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
The goal of Kiwanis International is to inspire people of all ages to grow into skillful, caring, and service-oriented leaders by helping them learn how to help others. All Kiwanians are aware of what their local Kiwanis Club is about, but are less familiar with the other membership programs found within the Kiwanis Family.

There is a wide variety of service and leadership opportunities designed for people of all ages. Kiwanis Service Leadership Programs (SLPs) are leadership and character-building programs often hosted in a school or other community entity and sponsored by the local Kiwanis club. SLPs have existed since the first Key Club was formed in 1925. Since then, millions of students have been inspired to lead lives of service and leadership in programs for all ages.

Through its SLPs, Kiwanis fosters a willingness to serve communities in its youngest leaders, helping them on their path to change the world. The Kiwanis SLPs found in the Minnesota Dakota District include Circle K International, Key Club, Builders Club, K-Kids, Terrific Kids, BUG (Bringing Up Grades) and Aktion Club.

Here is a brief look at each of the programs:

Circle K International (CKI) is the college-age version of Kiwanis. Students carry out service projects based on Kiwanis’ mission to save the world one child at a time. The more than 12,600 CKI members are found on more than 550 college campuses in 17 nations. For more information, go to http://www.mndakcirclek.org/

Key Club is the oldest and largest service program for high school students in the world. Key Club has over 245,000 members in 24 countries. Key Club aims to cooperate with school principals and teachers to provide high school students with invaluable experience in living and working together and to prepare them for useful citizenship. For more information, go to https://minndakkeyclub.org/

Builders Club comprises nearly 40,000 middle school students in 18 countries. Builders Club members carry out service projects in their communities. For more information, go to http://www.buildersclub.org/Home.aspx

K-Kids is a club for elementary students that teaches them the value of helping others through
working on community service projects. For more information, go to http://kiwaniskids.org/en/KKids/Home.aspx

Terrific Kids is a student recognition program in which elementary students work with their teachers to establish goals to improve behavior, peer relationships, attendance or schoolwork.

Bring Up Grades (BUG) is a program designed to recognize elementary students who raise their grades to an acceptable range and maintain or continue to raise them.

Aktion Club is the only service club for adults with disabilities, with more than 12,000 members worldwide. Aktion Clubs draw members from various organizations that support individuals with disabilities, as well as other community programs. Aktion clubs can be established at churches, libraries, YMCAs, lodges or similar facilities. A Kiwanis club, composed of like-minded, service-oriented people from the community, serves as the club’s sponsor. For more information, go to http://www.aktionclub.org/Home.aspx

If your club currently sponsors one or more SLP, thank you so much for your commitment to these programs. If your club does not currently sponsor a program, I hope you will move forward with doing so. Our hope is that every club in the District will sponsor at least one. The time to start is now! For more on Kiwanis SLPs, please contact any of the following—your local Kiwanis club, District Governor Dan Leikvold, your Division LT. Governor, Minn-Dak Secretary Steve Handegaard, or any of the Minnesota Dakotas District SLP Administrators.

March Update - 2/28/2018
Submitted by: Steve Handegaard

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 on April 27-29 in Fergus Falls.

Governor Elect Candidates for 2018-2019: As of this date we do not have any candidates for District Governor Elect 2018-2019. 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 10-12, 2018 in Willmar, MN. 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 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 Las Vegas, June 28-July 1, 2018:** Remember the price of registration increases on April 6th, so if you 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.


**International Convention Delegate Certification:** 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.

**Lt. Governor Education:** The Lt. Governor Education Conference for the 2018-2019 Lt. Governor Teams will be held April 27-29 in Fergus Falls.
Kiwanis Children’s Fund - 2/27/2018
Submitted by: Kathy Welle

From Kiwanis Children’s Fund

*Club secretary newsletter – Starting this month, quarterly emails to club secretaries that will include five short messages about our causes and how we can serve their club. We aim to help educate club members by asking secretaries to share these items at their meeting.

*Annual Fund Update – Through the end of December, we have raised $402,530 towards our team goal of $1.8 million. You can help us meet this goal by encouraging members to consider supporting the Children’s Fund with an individual gift.

