



**Kiwanis**

# MINNEKOTAN

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**July 2018**

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

## Membership Push - 6/30/2018

*Submitted by: Dan Leikvold*

As we head into the final quarter of the Kiwanis calendar year, it is a great time to reflect on how your club is doing regarding membership growth, to assess your membership goals, and to make a strong push to add new members in the final three months of the year. Below is a chart indicating the downward trend of membership in our District over the course of the last ten years. Our goal this year is to put an end to the decline! In order to do that, we need your help!



### Year End of year Percent decrease

2016-2017	3,797	5.2 %
2015-2016	4,004	4.6 %
2014-2015	4,197	4.2 %
2013-2014	4,380	3.8 %
2012-2013	4,553	6.9 %
2011-2012	4,892	5.2 %
2010-2011	5,162	5.0 %
2009-2010	5,435	5.24 %
2008-2009	5,736	3.65 %
2007-2008	5,953	4.98 %

Here are the Minnesota-Dakotas District totals at the end of each month for this year. This includes those who were added and those who were subtracted. We have seen a net increase as of May 1, 2018 of 102 members, or a 2.69% increase.

### Month Membership

Sep	3797
Oct	3829
Nov	3834
Dec	3836
Jan	3894
Feb	3898
Mar	3896
Apr	3899

This chart shows the total percentage increase for each Division. Note these figures are nets, after adding some and subtracting some. Keep in mind that not everyone who has left Kiwanis has been deleted from the rosters yet. This means we still need to face the end of the year dump in our final accounting of membership. Club Secretaries can help us out by cleaning up rosters as folks withdraw from clubs.

Division % Net

1 +4.87%

2 0.00%

3 -0.23%

4 +17.47%

5 +2.96%

6 +0.86

7 +5.14%

If our District is going to stop the decline, we need everyone to step up and focus on membership in the last three months of the Kiwanis year. Here are a few simple questions to consider.

What have you done as an individual to add new members?

What has your club done to add new members?

How many new members has your club added this year? Is it more than you have lost? If not, you need to get busy!

How have you tried to recruit new members? <http://www2.kiwanis.org/theformula/strengthen-your-club/tips-and-tools-for-inviting-others#.Wyfp2I1dPIU>

Do you have a membership chairperson? <http://www.kiwanis.org/clubs/member-resources/training/club-committees/membership-committee>

Have you implemented a formal membership drive?

<http://www2.kiwanis.org/theformula/strengthen-your-club/hosting-a-membership-drive#.WyfpGY1dPIW>

Have you conducted a club analysis? [http://www2.kiwanis.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/full-ace-tools-\(english\).pdf?sfvrsn=0](http://www2.kiwanis.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/full-ace-tools-(english).pdf?sfvrsn=0)

How have you engaged current members to ensure they are active and having a rewarding experience? <http://www.kiwanis.org/clubs/member-resources/member-outreach/member-engagement>

Your efforts in recruiting and retaining members are greatly appreciated! Let's all step up and end the slide!

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**Convention Corner - 6/29/2018**

*Submitted by: Judie Rosendahl*

Our Minnesota Dakotas District Convention and Leadership Conference will be held in just a little over a month! We are looking forward to seeing each of you there to learn, grow, and fellowship with friends old and new.



Don't forget that the Khorale will begin practicing on Thursday evening at 8:00 p.m. They will sing twice at the convention-at the Saturday banquet and at the Memorial Service Sunday morning. You are cordially invited to sing with this fun group. If you have not done it before, a special invitation is extended to you!

What makes a convention great? Is it the great food or the great forums? Is it the Silent Auction or the used book sale? Is it meeting new friends or visiting with friends from the past? Is it the wonderful, fun entertainment or the Diaper Wall? Is it the Kiwanis Children's Fund/Education Foundation raffle? Is it electing our new Governor-Elect or is it visiting over a snack with friends? I hope you can answer "Yes!" to all of these! If you say "Yes!" then please register now to join in on the fun! The early-bird registration will close July 15. The block of rooms at the hotel will close at the low price on July 15. Be sure you register and book your room now!

Last year we had a great Silent Auction and we look forward to another great fundraising event this year! Please bring a basket of goodies or an item that can be auctioned off. Let's try to do even better than last year! The funds go to Eliminate and the babies need us!

Please mark your calendar now to attend the Minnesota Dakotas Convention in Willmar, Minnesota August 10-12, 2018. A great time awaits!

