May 2016

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
Message from the District Governor - 4/30/2016
Submitted by: Kent Hochgraber, District Governor

From April 8th to the 12th I spent time in Hot Springs, Lead, and Rapids City, South Dakota. I want to thank Vern Hagedorn and all the members out in that part of the country for the great hospitality and the great time I had visiting their clubs. We had a CLE class on Saturday for all those going into new leadership positions next year and we did a service project that afternoon. We made flower pots from newspapers and had quite a production line going. This would be a great service project to do in any club some spring. I attended the Lead Club Board Meeting and saw all the service projects they are involved in. They do a lot of great projects for their community.

I had some free time to explore Lead and Deadwood and let me tell you, Wild Bill Hickok is still buried in the Deadwood cemetery. I visited the Rapid City club and met some great members. The Governor and Lt Governor from Circle K were also present and I had a chance to see and visit with them again after their winter conference in Brookings in March.

Plans are moving forward for the District Convention in August and also the international convention in June. I encourage you to put these two events on your calendar and plan to attend. You will have a great time and a good educational experience.

I plan to travel to Hibbing and Duluth this week end and spend some time with a group of dedicated Kiwanians in that part of Minnesota.

REMEMBER TO ASK SOMEONE TO JOIN TODAY.

District Convention Registration and Information - 4/29/2016
Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas

Online Registration is now open for the 2016 District Kiwanis Convention being held in Fergus Falls, August 5-7, 2016.

The link to the “online registration” can be found on our Minnesota-Dakotas District website www.mndak-kiwanis.org
Please note that the convention registration fee increases after July 15th. Early registration is encouraged to aid us in planning.

The following information is now available on our District Website. (Club secretaries are also being sent hard copies of the following information by U.S. Mail.)

- Call to Convention Information from District Sec/Treas
- Call to Convention Information from Convention Director
- Club Delegate Certification Form
- Convention Schedule
- Educational Forums
- Key Note Speaker
- Friday night entertainment- James Wedgewood - Ventriloquist
- District Convention Service Project- Diaper Project
- Club Leadership Education Registration form
- Citizenship Award
- Eliminate Silent Auction
- Vendor/Advertisement Application Form
- Kiwanis Khorale
- Kiwanis Used Book Sale
- Kiwanis Diaper Service Project

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**Congratulations 2014-2015 Distinguished Clubs - 4/29/2016**

*Submitted by: Sherry Scudder*

I would like to announce and congratulate the 2014-2015 Distinguished Clubs for a job well done. It takes teamwork to accomplish this recognition. I am proud of you and thank you for working so hard during my year as District Governor. Certificates and patches will be presented at the District Convention in Fergus Falls, MN in August.

Here are the Fabulous Eleven:
Kiwanis Club of Mankato
Austin Noon
Jamestown
Inspiration and Impact - 4/29/2016
Submitted by: Peter Larson

Inspiration -- Membership and Engagement. Our goal is to build, retain and support a growing Kiwanis membership network.

Impact -- Meaningful Service. Our goal is to perform meaningful service, with service to children as our priority.

If you want more information on how to Inspire your membership and club and Impact your community, come to the Minnesota Dakotas District convention on August 5th to 7th in Fergus Falls.

These are parts one and two of the Kiwanis International's strategic I-Plan to support building up the membership of Kiwanis. To accomplish this we need to make Kiwanis important to our members and community. This means finding those service opportunities that impacts our community and bring recognition to our members and Kiwanis. We also need to recognize the importance of our Service Leadership Programs, K-Kids, Builders Clubs, Key Clubs and Circle K Clubs. Young Children Priority One is another program that we need to explore for opportunities for service.