*2016-17 Today Clubs – Congratulations to the 1,063 clubs that achieved Today Club recognition for your generous support in 2016-17. Your support is already making a difference in the lives of children worldwide. Learn more about the program and view the recipients online.

The Children’s Fund is grateful to have dedicated volunteers and supporters like you and we look forward to the impact we can make together in 2018.

All about Scholarships:
Kiwanis Children’s Fund scholarships are designed to help members of Circle K International and graduating seniors who are members of Key Club International. The Children’s Fund appreciates the generous donors whose dedication to the Kiwanis family, education and community service makes these scholarships possible.

Kiwanis SLP advisors – please share with your Key Clubs and Circle K
Reminder: Application deadline is March 15th

Scholarship opportunities for graduating high school senior members of Key Club International:
Linda Canaday Memorial Scholarship
Harry S. Himmel Scholarship
Cunat International Scholarship

Scholarship opportunities for members of Circle K International:
Cunat International Scholarship
Harry S. Himmel Scholarship
John E. Mayfield Circle K Scholarship
Circle K International Past President's Scholarship

For general information about scholarships disbursed by the Kiwanis Children's Fund, including who to contact with questions and award notification dates, visit our FAQ Page.

March Is The Time for New Members and New Clubs - 2/27/2018
Submitted by: Sharon Scudder

I want to thank you all for the hard work you have been doing in your clubs. Not only is the service the best in your community, you continue to work on asking and bringing in new members. I want to recognize the following for their efforts from October through February. If I missed anyone, please contact your secretary to make sure that they have submitted their information to International. Also if you sponsored a member but are not listed below, we do not have you listed as a sponsor for a new member. It is very important that you complete the part of the application for Sponsorship when you bring in a new member. You deserve the Credit and we appreciate you.

Division 1 Todd Humphrey, Richard Roen, and Gary Ochsner
Division 2 Jane Amble and Roger Williams
Division 3 Thomas Kobierski and Melinda Sanders
Division 4 Karen Everett, Richard Deavers, Francie Alberts, Theresa Looby, Paula Meeker, Duane Boy,
Sherry Scudder, Tina Ficek, and Pam Browning
Division 5 Lindsey Brooks, John Quello, Travis Tupper, Cindy Adams, Kevin Meier, Robert Clark, and James Payne
Division 6 Susanne Murphy, Mark Vis and Kyle Johnson
Division 7 George Heyne, Brenda Stier, Alan Swenson, James Bowyer, James Malkowski, Brian Bergin, Benjamin Gunderson, Rita McCory, and Mary Bowen

I want to remind you that when you get a call or e-mail to follow up on an inquiry from International, do so as soon as possible because many inquiries end up as members or good programs. If the person who gets the call or message is unable to follow up, please give the name and contact information to another member for follow-up.

Also Dave and Loreena have been working hard to get the Lt. Governors and Club Counselors together for their Division Telephone Conferences. So much is learned from these calls because everyone talks about their concerns and solutions in growing and strengthening the clubs. We learn from each other and many share ideas that are helpful.

We will be working hard in March to get another Club open this quarter. Sturgis was 1st, who will be 2nd. Call me as soon as you are ready to have us visit you and help you get chartered.

Congratulations on all the members listed above who have brought in new members and everyone keep ASKING, our Kids need Kiwanis.

District Kiwanis Outreach Fund - 2/27/2018
Submitted by: Steve Handegaard

The Minnesota Dakotas Kiwanis District established the Outreach Program to help Key Club and Circle K District Boards financially. All Outreach dollars are used by Key Club and Circle K for travel to build new sponsored youth clubs, expenses to attend Kiwanis District Conventions, Kiwanis special meetings, supplies, and equipment above the sponsored youth budgets.

The Outreach dollars are only used for our sponsored youth District Boards. No adult or Kiwanis member benefits from Outreach dollars. Kiwanis Clubs should send checks to the Kiwanis District
office. Separate savings accounts are set up for Key Club and Circle K and funds are recorded and
dispersed when deemed necessary.

For Information Brochure and Contribution Form Click here

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**Service is the word - 2/26/2018**  
*Submitted by: Al Vanderlaan*

I hope all is going well with your club’s service projects. If you have questions about any programs let me know if I can help you.