Judie Rosendahl, District Convention Chair

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**July Update - 6/29/2018**

*Submitted by: Steve Handegaard*

**Don't forget to register for the Minnesota-Dakotas District Convention to be held August 10-12, 2018 in Willmar,**

**Minnesota!!** Registration is \$160 until July 15. After July 15

registration is \$185. You can also register for a Friday or Saturday only option. The preferred method of registering to is to do it online

and pay with your credit card. If you are not able to register online let me know and I will email you a registration form that can be printed and returned by US Mail with a check. If you are a voting delegate be sure that your club secretary has submitted your name on the Club Delegate Certification form. More convention information can be found on our district website at:

<http://mndak.portalbuzz.com/Page/1010>



**District Kiwanis Convention House of Delegates:** There were no Bylaw Amendments submitted by the deadline this year. However the House of Delegates does need to elect the Governor and Governor Elect. David Harms, Division 4, is moving up from the Governor Elect position. Also, Rachael Disrud, Division 2, is an unopposed candidate for Governor Elect.

**Thank you once again to Club Secretaries for submitting your Club Election Reports for 2018-2019.** The reports were due June 1, so if you have not entered your information online, please do so ASAP! Please include email addresses whenever possible. It is very important that we receive this information in a timely manner so that directories and mailing lists can be compiled.

Have a great summer and hope to see many of you at the District Convention in Willmar.

**Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office Contact Information:**

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## Children's Fund K Dollars - 6/28/2018

*Submitted by: Kathy Welle*

The challenge continues for you and your Kiwanis clubs: How many K d

Dollars can you collect from now until our District Convention in August. These **Kids Dollars** will be designated to the Children's Fund.



We can have competition between clubs and/or members to see who can collect the most **Kids dollars** from now until August 1, 2018.

You care. You Serve.

You change children's lives.

This is where you extend your Kiwanis Impact.

Extending your Kiwanis impact

A gift to the Kiwanis Children's Fund helps children in many places, in many ways. For the Kiwanis family, the Children's Fund is a way of reaching children through grants, scholarship programs and Kiwanis youth programs.

Mission statement:

To develop resources that transform the goodwill and vision of Kiwanians into programs that serve the children of the world.

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## Service - 6/28/2018

*Submitted by: Al Vanderlaan*

Are we getting it done? How do we do it? What is new?

Both Books 4 Kids and Scholastic books will be at our convention. Ask them how they can help your club and the children you serve .



We will have three clubs who have done interesting projects speaking about their service projects. The list is still in the making. We will have a discussion to see if

other clubs would like to talk about their programs. Let me know if you are interested in speaking.

We have had a good year. A lot of work has been done behind the curtain.

I look forward to seeing you at the convention in Willmar on August 10–12.

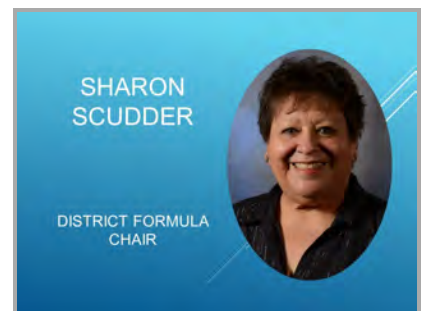
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**Free to Choose - 6/28/2018**

*Submitted by: Sherry Scudder*

Happy 4th of July to all our Veterans and their families in Kiwanis. Because if our Veterans, we are free to choose who, what, when, where and why we do what we do!!!! THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU.

WE HAVE WORK TO DO SO CONTINUE on working on new membership and building clubs. WELCOME to our newest clubs of BOX ELDER, SD--- EDEN PRAIRIE, MN--- and BLOOMINGTON, MN.



THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS have brought in new members and I want to recognize them and keep the ASKING going. CONGRATULATIONS TO:

**DIVISION 1.** JAMESTOWN BILL SEEKINS By GREG ALLEN

**DIVISION 5.** ABERDEEN PAUL GALATO UNKNOWN SPONSOR, ABERDEEN ANGELA CLEBERG UNKNOWN SPONSOR, SIOUX FALLS ABRAHAM KROFF By LYLE TERVEEN

SIOUX FALLS SHARON DEHAAN By JOHN QUELO, PIERRE-FT PIERRE JESSICA JOCKHACK By JEFFERY MAMMENGA

**DIVISION 6.** GRANITE FALLS KEITH HELGESON By DAWN ODEGARD, MANKATO KILEY SILVA By ERIN AANENSON

**DIVISION. 7.** LAKE CITY JAMES ZWIENER By JAMES MENTING, NORTH SUBURBAN GOLDEN K, ST PAUL JACK BOGRAND By WILLIAM WALSH

Way to go DIVISION 5. CONGRATULATIONS to all clubs in growing their clubs. A Special CONGRATULATIONS to DIVISION 4 & 7 for their new Clubs.