Come and celebrate Kiwanis with others at the District Convention in Fergus Falls. Registration
Scholarships Awarded - 4/29/2016
Submitted by: Jack Zierdt

Your Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District Educational Foundation has awarded the annual scholarships to graduating High School students from the District. The judging of the annual scholarship applications was done by Kiwanis members throughout the district during the months of February and March. The award letters were sent out to the 52 winning recipients during the month of April. The recipients of the scholarships will be attending institutions of higher learning in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota or Superior, Wisconsin. One of the recipients will be receiving the special scholarship from Fargo South Point Kiwanis Club in memory of Pat Rittgarn in the amount of $250.00 and another will receive the special $1,000.00 Circle K scholarship at St. Scholastica College through the sponsorship of the Port of Duluth Kiwanis Club. The other 50 scholarships at $865.00 each went to recipients throughout the District as Designated Scholarships by individual clubs and/or in memory of individuals at selected high schools within the district, as well as 2 scholarships per division and three district at large scholarships.

These scholarships are funded by the annual interest income that is generated through the Foundations Investments. Your individual and club donations on an annual basis continue to go into the funds to help support the annual scholarship program for our young people of the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District.

Convention Corner - 4/29/2016
Submitted by: Judie Rosendahl, District Convention Director

Only three months until our district convention so be sure to mark your calendar now as you will not want to miss this great event! Your club will be receiving the packet of convention materials in the mail in a few days. Please take time to review and share them with your club. The
deadline for registration and reserving rooms is July 15th.

We have booked ventriloquist James Wedgewood for our Friday night entertainment. We are expecting that to be a fun time! Come prepared to laugh!

The Bigwood Event Center in Fergus Falls is a lovely place for our convention. They have completely redecorated so it will be nice and fresh for us. Our time spent at the convention promises to be a time to learn much to enrich our Kiwanis experience as well as time to enjoy other Kiwanians.

We are excited to announce that Brenda Resch will be our keynote speaker on Saturday morning. She is a school teacher who has a personal story to share with us that will amaze you! You won’t want to miss this part of the convention!

See you in Fergus Falls!

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PLANNED GIVING - 4/29/2016
Submitted by: E. Chuck Schroder

When you give to the Kiwanis International Foundation, you can make a difference in your own hometown, and you can make a difference in the lives a world away. A planned gift extends your Kiwanis impact even beyond your own lifetime.

Planned giving is easier than you might think. When you make a gift to the foundation, we make it work. Remember: your estate doesn’t have to be large to make a difference. Planned giving is a way to make a greater impact over a lifetime than you could have made through personal income alone. Your planned gift to the Kiwanis International Foundation enriches children’s lives from grants for Kiwanis-Family service projects to scholarships. By including the Kiwanis International Foundation in your will or estate plans, you serve the children of the world. If you wish to do this, please contact me, Chuck Schroder or the Kiwanis International Foundation.

Thank you for your support.
Last Chance for Registration - 4/29/2016  
Submitted by: Courtney Taylor

If you missed the April 1 early-bird deadline, fear not! You can still register at [www.kiwanis.org/convention/2016/register](http://www.kiwanis.org/convention/2016/register) until May 15. Following that date, costs will increase and will be available only on site in Toronto. Current prices include $475 for the premium package, $300 for registration only, and $200 for the platinum pass. The alumni gathering has sold out, but all other events still have tickets available as of this writing.

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Hold on to those New Members - 4/29/2016  
Submitted by: Bruce Klair

How often do we bring a new member into Kiwanis only to see them leave after that first year? What has happened to disillusion them? First we must look at what attracted them to your club in the first place. Many members join for the opportunity to socialize and network with other movers and shakers in your community. They stay once they see what a difference they can make in their communities serving along side their new friends and fellow Kiwanians. Perhaps they enjoy the speakers and programs where they hear about community happenings. Then they begin to feel the rewards they experience when they put a smile on a child.

Members join because they want to belong to something meaningful. They stay because they feel valued and needed. How can we accomplish this?

Assign a mentor. New members want to see a familiar face to feel familiar and comfortable.

Conduct a meaningful induction ceremony. We give a lot of induction ceremonies over the years, remember that a new member only receives one once. Make it something special.

