



Kiwanis

MINNEKOTAN

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March 2017

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 Goals - 2/28/2017

Submitted by: Peter Larson

On February 17th, I had the honor of meeting International President Jane Erickson and 9 other western US Governors in Phoenix, AZ. The big topic of discussion was the health of our Kiwanis Clubs and the ways in which our clubs influence and support the children of the world.



We have slowed the decline in numbers by implementing The Formula and working with strategic I-Plans at the International, District and club levels but we still have a ways to go to make sure Kiwanis continues to be able to help our communities and the children of the world. So far this year, 195 new members have joined our Kiwanis clubs. I want to thank each of you that sponsored a new club member. That number is only about 50% of the number we needed to add from Oct. 1st to Feb. 28th, if we intend to reach our District goal of adding 725 new Kiwanis members this year.

Each of us can find someone to invite to a club meeting or a club service/fund raising project. We just need to ask that person! Every one of us was asked at one point to join our club so lets share the joy, the fellowship and the satisfaction of seeing young people having a better life through our efforts.

100th MN DAK District Convention - 2/28/2017

Submitted by: Peter Larson

I hope each of you are looking into attending our 100th MN DAK District Convention on August 11 to 13 in Watertown, SD. Judie Rosendahl is heading a great team that is going to make this a great convention for Kiwanians and their families.



I have posted a picture of the recent MN DAK Circle K District Convention where every Circle K club was represented as a challenge to each of you to have your club send someone to our 100th District Convention.

One highlight that has already been tied down is a night at the Terry Redlin Center. You will view many of his original outdoor life and wildlife paintings as well as a dinner served on site.

There will also be information on the District's I-Plan and how the Formula Team can be useful to your club. If you do not know what I am referring to; come to the convention and find out how Kiwanis International is helping the District strengthen our clubs and increase our membership. Start planning now to come to Watertown and see some old friends and make new ones, learn some new things about Kiwanis and have some fun!

March Update - 2/27/2017

Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas

District Convention Director Position Opening: Judie Rosendahl our current District Convention Director has indicated that she will be stepping down after this year's convention. Anyone interested in this volunteer position should contact Governor Elect Dan Leikvold or Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas for additional information. If possible we like to have someone appointed to the position as soon as possible so they can work alongside Judie during this year's convention.



Lt. Governor Elect Candidates: We are still in need of Lt. Governor Elect Candidates for 2017-2018 in some divisions. Contact your current Lt. Governor if interested. The Lt. Governor Education program will take place on April 28-30 in Fergus Falls.

Governor Elect Candidates for 2017-2018: As of this date we do not have any candidates for District Governor Elect 2017-2018. Contact the District Office for more information.

Member contact information: Remember that members can update their own contact information and other information that is on record with the Kiwanis International database. If your email address, regular mailing address changes, etc. you can go at any time and make those updates on your record. Just go to the following link. If you do not have a password you will be asked to create one. Give it a try. See if your information is up to date. Here is the link to the login page
<https://members.portalbuzz.com/Member/User/Login?skin=Kiwanis>

District Kiwanis Convention: Mark your calendars....the Minnesota-Dakotas District Convention will be held August 11-13, 2017 in Watertown, S.D. All clubs should be represented at this annual convention.

Club Officer Changes: If for some reason there is a change in your club president or secretary at any time during the year, be sure that your club promptly informs Kiwanis International and the District Office. These changes should be entered online by the club secretary. Your club may miss out on important communications if we do not have the correct contact information.

Club Elections: Just another reminder that your club election report will be due June 1st. The annual election of club officers should be done at the club annual meeting as specified in the Standard Club Bylaws.

Kiwanis International Convention in Paris, July 13-16, 2017: Remember the price of registration increases on April 15th, so if you are planning to go register now. Be sure to check the convention schedule so that you arrive in time for all of the important events and activities.

Kiwanis Clubs in good standing are allowed to designate two representatives to the House of Delegates. Of course, you do not need to be a delegate to attend, everyone is welcome! Information and online registration forms can be found on the Kiwanis International convention website.