Don't forget to register and attend the District Convention in Willmar, MN in August. We will have forums on strengthening clubs in membership and a MOCK ROLEPLAYING on How to Build a Club. You won't want to miss these great sessions. SEE YOU IN WILLMAR.

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### **District jobs - 6/27/2018**

*Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn*

There is a need for a couple of people to serve on very important and exciting District jobs. I can give an accounting for both of these jobs as I served as the first CLE education director and for 8 years it was and still is one of the best district director jobs I had. The reason I say it was one of the best was that my wife Pat and I also served as co-convention directors for 6 years.



Both of these positions were not only rewarding, but just a lot of fun. I hope several of you are looking at these positions and will consider stepping up and saying, "I'll do the job".

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### **Summer Food Programs Have Started - 6/27/2018**

*Club: Bismarck - Submitted by: Paul Schadewald*

Bismarck Kiwanis is again serving noon meals two days a week at our Kiwanis Park. We have been serving 50-60 meals per day. Food is prepared by the Bismarck Public School system. Costs are covered by the Great Plains Food Bank and Bismarck-Mandan United Way. Volunteers from throughout the area serve the meals Monday thru Friday, June thru mid-August. This program initially was a summer meals program for children, but now also serves adults. Roger Wetzel is the coordinator for our Club service project.



A Little Pantry food box is being installed at Kiwanis Park and will be stocked by our club with nonperishable food items. Keith Lauer is coordinating this effort for our club. Little Pantries are being established at several locations in Bismarck and Mandan.

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### **Special Olympics 50th year - 6/22/2018**

*Club: Fargo Rough Riders- Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn*

2018 is the 50th year for Special Olympics. 47 years ago Dr. Roger Kerns, a former member of the Rough Rider Kiwanis club, was one of the organizers of this great event. For the past 17 years when the Special Olympics summer games are held in Fargo the Fargo South Point club has hosted the Friday night social which consists of a dance for 300-400 athletes.



Shown in the photo is part of the decorating team preparing the entrance for everyone to enter through. Shown in the photo are Rande Knudson, Joe Thomas and Jeff Swanson.

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### **Past Governor Ren Fetzer Passes Away - 6/18/2018**

*Club: South Sioux Falls- Submitted by: Bill Daugherty*

Renard Fetzer of Sioux Falls SD passed away on May 21. Ren was a member of South Sioux Falls Kiwanis Club. He was a magician and used his magic while he was governor. Ren served as Governor of Minn Dak in 1992-93. His funeral was on May 30, 2018. Ren always said, "It's been fun".



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### **North Suburban Golden K of St. Paul Awards Four Scholarships for 2018 - 6/18/2018**

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

On June 5, 2018 the annual Kiwanis North Suburban Golden K of St. Paul scholarship presentation was made honoring four outstanding high school seniors. Each year this service club recognizes outstanding academic and community service with four \$1,000 scholarships. Two of the scholarships are provided by the North

Suburban St. Paul Golden K Kiwanis Club's Service Fund and named as Elwood Caldwell scholarships after a University of Minnesota Professor Emeritus in appreciation of his leadership to our club. The third scholarship is the Verne and Erma Comstock Scholarship, which is endowed by the Comstocks and administered by our club. The fourth scholarship – added just last year is referred to as the "president's" scholarship and is funded by extra donations to Kiwanis by club members to be able to add this new scholarship to our list of projects supporting the youth in our community.



This year's recipients (pictured left to right in the attached photo) were:

For the Verne and Erma Comstock Endowed Scholarship – Ignacio Rodriguez Cortes - a graduate of Roseville Area High School will be attending Carlton College in Northfield, Minnesota.

For the Golden K president's scholarship – Chenyeng Vang - also a graduate of Roseville Area High School will be attending Augsburg University in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

For one Elwood Caldwell scholarship – Shimin (Emily) Zhang – also a graduate of Roseville Area High School will be attending St. Thomas College in St. Paul, Minnesota.

For the second Elwood Caldwell scholarship – Rachel Deno –Moundsview High School will be attending the University of Minnesota, Duluth in Duluth, Minnesota.