Show them they are needed. Appoint them to a committee. Involve them in a project. Some clubs ask a new member to suggest a new service project as soon as they feel comfortable doing so. And call and check these new members if they start missing meetings and service opportunities.
It is one thing to recruit a new member. It is vital that we retain them.

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**Youth Protection Manager - 4/29/2016**  
*Submitted by: Peter Larson*

The District still needs a volunteer to be the District Youth Protection Manager. You will receive training in Indianapolis on the expectations for holding this position. The biggest item will be to contact clubs and assist them in creating or updating their Youth Protection Policies. With our emphasis on youth, I hope to hear from someone who will accept this challenge. Contact me at phlarson@midco.net or at 701-261-7012.

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**May Update - 4/29/2016**  
*Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas*

Call to Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Convention, August 5-7.  
2016: The Official Call to Convention letter will be sent by U.S. Mail to all Kiwanis Club secretaries the first week in May. The mailing contains the registration/delegate certification form and other information. You can also access and download the same District Convention Forms and Information on our district website [Click here](#).

Online registration is open now. Online registration requires card payment. Look for the “Sign-Up” button at the above link. You can also find a listing of available hotel options. [District Convention registrations are due by July 15](#). Registrations after July 15 will incur an additional late fee.

2016-2017 Club Election Report Online: Club secretaries should submit the results of club elections through the online reporting system as soon as elections are completed. Due date for the club election report is June 1st. The online election report is ready to go, so you can submit any time. It is very important that this information is received in a timely manner so that directories and mailing lists can be compiled by Kiwanis International and the District Office.

International Convention in Toronto: As of this date we have 20 Kiwanians and 5 guests from the
Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District registered for the Kiwanis International Convention. Total convention registration is now at 2322. There is still time to register for the International Convention. You can register online or by paper postmarked no later than May 15, 2015. After that date you could still register on-site in Toronto. You can find all of the necessary forms and information on the Kiwanis International website Click here

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Dalton, MN 56324-0735
Phone: 218-589-7581
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Another Year Done - 4/28/2016
Submitted by: NDSU Circle K

NDSU Circle K finished the year the same way it started: with food, a service project, and a dedicated group of students. As per tradition, this final meeting ended with happy change collected for the Eliminate Project. In addition to telling what made them glad this week, members were asked to announce their favorite service project from the preceding year. The answers varied between projects conducted during meetings and around the community - braiding dog toys, sewing trauma dolls, dressing up for a Halloween carnival, and more. Already, they are making big plans for next year...

Club: Baxter Lakes Area and Friends - Submitted by: Jean Collins

Baxter K-Kids this year decided to raise money for Eliminate by Stick Mr. Raske one of their advisers. The students sold 18 inches of duct tape for $1.80 which would save one mother and her babies from maternal and neonatal tetanus and a horrible death. On April 1, Mr. Raske agreed to be stuck to the wall by all Baxter Students. Each class took turns duct taping Mr. Raske to the wall. Students were amazed
when the stool Mr. Raske was standing on was removed and he still stuck to the wall. This Project raised over $650. During the last five years K-Kids at Baxter have raised over $5000 for Eliminate. These K-Kids really care about saving mothers and babies worldwide.

Bismarck Annual Pancake Breakfast Another Success - 4/26/2016
Club: Bismarck - Submitted by: Paul Schadewald

On April 3rd Bismarck Kiwanis had another successful annual pancake breakfast. We served about 650 meals and grossed approximately $8,000. Thank you all volunteer workers: Boy Scout Troop 1326, Aktion Club, Bismarck and Legacy High Key Clubs and Bismarck Kiwanis members and spouses for all the work they did. We also have to thank the many businesses and individuals who purchased tickets to support this effort. Proceeds this year are dedicated to the St. Alexius CHI Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Their wonderful staff were a great help at our breakfast. Recipients of the profits of this annual breakfast are rotated each year.