<http://www.kiwanis.org/convention/2017>

New for International Convention Delegate Certification this year: Besides registering, be sure to report your club's two International Convention delegates and two alternates to the International Office by April 30. For the first time this year clubs can submit their Delegate Certification form online. Club secretaries, assistant secretaries and club presidents can now login to www.kiwanis.org/login, access their dashboards and report their voting delegates online. You can download the hard copy Delegate form from the International Kiwanis webpage if needed, but you will find the online version easier to do.

District Kiwanis Tri-K Board Meeting: The meeting was held January 20 & 21, 2017. The minutes of the meeting can be found on the district website. <http://mndak.portalbuzz.com/Page/1021>

Lt. Governor Education: The Lt. Governor Education Conference for the 2017-2018 Lt. Governor Teams will be held April 28-30 in Fergus Falls.

Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office Contact Information:

Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office

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Dalton, MN 56324-0735

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BIG CHANGES COMING - 2/26/2017

Submitted by: E. Chuck Schroder

There are many changes coming to the Kiwanis International Foundation. Today we will talk about the first one. It is no longer called the Kiwanis International Foundation. It is now called "THE CHILDREN'S FUND" and rightfully so. The foundation has always been about helping children by changing the world ONE CHILD and ONE COMMUNITY at a time. We are all about children. So it is fitting that we be called the "CHILDREN'S FUND".



I will be talking more next month about other changes that will be taking place and how it is for the betterment of Kiwanis. But we still need the help of each of you and your clubs by contributing the \$10.00 pr member and donating to a HIXSON. NOW IS THE TIME TO DO THIS, NOT LATER. Thank You from the CHILDREN OF THE WORLD.

March for March of Dimes - 2/26/2017

Submitted by: Sherry Scudder, MN-DAK Partnership Coordinator

Happy March my fellow Kiwanis members. I want to thank the Fargo/Moorhead and Grand Forks clubs for stepping up to helping with our International Partners at IHOP. Good luck in helping the Miracle Network and making the community aware of Kiwanis.



Today, I would like to feature our Partner, the March of Dimes. Help 380K Babies Born Too Soon Walk. When you walk, you help moms have healthy pregnancies, support families in the Newborn Intensive Care Unit and fund research to fight birth defects and premature births. Register with a March of Dimes representative in your area or

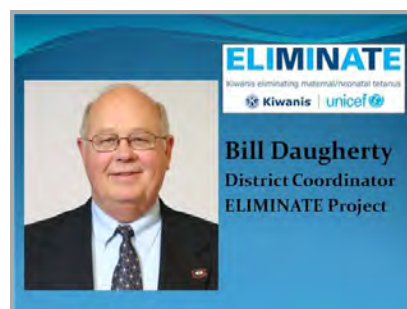
on line. Register your club to participate in fundraising for \$100, you will get a T-shirt and opportunities to volunteer with registration, passing out water, working in the office and being an advocate with a mission to help the babies. Invite a March of Dimes spokesperson to your meeting to find out more on how you can help.

Thanks for your support

Eliminate Project - 2/26/2017

Submitted by: Bill Daugherty

We have all been a part of another Kiwanis International program designed to improve the world one community and one child at a time. We have been working on our District goal for the Eliminate Project by pledging and donating over \$1.5 million thus far. That is just over 50% of our target when the project began in 2010. All clubs have been assisting and now we need to complete our pledges and consider contributing more funds to meet the end goal.



Thanks for all your help, let's keep going as long as there are babies dying from maternal and neonatal tetanus in the world.

Minn-Dak Educational Foundation - 2/26/2017

Submitted by: Bill Daugherty

I am in the process of reviewing scholarship applications for our \$856 scholarships to be awarded to students entering post secondary education at a college or tech school in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Superior, Wisc. This year three of us are reviewing 51 applications from Division Six. Other groups of three are reviewing applications from the other divisions.



