continue its efforts to educate members on the topic of club and individual donations to the Minn-Dak Education Foundation, The Kiwanis Children’s Fund, and the District Outreach Fund. We will also focus attention on completing all of our ELIMINATE pledges.

If you are interested in seeing the current plan in its entirety, it can be viewed at

[https://portalbuzzuserfiles.s3.amazonaws.com/ou-87/userfiles/files/mn-dak%20strategic%20plan%20revised%20january%202016\(1\).pdf](https://portalbuzzuserfiles.s3.amazonaws.com/ou-87/userfiles/files/mn-dak%20strategic%20plan%20revised%20january%202016(1).pdf)

If you have any questions or comments regarding the Minn-Dak I-Plan, please contact any of the members of the Strategic Planning Committee.

Kiwanis International Children's Fund - 1/30/2018

Submitted by: Kathy Welle

Happy New Year to all in the Mn-Dak District. Already the first quarter of our fiscal year is complete. Here are our top five messages in connection with the children's fund.



1. **Thank you to all those clubs who supported the Kiwanis Children's Fund in the 2016–17 year.** And congratulations to the 1,063 clubs that achieved Today Club recognition. Your support is already making a difference in the lives of children worldwide.

2. Have you heard about the **five causes of the Children's Fund**? We support club and district service projects, Kiwanis-led disaster relief efforts, Service Leadership Programs, The Eliminate Project, and the sustained elimination of Iodine Deficiency Disorders. Read more about our impact here.

3. We have a **new club grant program!** New features include: a comprehensive guide to the application process, three funding cycles rather than two and more one-on-one staff feedback. Submit your application by February 1, 2018, to be considered for June funding.

4. **Congratulations to those clubs who have already made a gift in the 2017-18 year.** Your early club gift helps Kiwanians reach more children.

5. **Be our friend!** Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), and sign up for our [e-newsletter](#) to get regular updates on our causes, grant cycles and more. Learn more at KiwanisChildrensFund.org and TheEliminateProject.org.

THANK YOU for all you do to serve the children of the world. #KidsneedKiwanis We are making a difference!!

February Update - 1/30/2018

Submitted by: Steve Handegaard

Governor Elect Candidates: If you are interested in running for Governor Elect for 2018-2019, please submit a picture and a short biographical sketch not to exceed 600 words, along with an endorsement from your home club, to the District Kiwanis Office, P.O. Box 735, Dalton, MN 56324 no later than February 15, 2018.



Your information must be received by that date to be published in the March MINNEKOTAN. Candidates can announce their intention to run at a later date, but will not be able to have an article in the MINNEKOTAN or district website. Governor Elect candidates must be a Past Lt. Governor. The election will take place at the District Convention next August. A complete list of rules and regulations for district officer campaigns can be obtained from the District Office.

Lt. Governor Elect Candidates: We are still in need of Lt. Governor Elect Candidates for 2018-2019 in some Divisions. Contact your current Lt. Governor if interested. The Lt. Governor Education program will take place April 27-29 in Fergus Falls.

Reminder about Kiwanis Clubs & IRS filing requirements:

All organizations, including all Kiwanis clubs must file the appropriate annual IRS tax Form by February 15. The form used depends on your annual gross receipts.

District Annual Audit: The Annual Audit of the Minnesota-Dakotas District Financial Accounts for the Kiwanis year 2016-2017 was recently completed by Westberg Eischens, PLLP, Certified Public Accountants of Willmar, Minnesota. The report is on file at Kiwanis International and the District Office.

Tri-K District Board Meeting: Kiwanis and Circle K District Boards met in Fergus Falls, MN on January 19 and 20, 2018. Minutes of the Kiwanis District Board meeting will be viewable on our district website soon.

Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office Contact Information:

Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office

P.O. Box 735

Dalton, MN 56324-0735

Phone: 218-589-7581

Email: secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org

Children need to read - 1/29/2018

Submitted by: Al Vanderlaan

Meet and greet the new MnDak representative for Scholastic Books. Angie Oshia is stationed in St. Louis , Mo. Angie will be Watertown's speaker at their weekly meeting at noon on Monday March 19th at the Ramkota Inn. She will be available before and after the meeting for questions and conversation. Coleen Liebsch who is with Books 4 Kids will also be available. The two programs will work together on some programs and have agreed to accompany each other during this visit.