Kiwanis Grocery Dash - 4/26/2016
Club: Early Risers, Worthington - Submitted by: Loreena Luetgers

The lucky winner of the Kiwanis Grocery Dash raffle fundraiser held by the Early Risers Kiwanis Club was Steve Hohensee of Worthington. Steve had two minutes of running, while pushing his grocery cart, through Fareway Stores, Inc. in Worthington on Monday evening. Fareway closed the store at 8:00 p.m.
so no customers would be in his way. Steve's wife, Carmen, gave him a kiss as she said “good luck” and Steve started. He received as many groceries that he could put in the cart in two minutes, which came to $529.51. Steve had a great time as the club members and employees cheered him on.

The club members spent many hours selling tickets individually and at Fareway. Last month Fareway Stores, Inc. joined the Early Risers Kiwanis as the club's first corporate member. Employees can attend the club meetings and participate in service projects and fundraisers. It has been a joy to have Fareway as a member and working together for this venture. Because of this, it was a great success.

**Kiwanis Club of St Louis Park 28th Annual Kite Fly 2016 - 4/24/2016**
*Club: St Louis Park - Submitted by: Gail Heyda, Division 7*

The Kiwanis Club of St Louis Park picked the best day for their 28th annual Kite Fly on Saturday, April 23, 2016 at the Louisiana Oaks Park in St Louis Park. The club sponsors including Citizens Independent Bank of St Louis Park, Park Dental of St Louis Park, the Minnesota Kite Society and the Kiwanis Club of North Hennepin sponsored 200 kites and all were given out to the kids in the first hour of the event. It was sunny, warm and windy so nice weather to spend the many hours enjoying the fun. Along with the St Louis Park club, St Louis Park GK, North Hennepin club, Lt Gov Elect Kathy Welle, Columbia Heights Fridley club, the Boy Scout Pack 379 of St Louis Park and Ambassadors from the St Louis Park Parktacular program, all were available to assist with the kite give away and putting together. Thanks to program organizer Joe, President Doug, Secretary Pat and Jerry for making this another good event for the families and kids to enjoy together.

**Jamestown Kiwanis Helps Project Ignite Light - 4/22/2016**
*Club: Jamestown - Submitted by: Katie Ryan-Anderson*

Project Ignite Light gives abused children security and hope. Based in Rodgers, N.D., the organization
provides “Bags of Hope” to every reported abused child in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. The bags are free for the child and delivered through local advocacy centers.

Jamestown Kiwanis helped support that effort through a Breakfast & Blankets event on April 2. The club, along with community volunteers, created about 40 blankets and collected several dozen pairs of pajamas. The club also served a pancake and sausage breakfast to all who volunteered.

“We love this project because it benefits children – vulnerable children,” said President Elect Amanda Thrift. “We also like it because anyone can help. No matter your age or income, you can be a part of this project.”

Each of Project Ignite Light’s Bags of Hope is customized for the child’s age and gender. The backpack includes a blanket, pajamas, undergarments, personal hygiene items, flashlight, book and a water bottle. In total, each Bag of Hope costs about $50.

Project Ignite Lights gives out about 200 bags per month in North Dakota alone. After holidays like Christmas and Easter, needs increase as the stress on families increase. Project Ignite Light said it expects to give out 300 bags in April.

For more information on the organization, visit www.ignitelight.org.

Jamestown Kiwanis also produced a video as part of the Kiwanis One Day Project. https://youtu.be/HEx-3pScDU4

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**Kiwanis ONE DAY Project** - 4/22/2016
*Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn*

A Deep Clean project, at the Boys and Girls clubs in the Fargo/Moorhead area was conducted by members of several of the members of local Kiwanis clubs.

Members of the South Point club, Rough Riders and the Fargo Kiwanis clubs joined together to do a deep clean one of the Fargo club
buildings, and the Moorhead clubs conducted the same project at one of the Moorhead facilities. Some of the workers are shown in this photo.

**Corporate Membership** - 4/22/2016  
*Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn*

Fargo South Point Kiwanis club increased their volunteer numbers by 35 or more. University of Jamestown, Fargo branch became a corporate member of the South Point Kiwanis club during this past year. The actual new member gain for the club was one, but the number of volunteers that can be activated is a good number. We have had 10-15 additional volunteers available for many projects this year and this allows us the privilege of taking on much larger service projects. It's a win win for everyone, as each University student must have 50 hours of volunteer work before they graduate. Pictured are several of the students that worked at the annual special Olympic pancake breakfast.

