September 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
Here are some ways that you or your club can help those affected by the hurricane and flooding.


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I hope each of you have had a wonderful year like I have. Mon and I have enjoyed many wonderful events this past year. It started with attending the Minnesota State Fair where we had a wonderful Kiwanis shake. My granddaughter was even shown on TV enjoying her Kiwanis shake. We then had a great time at the charter presentation for two new Key Clubs in Wilmar, MN. We then attended the grand opening of a wonderful playground in Harvey, ND. Then there were the great Governor Division Visits and Education conferences where we were introduced to so many inspiring Kiwanians.

I attended my third Key Club Fall Rally and wish every Kiwanis member was able to experience the energy our Key Club members generate. I was invited to attend a signature service project for Bridging.org where Kiwanis members, Circle K members and Key Club members worked together building over 80 dressers for needy people in the Twin Cities.

Then there was the International convention in Paris where we attended International President Jane Erickson’s dinner with 140 governors and spouses. We also had a chance to visit the Normandy D-Day battlefields. Then there were the Circle K, Key Club and our Kiwanis District Convention in Watertown, SD. Each had great events such as the Circle K helping sew Kiwanis Trauma dolls. The Key Club District convention at Breezy Point was another fun filled weekend where it was finally pointed out to me that the District Key Club officers, elected that weekend, ran the District Key Club organization. The Kiwanis advisors do a bit of overseeing but the Key Club officers are responsible for all major decisions.

My final challenge to each of you is to invite someone to your Kiwanis Club meetings. Have a great year.
Kiwanis International and District Dues for the 2017-2018 Kiwanis year are as follows: (same as 2016-2017)
Kiwanis International Dues - $52
Member liability insurance - $13
Directors and Officers Liability - $4
Magazine - $8
MNDAK District dues-$30

The 2017 District Kiwanis Convention held in Watertown, S.D. was a great success. We hope to see all of you at the 2018 District Convention in Willmar, MN, August 10-12. In addition to the educational portions of the convention we also had two district board meeting and of course the District House of Delegates business session. The minutes of those meetings will be posted to our district website within the next few weeks.

Thanks again to Club Secretaries for submitting the Annual Club Election Reports for 2017-2018. The reports were due June 1, so if you have not submitted your information online, please do so ASAP! We are still waiting for some club election reports! Please include email addresses whenever possible. It is very important that Kiwanis International and the District Office both receive this information in a timely manner so that directories and mailing lists can be compiled. When filed online and the report automatically goes to both Kiwanis International and the District Office.

Club Secretaries: Be sure that you have submitted all of your monthly online club reports for the 16-17 year. Remember that the September report (last report of the year) is due by October 10th, 2017. With the monthly online reporting system you will not be asked to submit a separate annual report.

Club Secretaries be sure to update your online membership roster before October 10th:
Club Secretaries should go to their “Club Secretary Dashboard” at KiwanisOne.org/login and check to be sure all non-returning members are deleted by October 10. If you have members on your roster that you know will not be returning… you don’t need to wait… do it now. After October 10 Kiwanis International will bill you according to whoever is still on your roster after October 10th.

We appreciate your assistance maintaining accurate membership records and reporting your membership changes on time. If you need assistance with your membership records, contact the Kiwanis helpline at 1-800-KIWANIS or 1-317-875-8755 extension 411 or email memberservices@kiwanis.org.

Special Thanks and Congratulations: The 2016-2017 Kiwanis year is not over until the end of September, but I would like to take this opportunity to give special thanks to Governor Peter Larson for his hard work and dedication to Kiwanis this past year. Also, special thanks to all who served in a Lt. Governor, District Director or District Committee position. They all worked very hard to support Kiwanis on the Club and District level.
Congratulations to Governor Designate Dan Leikvold who will lead our district beginning October 1. And last, but not least congratulations to David Harms who will serve as Governor Elect during 2017-2018.