I want to remind you about the Scholastic Books coordinator, Angie Oshia, coming to our District for a visit. This will be the first time she will have visited our District since taking over the position from Stephanie Davern. She will be here on March 19th. She will be speaking at the Watertown S.D. club on the 19th. The club would like to invite you to attend their meeting on the 19th in Watertown at noon at the Ramkota Hotel.

After going to the Lead /Deadwood area on the 20th she will return to Sioux Falls, S.D. and attend the Wednesday noon club meeting at the Royal Fork. Their club said if any club would like to attend their meeting and meet her you are welcome.

Angie Oshia said she is willing to come back anytime we need her. You can contact her at aoshia@scholasticbookfairs.com. Her phone number is 800-635-7323, extension 9487. She looks forward to working with you whenever you need help. You are welcome to contact me first if you are considering placing an Oasis in a school.

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**WHAT IN THE WORLD IS K-KIDS - 2/26/2018**  
*Submitted by: Theresa Looby*

The Kiwanis family recognizes the role children play in society and defining the culture of the world. To prepare children to lead, Kiwanis has introduced Clubs for all ages. Each Club provides an opportunity for children to excel whether it be K-Kids, Builders, Key
Club, Circle K or Aktion Club. In this article we will discuss the youngest Kiwanis children.

K-Kids is a world of energetic children searching for activities in which to participate. This energy is utilized in the Kiwanis K-Kids program to develop LEADERSHIP and CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT.

K-Kids is built on a foundation of three programs and three components to develop leadership skills and character education.

LEADERSHIP is achieved through planning a SERVICE PROJECT. As the children work through the project they learn to WORK WITH OTHERS to complete the project. They CELEBRATE SUCCESS when the project is complete and it purpose has been realized. While developing guidelines for their project the children gain experience in LITERACY SKILLS including reading and writing.

CHARACTER EDUCATION is achieved through academic lessons which encourage SELF-AWARENESS while gaining SELF-CONFIDENCE and learning SELF-MANAGEMENT. Included in CHARACTER EDUCATION are lessons of SOCIAL AWARENESS and RESPONSIBLE DECISION MAKING providing opportunities for children to learn to accept, appreciate and show respect for individuals. In addition, children gain experience in LITERACY SKILLS as they read lessons and write reactions to the lessons.

LITERACY SKILLS are tools used in each exercise providing opportunities for the children to read, verbalize and write a reaction to a given situation.

Each K-Kid recites the pledge as a reminder of the experiences from their lessons to serve their neighborhood and school while showing respect for the environment and trying to make the world a better place for all.

In reviewing the number of K-Kids Clubs in our District I find that only one NEW CLUB has been chartered this Kiwanis year. There is still time to start new Clubs!

I challenge each Kiwanis Club to visit the Elementary Schools in their area and discuss the opportunities a K-Kids Club would provide for the children and teachers.

I am here to help you in planning and organizing a K-Kids Club.

For further information please contact me.

Theresa Looby
District creates new Facebook page - 2/26/2018  
Submitted by: Katie Ryan-Anderson

The Kiwanis Clubs of Minnesota-Dakotas has a new Facebook page.

LIKE us: fb.me/KiwanisOfMinnDak

And TAG us in your posts so we can share your amazing successes!

How Will Your Club Celebrate? - 2/26/2018  
Submitted by: Nancy Cornell Builders Club Administrator

Builders Club Week is March 19-23. How will you celebrate? If your club sponsors a Builders Club, let them know how much you appreciate their service to the school, community and beyond. Be creative and surprise them. If you are the Kiwanis adviser to a Builders Club, go to the Builders Club website for ideas for each day of the week.

Kiwanis advisers to Builders Club, please keep your Kiwanis Club secretary apprised of any changes in the advisers for Builders Club. The club secretary needs to keep these updated using the secretary's dashboard.

Now is a good time to review the Annual Achievement Award to determine if your Builders Club is on track to be a Distinguished Club. It is an online self-scoring report that shares activities the club needs to conduct in order to receive recognition. Look for it on the Builders Club website under
Benefits of being a Distinguished Club:
* Recognition makes members proud of their service and shows others how successful the club has been.
* It's a great opportunity to share news about club accomplishments.
* It might inspire others to start a New Builders Club.