Angie, Coleen, and I will travel to Lead, SD and on to the Oasis placed on the Rosebud Reservation before ending up for a visit to The Sioux Falls club on Wednesday March 21st. While in Lead she looks forward to meeting with Governor Dan. This will be Angie's first time in the Mndak District and I'm sure it will not be her last. She would like to stay longer but three days is all she can spare on this trip.

If any members of any MnDak Kiwanis clubs would like to come and listen to her speak and meet Angie, Watertown Kiwanis extends an invitation for you to attend their meeting on March 19th. Let me know if you will attend. Call me at 605-881-2963.

If you need to contact Angie for any help on Scholastic Book projects feel free to call her at 314-502-6505 or email her at aoshia@scholasticbookfairs.com.

Convention Corner - 1/29/2018

Submitted by: Judie Rosendahl

The District Convention Committee has begun planning for the 2018 Convention and Leadership Conference which will be August 10-12 in Willmar, Minnesota. Recently we sent out a survey monkey to all of our members and from that we are looking at some changes to our schedule that we hope are positive for you, our members. We are working with the Willmar Kiwanis Club to make this convention unique as well as beneficial to all Minnesota Dakota District Kiwanians! Please put August 10-12 on your calendar now and plan to attend. The Convention is only as good as the members who attend and each one of you is so important! The convention will be at the Willmar Conference Center with rooms at the Best Western Plus, the Holiday Inn Express, and the Days Inn. We will be telling you more of the details as the months go by-we are already looking forward to seeing you in Willmar!



Judie Rosendahl, District Convention Director

Has Your Club Sent a Century Club Donation? - 1/29/2018

Submitted by: Denis Cornell

Is your club a "Century Club"? The Century Club program of the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis Educational Foundation can be considered an ongoing youth service project for every club. A Kiwanis Club in the Minnesota-Dakotas District can become a Century Club member with an annual suggested contribution of at least \$100.00 that can be taken from Youth Activities funds, Project Profit Funds or Administrative Funds. The foundation depends on Century Club contributions of at least \$100.00 from clubs in our district to build foundation assets in order to continue providing scholarships to high school students throughout the district. Last year the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis Educational Foundation awarded fifty-two \$865.00 scholarships to high school students in the district and this year the scholarships will increase to \$950.00.



The Century Club contribution should be included in the annual budget of each club and sent to the foundation secretary as soon as the club budget is approved. The Century Club contribution form is available on the MN-DAK District Kiwanis web site under the Foundations tab. Mail your Century Club contribution to:

Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis Educational Foundation
914 Southern Pine Lane SW
Rochester, Minnesota 55902
Attention: Jack Zierdt, Secretary-Treasurer

Contributions may also be made by clubs or individuals through a "Vantine Life Fellowship" with a contribution of \$100.00 or a "Joseph E Messer Fellowship" through a contribution of \$500.00 payable in two installments of \$250.00. These fellowships are a great way to recognize exemplary service of club members and officers or other individuals. Information describing these fellowships is available in the Minnesota-Dakotas Educational Foundation brochure which can be downloaded from the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis website under the Foundations tab.

Now is the Time to Sponsor a Builders Club - 1/29/2018

Submitted by: Nancy Cornell

Now is the time for your club to sponsor a Builders Club. By doing so you will help shape this generation of leaders while helping students build stronger communities through service. Your impact is both measurable and inspirational. Through Builders Club, you can:

- *Inspire students to believe in their ability to change the world
- *Help students develop self-confidence
- *Encourage leadership that transforms ideas into meaningful action
- *Generate a more caring and inclusive school climate



Who joins Builders Club?

- * The leaders of tomorrow who are middle school or Jr. High age
- * They're the energetic dedicated kids of today
- * They're passionate about making a difference in the world
- * Caring is their way of life.
- * They step forward when others stand still. And because of that, their schools and communities grow stronger. Thanks to Builders Club.

Two Builders Clubs chartered in 2017, one in Crookston, MN and one in Hot Springs, SD. One is almost ready to charter in Jamestown, SD. How many Builders Clubs are in your division? There are lots of students with no access to a Builders Club and service opportunities. Let's change that.

Sponsor a club this year. To get started go to www.kiwanis.org/charter.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns. 507-346-2044 or nancyc2@centurytel.net. It's going to be a great year for your club and Builders Club.