The review is both challenging and rewarding. The challenge comes in determining scores to grant on various items such as GPA class rank, need, school and community activities, personal letter from the

student as well as a letter of recommendation from some other adult. The reward is in seeing what great students we have that are vying for these scholarships. Once you review them you become aware of the future that these students will be bringing to our world. They will be the leaders of the future and they look forward to that future.

Kiwanis Service - 2/25/2017

Submitted by: Al Vanderlaan

Kiwanians, I think we need to continually be reminded that we are needed in our communities as well as around the world. Thank you for all the good work you do!



This morning in church we continued in a series on " The gods of War." These gods are Money, Sex, Power, Me, and Pleasure.

Dedicated Kiwanians put children ahead of themselves. Me isn't of first importance. Kiwanians don't fall for the temptation of placing themselves, the me attitude, ahead of other's wellbeing. We need to ask ourselves, am I more satisfied in serving others or serving myself, me?

Give the gifts of Wisdom and Experience to the next generation. You are what Kiwanis is all about. You are givers. " Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time." All this begins today with you!

The Bible says, choose today who you will serve, the god of " me "or the true God, by serving others. The children and communities you serve will be truly blessed and satisfied. As they thank you, Kiwanis will grow in numbers. Just ask!

True Kiwanians, no matter what their age never stop loving to help the children in their communities. Some people think I have reached a particular age, maybe retirement age. Now I am going to do everything for my family and myself only. So they become self absorbed serving only themselves. Is that what true Kiwanians believe? Of coarse not! We have more time now to serve our fellow man than when we were working full time. Even in your club settings, some of the older, retired Kiwanians may do more work that younger Kiwanians who have young families. Their time will come, as their children grow older. You are teaching Kiwanians how to joyfully serve no matter what age. You will show God's true love through your service to your community. Kiwanians will be noticed and others will follow

your example. Children will know that others care for them. Even if you don't immediately see your example followed, you are a winner!

Sex trafficking is such a big problem and Kiwanians can help address it by getting information out to schools and communities. We can and need to be on the front lines to help protect our children. We are in a unique position in our communities to provide this education. Give me a call if you need help or a meeting in this area. Never give up! I will serve till my dying day. How about you?

Remember the 100th MnDak Kiwanis convention will be in Watertown, S.D. this year. What an honor for this club to be the center of a memorable celebration. You need to attend! This meeting will be like none ever before. Your club will need to be part of the celebration. Put August 11-13th on your calendar.

Builders Club Needs You - 2/25/2017

Submitted by: Nancy Cornell

The vision of Builders Club is "To develop competent, capable, caring leaders through the vehicle of service." However, for youth to achieve this they need you- a caring Kiwanis Club. Has your club considered sponsoring a Builders Club? If not, why not?

There are over 140 Kiwanis Clubs in our district but only 21 Builders Clubs. And three of these Builders Clubs are sponsored by one Kiwanis Club- the Kiwanis Club in Mankato, MN.

Youth need opportunities to perform service, build character, and develop leadership. Help them find these opportunities. Sponsor a Builders Club.

To get started go to www.kiwanis.org/charter. Under the "Youth" tab click on "Start a Builders Club". There you will find a tool kit that should answer most of your questions.

I am happy to help you get started and answer any questions. Contact me at nancyc2@centurytel.net or call 507-346-2044.



International Convention Website - 2/24/2017

Submitted by: Courtney Taylor, OTIC Chair

For all your Kiwanis International convention needs, visit <http://www.kiwanis.org/convention/2017/>. Under the “Register” tab, you can find information about volunteering at the event, travel insurance, and a link to register online. Remember that registration prices are scheduled to increase on April 14 and May 15. Use “Attend” for recommendations about hotels and tours. Look for everything else under “Experience.” Preview the schedule and education sessions. Print the delegate form, and share the candidates and amendments with your club for advice on how you should vote at the House of Delegates. We will be voting for vice president, three trustees for the United States and Pacific Canada region, and an at-large trustee.



Kiwanis Members Encouraged to Attend Key Club Convention - 2/23/2017

Submitted by: Mary Beth Townsend

The Key Club District Convention is only 6 weeks away and we would like to invite interested Kiwanis members--especially those who sponsor an SLP or are thinking of sponsoring one in the future--to attend this amazing event.