If your Kiwanis Club has been thinking about sponsoring a Builders Club, now is the time to get the ball rolling so the club will be ready to go in September.
Go to www.kiwanis.org/charter and follow the links. If you have questions, please contact me at nancyc2@centurytel.net or 507-346-2044.
Potential Builders Club members are eager to volunteer. They just need you to make it happen. Let's get started today.

THANK YOU SO MUCH - 2/25/2018
Submitted by: E. Chuck Schroder

I want to Thank You all for your thoughts and prayers for my son who had a massive heart attack, while refereeing a college basketball game on New Year's Eve day. He had to be shocked with an AED unit and CPR by a Dr. and Trainers. They flew him back to Sioux Falls where quadruple by pass was preformed.

He is doing real well and will start jogging next week and will be back reffing next year. God does answer prayers. Lois and I and his wife and daughters want to thank you all so much. KIWANIS IS TRULY A FAMILY.

Kiwanis Family Day at Feed My Starving Children - 2/25/2018
Division: Division 7 - Submitted by: Diane Henning

What better way to exemplify our Kiwanis motto of “Serving the Children of the World” than for our Kiwanis family to partner with
Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) in a concerted packing effort. FMSC is a non-profit organization whose volunteer-packed meals are sent to over 70 countries. The meals consist of vitamins, veggies, soy, and rice, and provide much-needed sustenance to many impoverished areas. On February 17, 2018, the Anoka Area Kiwanis Club of Anoka, MN, hosted at least four other clubs from the Division Seven North area, including Columbia Heights-Fridley, Coon Rapids, Northeast Minneapolis, and Stillwater, plus the Kiwanis student-sponsored Key Clubs of Anoka and Andover High Schools, and the Builders Club of AMSA, Anoka Middle School for the Arts. We came together across different age groups in a spirited endeavor to pack 34,504 meals or enough to feed 100 children one meal a day for a year. This particular shipment was ear-marked for Guatemala.

Also in attendance were the Lieutenant Governor, Randall Schmidt and his wife from Rochester, MN, and Todd Levig, the Lieutenant Governor Elect from Stillwater. It was quite symbolic that the service project occurred on Presidents’ Day weekend because the Anoka Club had recently lost its president and ardent supporter, Bruce Frank, who had passed away just weeks before; therefore, the packing was done in tribute to Bruce who had a passion for helping students, being also the first executive director of the Anoka-Hennepin Education Foundation. We will, indeed, miss Bruce, but his legacy will live on through other child-centered projects both locally and globally.

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**Key Club books for the homeless** - 2/24/2018  
*Club: Moorhead - Submitted by: Peter Larson*

The Moorhead High Key Club recently collected 250 Scholastic books from their libraries at home. The Key Club members are applying labels to the books in this photo. In March, Key Club members will be placing these books in the library being created at Churches United’s new transitional housing apartment in Moorhead, MN. This apartment will provide social services and a stable place to live for those individuals and families transitioning from being homeless to permanent housing. These books will be a great start for the library.

This is their second book drive for Churches United, the first was in 2016 and delivered 200 Scholastic books to be used in their reading program.
Pet Food Drive - A Terrific Success!! - 2/23/2018
*Club: Sturgis Golden K* - *Submitted by: Paula Meeker*

Members of the newly chartered Sturgis Golden K Kiwanis K-Kids Club decided their very first project would be a Pet Food Drive to benefit the Sturgis/Meade County Animal Shelter.

Students made plans to place collection boxes in several local businesses and in the elementary school. To add even more fun to the event, the members decided they would have a collection box for each grade, K - 5, and a competition between the grades. The grade having the most donations would win an ice cream and cookie party.

The K-Kids made lots of posters to place on the decorated collection boxes and on the walls all around the school.

The Drive was a terrific success! The K-Kids took a field trip to the Animal Shelter to meet and play with the dogs and cats that will enjoy the many donations of pet food, toys, and grooming items.

This new K-Kids Club, sponsored and supported by Sturgis Golden K Kiwanis, was chartered this year with 24 members. We are very proud of these energetic new members of our Kiwanis Family and can’t wait to see the next exciting project. And, congratulations to the 2nd grade for winning the ice cream and cookie party!