**Introduction to the 2016-2017 Circle K Minnesota-Dakotas District Governor** - 4/22/2016  
*Submitted by: Trevor Nicholas*

Hello Kiwanians,
My name is Trevor Nicholas, and I currently attend the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology in Rapid City, SD, where I am finishing up my third year of studying to earn a degree in Mathematics.

On the weekend of February 26th, 2016, the Minnesota-Dakotas District of Circle K International held their annual District Convention in Brookings, SD. During this Convention, I was elected to become the new 2016-2017 District Governor. Before I talk about the goals I have for my term, I thought I'd give a little bit of information about myself.

I grew up in Belle Fourche, SD, which is only about an hour away from the
School of Mines, so I have lived in the Black Hills my whole life. I joined Circle K my freshman year, where I quickly developed a love for service and a passion to better myself through the leadership positions that the club offered. I became President of my home club during March of last year as a sophomore, and I had a great time leading our excellent volunteers to host such projects as "Trick or Treat for Canned Goods", where we raised nearly 1,000 pounds of food for our local food bank, as well as many other projects and events. Shortly after my term ended I was elected to District Governor at DCON, so I am happy to continue providing my services to an organization that has provided me so much.

Along with Circle K, I am also involved in other leadership positions in other organizations. I am currently Vice President of my fraternity, Lambda Chi Alpha, where I am in charge of creating community service events and promoting philanthropy. I am also the Community Outreach Chair of the Professional Development Institution at my school. PDI is a group of the most elite leaders on campus, and we devote our time and efforts to host leadership and personal/professional development retreats and conferences. As the Community Outreach Chair, I am in charge of working with students and local businesses to advertise our group through service and volunteering.

Now that I have covered a bit about myself, I will finish up by briefly discussing a few of the main goals I have for the Circle K Minn-Dak District this year.

I am extremely excited to help the Circle K clubs in our District further their progress towards completing their individual club goals, and I will strive to press clubs to keep expanding and improving themselves. This year, one of my main focuses to help clubs grow will be heavily promoting Kiwanis Family Relations events. To do this, I hope to help my District Board create a brand new website with an interactive map of all Circle K clubs, Kiwanis Clubs, Key Clubs and the rest within the entire district, complete with all contact information for each club. This way, clubs will be able to see all of the other K-Family counterparts in their area, and they will be able to very quickly contact them to set up events. I am also going to work to create new clubs in the district by really pushing my Lieutenant Governors to initiate and maintain contact with prospective schools. I will provide resources and support, and with the right level of perseverance, I believe we can get it done.

With that, I thank you very much for taking the time to read my introduction, and I look forward to meeting you all and working with you!
The K-Kids Student Council group from Ramsey has completed their project "Cents for Sudan". Students brought in baggies with coins and for each donation they made. They were given a brown brick to write their name on. Then they pasted their brick on the Sudan School and watched with amazement as the building grew. They even needed "additions" put on. Along with the donations from Ramsey students, the Anoka Area Kiwanis Club, and other personal donors they raised almost $5,000.00. Everyone's generosity was so heartwarming. The money was brought to The Royal School International and the women have already started making the bricks. Once the school is complete they will name it The Ramsey Building. Everyone is very excited to have helped the students in South Sudan get another classroom.

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**Anoka Key Club Serves up a Tastey Project - 4/18/2016**

*Club: Anoka, MN Area Inc - Submitted by: Jan Clemens*

On Sunday, April 17th, five students from the Anoka Key Club served a meal at the Ronald McDonald house. Meals were served to the families of children receiving treatment at the University of Minnesota hospital. The Key Club students shopped for, prepared, and served a meal of tacos and Spanish rice - with Rice Krispie bars for dessert. It was a fun and rewarding volunteer experience!