This year's convention will be held at Breezy Point Resort in Brainerd, Minnesota. The cost for students to attend is \$225. The cost for adults is \$315 for those sharing a room with another attending adult and \$410 for those in a single room. Registrations are due March 7th.



At the convention, advisors receive much-needed training and support. Students attending receive officer training, participate in contests, elect their district board members, and complete service projects. Students can earn 10 hours of service for attending our event.

If you would like to attend for part, but not all, of the weekend, we can work that out as well. Forms are available that itemize the meals, materials, and rooms.

The single most important thing a sponsoring Kiwanis Club can do for their Key Club is to ensure that the advisor and 2 or more members attend DCON. As Henry Sibley's Key Club advisor, I cannot thank

my sponsoring West St. Paul Kiwanis Club enough for sending me to my first DCON. I know that I would not be the Key Club advisor nor would I be the District Administrator for Key Club if not for that experience. And I doubt Sibley would still have a Key Club today. Please consider doing all you can to get Key Club members to this life-changing event.

For more information and registration materials, please email me at mary.b.townsend@me.com

Convention Corner - 2/23/2017

Submitted by: Jeff Anderson, Watertown Kiwanis

The Watertown Kiwanis Club enthusiastically invites you to the 100th Anniversary of the Minnesota Dakotas District Convention. This once in a lifetime event will be held August 11th, 12th and 13th at the Ramkota Hotel/Event Center. We are encouraging you to bring your spouses for festivities, food and fabulous tours, plus educational forums for our members, a terrific speaker and a Friday night celebration at the Terry Redlin Art Center filled with fun and surprises. I hope each club will strongly consider sending several of their members to this monumental event. Our District Convention Committee is working hard to make this convention one to remember.



Be looking for your club's packet in early May; mark your calendar today and make your plans to attend the 100th Anniversary of the MnDak Kiwanis Convention. Again those dates are August 11th, 12 and 13th We're looking forward to seeing you at this year's Kiwanis Convention!

Thank you!

Jeff Anderson

Ukulele gift - 2/23/2017

Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittarn

Fargo South Point Kiwanis members were invited to a Ukulele concert that was presented by the students at Bennett Elementary

school in Fargo. The Ukulele concert was made possible because the South Point Kiwanis Club presented the school with 5 student ukuleles and one instructor ukulele.



Bennett School is the second elementary school in the Fargo school system to receive the ukulele package from the Fargo South Point Club.

There are more schools in the area that will be receiving similar packages from the club.

Marshall Area Kiwanis Volunteers at local food shelf - 2/21/2017

Club: Marshall Area - Submitted by: Renee Suby

Marshall Area Kiwanis volunteered at Marshall Kitchen Table Food Shelf on 2/15/17 and helped put together personal care item packages. Pictured are SSG Gary Ortiz and Renee Suby.



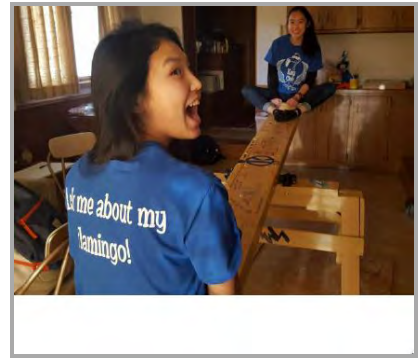
Fridley High School Key Club's 2017 Teeter Totter Marathon - 2/18/2017

Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Daegia Vang,

Every year the Fridley High School Key Club holds its Teeter Totter Marathon. This year the Teeter Totter Marathon took place on the weekend of February 17th to 20th. The Teeter Totter Marathon is a fun three day event where two participants teeter totter for several hours and raise money with pledges while enjoying the company and

bonding with each other. The marathon has many time slots and shifts that go on continuously day and night!