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Minot Golden K donates diapers - 2/20/2018
*Club: Minot, Golden K* - *Submitted by: Richard Sabol, Secretary*

The Minot(ND) Golden Kiwanis donated diapers and baby wipes to the local YWCA. After we had a visit from the Executive Director talking about the YWCA we decided to help. At our board meeting the decision was to set out our Happy Box on our Valentine meeting with spouses and ask for donations. We collected enough for three
boxes of diapers and numerous boxes of baby wipes. Pictured is Ashley Boyd, resident manager accepting the donations.

Niewoehner Honored - 2/17/2018
Club: Minot, Golden K - Submitted by: Minot Golden K

H. Weyburn Niewoehner was awarded the George F. Hixson Fellowship Award at the Minot Golden K Kiwanis Club meeting dinner on Wednesday, October 4th for his dedicated service to the International Kiwanis Club.

The Hixson Fellowship is named for the first president of Kiwanis International and one of the highest awards presented by the International Foundation. It is in support of the Kiwanis Children’s Fund and established in 1983.

Niewoehner is a charter member of the Rolla Kiwanis Club, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in the fall of 2014. He is past president of the Minot club, interclub chairman and Past Lt. Governor of Division One. In 2015 he was awarded the Division (Region) Star Award. He and his wife Mae, owned and operated the Niewoehner Funeral Home in Rolla and provided 43 years of service to the community.

NATIONAL WINNERS - 2/7/2018
Club: Saint Anthony - Submitted by: Mary Dierbeck

St. Anthony Village MN Aktion Club proudly displays their winning First Place Certificates for the Kiwanis T-Shirt Contest. They were thrilled with this recognition and will also be receiving a medal from International. This is the first time this 5 year old club has entered the contest and now they are pumped to work on a new contest entry for 2017-2018.

Together at last night’s meeting, they came up with the design for a new service pin which will replace the last one which we are almost out of. Every time they do a service project, they get a pin. Most of them put the pins on their Aktion Club baseball caps. We have gone through 250.

Even though we only have 13 members, we are very active and we have 10 or 11 at every meeting. We meet the first Tuesday of every month at the St. Anthony Community Center at 6:30 PM.

For information, contact Mary Dierbeck 651-697-7843.

Bismarck Club Holds Membership Drive - 2/1/2018
Club: Bismarck - Submitted by: Matt Thompson, Club President

In the month of January 2018, the Kiwanis Club of Bismarck, North Dakota held a Membership Drive. Membership growth is important for any Kiwanis Club and vital for effective service in our communities. As Kiwanians we know that participation in a local Kiwanis Club is a fulfilling experience in which our time and talents are put to use in service to our neighbors. Our own experience in Kiwanis has been meaningful and it only makes sense to share that experience with others. This year’s Membership Drive was a challenging, but enjoyable experience. And through it our Club gained two new members. For those who are interested in holding their own Membership Drive, here’s an outline of our simple plan:

Week 1
- Our Club President presented the Membership Drive Plan as part of the our weekly Tuesday Meeting.
- Members were encouraged to review their friends and contacts in the Bismarck community with
the goal of each member finding 3 prospective members.
- Kiwanis promotional materials were distributed to members, including the Kids Need Kiwanis Pamphlet from Kiwanis International and locally made business cards which served as invitations.

Week 2
- Our Club President reviewed the Membership Drive Plan as part of our weekly Tuesday Meeting.
- Members were asked to make contact with 3 prospective members by phone or in person.
- Calls were to continue until at least 1 prospective member agreed to attend the BIG DAY on January 30.

Week 3
- Our Club President reviewed the Membership Drive Plan as part of our weekly Tuesday Meeting.
- Members made follow up calls on prospective members.

Week 4: THE BIG DAY
- Our Club President provided an overview of both our local Bismarck Kiwanis Club and Kiwanis International as part of our weekly Tuesday Meeting.
- Bismarck City Commissioner Josh Askvig spoke on the need for Community Service and Leadership in the local community.

Week 5
- Members followed up with prospective members.

Week 6
- A New Member Orientation Session was scheduled.