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**Kids On A Mission - 4/16/2016**

*Division: Division 4 - Submitted by: Vern Hagedorn*

The first graders at Corral Elementary School in Rapid City, SD were on a mission! Their teachers, led by Mrs. Schroeder, explained the Kiwanis/UNICEF Eliminate Project. The students set a goal of raising enough to save one mother for each of the 484 students in the school. A Kiwanis video was shown to make the school's students aware of the project.

In preparation for the school-wide Family Service Night, the first graders made some of the "Little Big Mac" cookies to sell. These cookies are made to resemble a "Big Mac" hamburger, complete with the hamburger, lettuce and ketchup. The "hamburger" is a chocolate covered mint cookie which is then
topped with red and green frosting to make it look like ketchup and lettuce. The prepared "burger" is put between two vanilla wafers.

A school-wide family service night was held. Parents and children could buy pre-made cookies or make their own, six for two dollars. The line at this "station" was LONG! I had a chance to watch children of all ages pull on plastic gloves and start to build their burgers. Some were so intent in what they were doing, that they were in another world, and others were smiling ear to ear!

The results? It will surprise you just as it surprised them! Not only did they meet their goal of saving one mother for every child in the school...but they also saved one mother for each of the 54 staff members, the 4 bus driver, 3 playground helpers, 6 lunch ladies, and every one of the 75 expected kindergarten students plus 39. That's a total of 665. One of the kids seeing this total, and remembering the national goal, said “Well, let’s make more cookies!” At a presentation on March 25, I was presented with a check for $1,200 for the Kiwanis Foundation Eliminate Project. When I asked the foundation how many non-Kiwanis branded groups have done a fund raising for Eliminate, I was told "probably less than a handful!"

The Fridley Key Club Celebrates Kiwanis One Day - 4/7/2016
Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Mary Bowen

Seven Fridley High School Key Club members and advisor Mary Bowen gathered with 12 Kiwanis Clubs, 6 Key Clubs and one Circle K at an awesome Kiwanis One Day Service Event held Saturday, April 2 at Bridging. A total of 132 were in attendance. Bridging is an organization which provides furniture and household goods to those transitioning out of homelessness and poverty. This event involved the construction of 84 dressers from kits which were donated by the various Kiwanis and Key Clubs.

The large group divided into teams of four or five people. They then went to their work stations where tools were waiting for them. The fun began when one looked at the directions! The first dresser took about 45 minutes to put together but the second and third took only 20 minutes.
The event began at 8:30 am with a continental breakfast and ended at noon. All participants left the event feeling good about Kiwanis One Day, their new Kiwanis friends and the 84 assembled dressers.

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**Kiwanis One Day-"Building Dressers" - 4/7/2016**  
*Division: Division 7 - Submitted by: Gail Heyda, Club Secretary*

The Division 7 northern clubs teamed up and built dressers on Kiwanis One Day, Saturday, April 2, 2016. There were 134 volunteers including Kiwanians, Circle K, Key Club and friends and worked from 9a-12:30p building 84 dressers at the Bridging, Inc. facility, Roseville Mn. Bridging, Inc. provides household items including furniture and needed items to those transitioning out of homelessness and poverty in our community. This is our fifth year at Bridging and have made many friends with the workers and leaders in the community. Pictured are Kiwanians from the Kiwanis Club of North Hennepin and South Suburban Twin Cities and Lakeville North High School Key Club and Lt Gov Elect Kathy Welle, Past Lt Gov Gail Heyda, and Past Lt Gov Barb Winfield. All clubs involved sponsored 84 dressers to the project. It was fun!

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**Special Olympics breakfast volunteers - 4/5/2016**  
*Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn*

The value of corporate members was visible at this years Special Olympics pancake breakfast in Fargo on April 2nd. Fargo South Point Kiwanis club recruited the University of Jamestown, Fargo campus to be a corporate member. The students have to have several hours of service prior to graduation so it's a win win situation. Pictured are 7 of the 11 that helped serve.