Over 29 Fridley Key Clubbers participated, along with 11 Columbia Heights Key Clubbers, and 9 Builder's Club members. There were five Kiwanians and several parents who joined in on the marathon fun! From this marathon the Fridley Key Club raised \$1050 that will go towards Eliminate to help end maternal neonatal tetanus! One person could not have simply teeter tottered alone without another's help and teamwork. There is no "I" in teeter totter, and there most definitely is no "I" in Key Club. You can say this year's Teeter Totter Marathon ended on the high side of the teeter totter.



Minute To Win It Challenge Fundraiser - 2/16/2017

Club: Grand Rapids - Submitted by: Bernie Backes

Thursday, February 2, the Grand Rapids Noon Kiwanis Club turned fundraising upside down by hosting the 1st Annual Minute To Win It event at the Timberlake Lodge.

Ten non-profits were sponsored by a local business. Almost \$6,000 was given away with \$2500 being the grand prize.

The non-profits participating in the challenge included:

- Youth for Christ, sponsored by Brad A. Nelson, Thrivent Financial
- Reif Center, sponsored by Dr. Lee Jess Dentistry
- YMCA, sponsored by Erickson's Itasca Lumber
- MN Deer Hunters Association, by Lake Country Power
- Grace House, sponsored by Mines & Pine
- Kiesler Wellness Center, sponsored by Northern Lakes Dental of Grand Rapids
- Star of the North Humane Society, sponsored by Silvertip Graphics & Signs and All Season Services.
- Advocates for Family Peace, sponsored by Northern Lights Maintenance
- Itasca County Habitat sponsored by Timberlake Lodge and Hotel & Super 8
- ICC Student Food Pantry, sponsored by Ann M. Backes, Thrivent Financial.



The Grand Prize of \$2500.00 was awarded to the Kiesler Wellness Center. Second Place of \$1000.00

was awarded to Star of the North Humane Society. Third place of \$500.00 was awarded to Itasca County Habitat for Humanity. All the other teams were awarded \$200.00 for their efforts.

The YMCA was awarded the Spirit Award for showing enthusiasm and excitement for the event as well as throughout the evening. The award was voted on by attendees.

To see more pictures of the event visit our website@grandrapidsnoonkiwanis.org. or visit our Facebook page (GRNoonKiwanis)

Hayes Elementary Valentine Party - 2/16/2017

Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Daegia Vang, Fridley High School Key Club Vice President

The Fridley High School Key Club volunteered at the annual Hayes Elementary Valentine Party on Friday, February 10th from 3:30PM to 5:30PM. Over 10 Key Clubbers from Fridley Key Club helped out at the event. At the Valentine party, the Key Clubbers helped gather the attendees from their classrooms to the cafeteria to get an afterschool snack.



Afterwards, we set up the party and the fun-filled activities for the Valentine Party attendees. We ran the different stations of games which included: putting on tattoos, bingo games, and a coloring station. There were also some Key Clubbers who dressed up as hearts to help encourage the kids to dance! After the party, the Key Clubbers stayed to help with the clean up! The Hayes Elementary Valentine Party was yet another fun packed event!

Interaction is Key- Capital Gift for Library in Shoreview - 2/15/2017

Club: North Suburban, Saint Paul - Submitted by: Shannon Schuweiler

On December 9, 2016 the Kiwanis Club of North Suburban Saint Paul donated \$35,000 to the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries for

the Shoreview Library Capital Campaign. This generous gift funds two large interactive installations created by the Minnesota Children’s Museum plus \$10,000 worth of new children’s books for the lending collection. One of the interactive installations, the tree stump, has been installed and, with its animal costumes and other props, is a fun and cozy place for the youngest library patrons.



This summer the other large piece funded by the Kiwanis Club will be installed. It is a “Park Office” with props that will help children imagine themselves working for the Park Service. In recognition of this generous donation, a group Study Room in the Children’s Area will be named the Kiwanis Club of North Suburban St. Paul Study Room. The club is thrilled to be able to utilize their funds from their Malt Shop at the Minnesota State Fair to support the community in serving the children of their local community!