Growth Is In The Air - 1/29/2018

Submitted by: Sharon Scudder

Not only do we have cold and snow, we have Growth in the Air. We had an amazing Tri-K Conference. We talked with the Lt. Governors about the part they play in membership and opening new clubs.

What a wonderful task before us to share Kiwanis with new communities. We were successful in opening a new club in Sturgis, SD, Division 4. Club openers will be contacted for the areas we are working on for this quarter. We are hoping that the Lt. Governor, club openers, club counselors and other members get together as a team to make it easier and more fun in working to open new clubs.



Here is our plan this quarter:

Division 2 - Lt. Governor Rachel and her formula team working in West Fargo/Casselton, ND

Division 2 – Past Governor Cindy, Past Governor Peter, and George French working in Bemidji, MN

Division 4 – Lt. Governor John and his team will be working in Box Elder and Hill City, SD

Division 5- Lt. Governor Lola and team will work on Britton, SD

Division 6 – Lt. Governor Dee and Past Governor Judy will be working on Luverne, MN

Division 7 – Lt Governor Randy and his team will continue to work on Kasson.

Mary Beth Townsend is working on opening up an ON-LINE club for the Twin Cities Area in MN.

We have activity now and hope everyone will step up to the plate to work at opening a new club in your area.

Put a little love in your heart, Live it and Share it. Happy Valentine's Day

Partnership Coordinator Found - 1/29/2018

Submitted by: Sharon Scudder

Our featured Partner this month is the Children's Miracle Network through the I-HOP National Pancake Day. The Event is coming up on February 27, 2018 so watch for information from Kiwanis International about registering to volunteering. There are training videos, prepared articles and suggested scripts to talking to IHOP patrons, Host a club meeting at IHOP, Social Media, etc. Go to Kiwanis Buzz Builder to learn more.



I want to thank all the Kiwanis members who have helped me while I was Partnership Coordinator. It is an exciting position and I am happy that Denis Cornell has been selected to take over the position so that I can focus on Membership Growth.

You will always be my Partner so Happy Valentines Day.

ICON: Open for Registration - 1/28/2018

Submitted by: Courtney Taylor, OTIC Chair

It's here at last – time to register! The early-bird discount won't end until April 6, but it's never too early to begin planning your trip.

Everything you need can be found on the website:

<http://www.kiwanis.org/convention/2018>. This website is divided into three sections: Register, Attend, and Experience.



The "**Register**" page has links for convention registration and travel insurance. This year's basic registration fees start at \$150. Ticketed events include the Eliminate Project Luncheon, the Kiwanis Children's Fund Honors Reception, the Alumni Night with Friends, a Signature Project Recognition Breakfast, and The Celebration! Gala. You can also reserve a platinum pass to gain early admittance, VIP access, and extra swag.

The "**Attend**" page has resources for promoting the convention to your club, booking your hotel, and signing up for tours. The official convention hotels are Paris and Bally's. The Kiwanis sponsored tours this year include the Lake Tahoe Circle Tour before the convention and an Arizona tour following closing session.

The “**Experience**” page has information about the sessions you’ll be able to attend and the people and topics that will be covered during the House of Delegates. Because delegates vote on behalf of their clubs, the elections and amendments would make a great program for one of your meetings before June 28.

Don’t forget to share questions and excitement on our facebook group -

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/minndaktoicon/>. “Invite” everyone in your club to be part of this group. Make sure they know that ALL Kiwanians are welcome to join the fun!

Lake Agassiz Partnership - 1/27/2018

Club: Lake Agassiz, Fargo - Submitted by: Tom Brummer

Lake Agassiz Kiwanis has been able to partner with Ceniako Productions for over 50 years while hosting and promoting the Boat Show at the Fargo Dome. Resulting resources are generated to several organizations and groups that enhance the quality of life for children in the community. The message of Children and Kiwanis is made evident to those who attend the show. One 'hands on' project that has resulted is a picnic shelter at the baseball park - Mickelson Field.



30 Years Ago! - 1/26/2018

Club: Sturgis Golden K - Submitted by: Paula Meeker

Sturgis Golden K Kiwanis recently celebrated 30 years as a Kiwanis Club. The Recognition Dinner was well attended by members and guests, including Lt. Governor John Hauge.



The Recognition Dinner was not only celebrating this 30 year anniversary, but the fact that we have six (6) original members still serving.