At the ceremony each student made a brief presentation on their favorite high school and community service experiences and a little about their future college plans. It is encouraging to see such fine academic and community successes going on to college. The Kiwanis Club of North Suburban Golden K St. Paul is proud to continue the annual tradition of recognition for excellence in education and community service. It is one of our most important activities each year and the education committee is dedicated to finding deserving applicants each year and they for sure did this year – great group of young adults!

Submitted by Ric Soderstrom, Sr. of the North Suburban Golden K Club of St. Paul and currently the Immediate Past President of the club. Our website [www.thegoldenkayer.org](http://www.thegoldenkayer.org)

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## St. Cloud Kiwanis Sponsors BUG Program - 6/8/2018

*Submitted by: Art Grachek*

Forty students who participated in the 2017-18 St. Cloud Kiwanis Club's BUG program were recently awarded Super BUG certificates recognizing their achievement. The students also were treated to a pizza party.

The BUG program, sponsored by the St. Cloud Kiwanis Club, is designed by Kiwanis International to provide recognition to students who raise their grades into an acceptable range and maintain or continue to raise them from one grading period to the next. Organizers of the St. Cloud program are Kiwanis members Mr. BUG, Steve Robak, and Mr. Bee Keeper, John Augustin. Both Robak and Augustin visit classrooms in full costume as a bee and a beekeeper.



The BUG program was initiated at the beginning of the school year at St. Cloud School District's Lincoln and Talahi elementary schools with five 3rd and 5th grade classrooms. Mr. BUG and Mr. Bee Keeper visited classrooms in January and March to recognize student progress and to motivate students to bring up their grades. The program culminated at the end of the school year with the presentation of the Super BUG awards. During the school year more than 170 students were involved in the BUG program

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## Interactive Learning Center - 6/4/2018

*Club: Otter-Risers, Fergus Falls- Submitted by: Kurt Nygaard*

Otter Risers Kiwanis Interactive Learning Center  
Room completed 05/01/2018

The Otter Risers Kiwanis club of Fergus Falls and the Fergus Falls Area YMCA collaborated on an Interactive Learning Center (room) and the project was completed on May 1, 2018. The Otter Risers contributed the first \$5000 and the last \$5000 to this \$47,000 project. Donations came in from the community and local business and organizations to reach the project goal.



The room consists of updated "old school" games such as ping pong and air hockey and new "interactive" games such as EyeFloor Play, T Wall, Dance Revolution and Exerbikes. I have included a flyer that was used for prospective donors. [Click here for flyer](#)

This room had not been updated since the 80's and now is full of activity and gives kids alternatives to the "sit on the sofa" video games, as now they have to be active to engage in these new style games. The Interactive Learning Center is open to all kids, not just YMCA members, which was important to our donors. The kids simply have to sign in and then enjoy the room! It is located directly behind the front desk, so the room is supervised continuously.

Our club was responsible for the fundraising and the YMCA youth director and staff completed the painting, installed the new flooring, and for the installation of the new interactive games.

Otter Risers Kiwanis is very proud of the Interactive Learning Center and extremely happy that we were able to bring something to the youth of the community for them to be active and enjoy.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kurt Nygaard, Immediate Past President  
Otter Risers Kiwanis of Fergus Falls

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**17th Annual BUG honors breakfast - 6/1/2018**  
*Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn*

Madison elementary school principal, Bob Olson is shown presenting a certificate to one of 37 students honored at the 17th annual BUG breakfast.

This annual event is sponsored and hosted by the members of the Fargo South Point Kiwanis Club. Each year at least 5 students from each grade level are recognized for their overall performance both in the classroom and on the playground. It continues to be one of the most rewarding programs our club sponsors.

680 student have been recognized during the past 17 years.

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**Fargo South Point Kiwanis award presentation - 6/1/2018**  
*Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn*

Corporate member University of Jamestown students were present at their annual awards night, and the members of the Fargo South Point Kiwanis club were there to present the “ Fargo South Point Kiwanis Community Service Award” to Tylea Tierney. The corporate membership with the U of Jamestown has been rewarding to the students as well as our club members. The students are required to have so many service hours to graduate and since our club is small it’s a perfect fit as we can complete larger service projects with their help.

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### **Ukulele programs - 6/1/2018**

*Club: Fargo Rough Riders - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn*

Fargo elementary school ukulele programs continue to grow in the F/M area. Several elementary schools in Fargo are hearing new musical sounds. Students are learning music by playing ukuleles donated from the Fargo South Point Kiwanis club. The schools are given one instructor ukulele and 5 student ukuleles. The teachers say, it’s an easy method of teaching music to younger children. Pictured is one of the classes at Jefferson Elementary School.