K-Kids Pennies for Patients - 2/14/2017

Division: Division 6 - Submitted by: Loreena Luetgers

WORTHINGTON — Prairie Elementary students, staff and teachers had a fun and sticky Friday afternoon, as students had the chance to throw pies in teachers’ faces for a good cause.



As a way to raise funds for “Pennies for Patients,” an effort to give financial support to children with cancer, students in all grade levels were encouraged to donate money throughout January. Those students who collaborated had the chance to put their names in a drawing and, if picked, could throw a pie in a teacher’s face.

Screams from hundreds of students resounded in the school’s gym Friday when they were told that the school fundraised \$8,549.79, which was over the \$6,000 goal and an increase of more than \$3,000 over last year. Fourth- and third-grade art teacher Jayme Wiertzema was excited and surprised to see the generosity and effort that each classroom gave to the cause.

“I am extremely impressed and I’m honored to be a part of this school,” Wiertzema said. “I know a lot of the students don't have a lot, and they were still able to raise all this money and bring it in. I think it's just fun to come together as a school and celebrate that. We had 39 classes that reached the \$100 mark, five classes reached the \$200 mark and four classes reached over \$300,” Wiertzema added. Wiertzema

explained this year's effort tried to educate students a little more about leukemia and the Lymphoma Society through videos and testimonies of cancer patients. "I think it's a good opportunity for them to be outside themselves and learn about other children who have these diseases," Wiertzema said.

The top four classes that raised the greatest amount of money were recognized. Fourth-grade teacher Karmel Holinka's class contributed \$632.81, winning first place. The class will be celebrating with a pizza party. In second place was Tasha's Raymo second-grade class, raising \$410.75. Andy Weiss's class won third place, raising \$331.36, and fourth place went to Kelli Stenzel's third-grade class with \$321.

"My class was all fired up from the beginning," Holinka said. "They were bringing full boxes back to me even before we really started." Holinka said it was a great feeling to see the sympathy her students showed during the fundraising. She noted that each morning, students shared personal experiences related to cancer.

"We all brought a story of someone we might have lost to cancer, whether that was a relative or a friend," Holinka said. "I lost my dad to pancreatic cancer, so that brought some compassion here. Also, the little stories they put up online for us to watch about kids with cancer really brings that to the surface."

One student who shared such a story was fourth-grader Damaris Chavez, who lost her older brother to cancer. She explained that she hopes the funds will help those in her same situation. "I donated so the same thing doesn't happen to their relatives or friends," Chavez said.

ST. ANTHONY AND THEIR SLP'S JOIN TO PACKAGE MEALS - 2/3/2017

Club: Saint Anthony - Submitted by: Mary Dierbeck

Members of St. Anthony and their sponsored clubs, Key Club, Builders Club, K-Kids and Aktion Club came together in January to package food for our school children for Nourish 282. Nourish 282 is a part of the Sheridan Story, www.sheridanstory.com. This program provides weekend food "backpacks" for 200,000 Minnesota children who need nutrition after they leave school for the weekends. 13 Key Clubbers, 10 Builders Clubbers, 6 K-Kids, 4 Aktion Club members and 13 Kiwanians, had a wonderful experience working together to package 2600 meals. This is the second year for the project.



The packages consist of fruits, vegetables, proteins, rice, pasta or oatmeal and soups/entrées. The packages are placed in the student's backpacks discretely in their lockers for the weekend. For more information go to the website www.sheridanstory.com.

Marshall Area Kiwanis Donates \$500 to Big Buddies - 2/1/2017

Club: Marshall Area - Submitted by: Renee Suby

Kiwanis Club of Marshall Area donated \$500 to Big Buddies of United Community Action Partnership on 1/25/17. The donation will be matched by the United Way, as part of "A Thousand Points of Light" campaign with Big Buddies, for a total of \$1,000 donation through this act! Kiwanis is excited to contribute to such a wonderful organization!

Pictured: Kiwanis members: Tyler Bowen (Bremer Wealth Management), Trista Link (New Horizons Crisis Center), Shelly Castaneda (Big Buddies), and Renee Suby (Kiwanis Secretary)