The honorees are: Dewayne Hayes, Leo Getgo, Clifford Kenoyer, Chris Mechling, and Don Dubbe.

In addition to being honored as charter members, Don Dubbe was awarded a certificate and

Secretary pin for 20 years of service as Secretary, and Clifford Kenoyer received a certificate and Treasurer pin for 20 years of service as Treasurer. Don and Cliff continue to serve in these positions.

May the members of Golden K and all Kiwanis clubs enjoy such long and dedicated service to improving the world one child and one community at a time!

North Suburban Golden K of St. Paul celebrates with annual Holiday party - 1/15/2018

Club: North Suburban Golden K, St. Paul - Submitted by: Ric Soderstrom, Sr.

Every Kiwanis club operates a little differently in its work to support the community and the children. The Kiwanis North Suburban Golden K of St. Paul has a long tradition of not only providing funds, volunteer hours and support to local organizations, but also supporting its club members with one hour a week of its weekly get-together for an outside speaker to come in and enlighten, educate and even entertain. This last year was no exception with a wide variety of topics from solar power, to monarch butterflies, to U. S. and Russian relations, to climate change, to medical issues related to aging, to food hubs and to sustainable agriculture. That's 52 weeks of hard work getting speakers lined, setting up audio-visual equipment and inviting guests to come and see what we do.



However, clubs should take the time to have a little fun and food too and our club does just that. Each year in December we hold one weekly speaker slot open to have a party. This year was no exception. On December 19, 2017 we had a holiday party instead of a speaker. The room was decorated in a Christmas spirit with colorful centerpieces on each table. We had one of our members act as the master of ceremonies leading us in a few table games in the holiday spirit – even with little prizes for having the most correct answers to puzzles. We followed that with a wonderful catered meal – salad, stuffed port chop, garlic mashed potatoes, gravy and green beans. Then, we had cake and coffee and settled down to hear a wonderful entertaining couple, Tracy and Merrie Tolzmann, accompanied by Pat Remer on the piano, that sang songs, told jokes and finally lead us in a sing-a-long.

We had over seventy participants and one person from each table got to keep the holiday centerpiece. The picture shows our room full of fun. Everyone left laughing and talking. Even if your

club does not have regular speakers, you might consider having a year-end party to celebrate another successful Kiwanis club year. Our club had a great time with ours this last year.

Christmas Tree Pickup - 1/10/2018

Club: Winona, Sunrisers - Submitted by: Neil Broadwater

The Annual Kiwanis Sunrisers Club of Winona Christmas Tree Pickup throughout the Winona community was held on Saturday, January 6, 2018, 9:00am to 12:00pm. News releases were sent to all media before the event encouraging residents who wished to dispose of their trees to have their trees placed on the southeast corner of their block.



Organizations helping Kiwanis members included the Boy Scouts and Winona Senior High National Honor Society members. Several community members donated the use of their trucks and trailers. Trees were taken to the City of Goodview compost site and Dick Gallien's Winona Farm.

A total of 705 trees were picked up. Nearly 100 volunteers helped with the project. There were 10 Kiwanis club members involved who contributed 38 hours of time. Donuts, coffee and hot chocolate were provided beforehand at Winona Lake Lodge, which served as the gathering place and orientation for all volunteers. Pizza was served to all when they returned after disposing of the picked up trees.

Lake Agassiz Kiwanis Donations - 1/2/2018

Club: Lake Agassiz, Fargo - Submitted by: Kristi Engelstad

The Lake Agassiz Kiwanis recently donated over \$8000 to local organizations that benefit area children.

Groups that received donations this year include the Fargo Air Museum, the Great Plains Food Bank Backpack Program, Matthew's Voice Project and the Red River Valley Asperger-Autism Network.



The Ronald McDonald House was named as the Lake Agassiz Kiwanis recipient of the year. The club donated \$5000 to the Ronald McDonald House to purchase a fence for their new 24-bedroom, 26,000 square foot facility that is being built near the new Sanford Health Medical Center in Fargo. The new Ronald McDonald House will provide much-needed space for families as they navigate their child's medical needs, and the fence will bring security and safety to the families staying at the house.

The club also presented a check for \$1600 to the Fargo North Key Club at the Model Meeting in December! During meeting, Key Club participants put together over 60 bags of groceries to give to fellow Fargo North students who may need some additional food over the holidays. The Lake Agassiz Kiwanis are proud of these future Kiwanians!