Annual IRS Tax Reporting: Remember that all clubs must file the appropriate IRS 990 Tax form each year. Nearly all Kiwanis Clubs are on an Oct 1 to Sept 30 fiscal year, so that means your next tax return is due no later than February 15, 2018. Failure to do so will result in fines and loss of nonprofit status. Further information can be found on the Kiwanis International website http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanisone/lead/club-leaders/treasurer/irs-forms#.VeUDYpDRER

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Serve your fellow man - 8/29/2017
Submitted by: Al vanderlaan

Thank you Kiwanians for attending the 100th year district convention in Watertown, S.D. August 11--13th. We had great forums including sex trafficking education. If you need help with a speaker or ideas how to help the children in your community become aware of the tricks traffickers use to steal their lives away contact me. I will put you in contact with Jenna Moffatt.

Remember your service is very interactive blending our reading programs, education, and gift boxes together.

Everything we do to encourage and educate our young people is important. When they learn that adults care you are helping save our children. I am happy to hear all the good projects your clubs are doing.

We are taking gift boxes to the Rosebud Reservation again this year. If you wish to help contact me. I will be taking the boxes to the reservation on October 11th. If you wish to take boxes to a different reservation instead of the Rosebud in SD feel free to do so. I would like to see Minnesota take some to a reservation in your state
and ND do the same in ND.

Don't forget to build Reading Oasises. Contact me if you need an idea how to get one going. There are ways to get the funds without having it come from your clubs service funds. Continue to keep the MnDak district the number 1 district to build Oasises.

WE ARE ON THE WAY - 8/29/2017
Submitted by: E. Chuck Schroder

Thanks to all of you members of this great district, we have made our goal this year. But the year isn't over yet, so we have to keep going so we can help those in need. Now with "Hurricane Harvey" that has hit the South so hard, the Kiwanis Children's Fund well be there to help and there will be a lot of requests for help. So we need to keep the ball rolling and the clubs that haven't sent in their annual gift need to do so now. Plus there are a lot of requests for grants to help clubs with their projects. We have a high demand for scholarships from our young people. There is a need, so please if your club has not given yet, do so now before the end of September and the end of the Kiwanis year.

I want to thank all of you for the support that you have given me over the past 19 years as chairman of the International Foundation, now the Children's Fund. I have accepted a new position with the Children's Fund, but I will still be working with the district. You have helped me take our district from good to great. We have come a long way in these years. The district foundation and the Children's Fund have come together and are working as a team, the raffle at the convention has been very successful. We have been able to give out more scholarships than ever before and the same goes for grants. Its all because you the members have bought into what was taking place. I leave with mixed emotions, but know that the person taking my place is well qualified and will do a great job. Her name is Kathy Welle and she has the background and passion for this. I will be working with her to help her get the job done. So please give her the support that you all gave me.

Again, THANK YOU ALL FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD. GOD BLESS YOU ALL. "Together WE made it happen".

Mn-Dak to ICON on Facebook! - 8/29/2017
Submitted by: Courtney Taylor, OTIC Chair
8/31/2017

We’re on Facebook now! Click here - https://www.facebook.com/groups/671485546386224/ - to become a member. Then add every friend you know who has attended a Kiwanis International Convention in the past or should attend one in the future. All Mn-Dak Kiwanis members are welcome to this hub of communication.

As soon as you’re connected, join the fun! Post pictures and stories from conventions in the past. Share plans in the spring as you register for the 2018 convention, reserve a place to stay, and plot your transportation. Make recommendations on shows and restaurants that you've enjoyed in Las Vegas in the past.

You may think this page will fade away at the end of this season, but fear not! We will simply update the group picture and continue the conversation. B-)

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Kiwanis Education Foundation Highlights - 8/29/2017
Submitted by: Jack Zierdt

Kiwanis Educational Foundation Highlights

The Kiwanis Educational Foundation of the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District held two Board meetings in Watertown, South Dakota on August 10 and 11, 2017.

The meeting on Thursday morning, August 10th, was the annual meeting that is normally held in the spring of the year. However, due to lack of a quorum for the spring meeting, it was cancelled and rescheduled for the day before the District Convention.

At this meeting the Board approved the matching funds for two scholarships of $1,000.00 each for the District Key Club and two scholarships for District Circle K with funds from the Kiwanis Children’s Fund and the District Educational Foundation. Also, it was approved to nominate Bill Lardy, of North Dakota and Denis Cornell, of Minnesota, at the Convention for re-election to three-year terms to run through 2020. Election of the two, by the membership, at the Convention was unanimous.

The second Board meeting at the convention was held late on Friday afternoon, August 11, 2017. The main purpose of this meeting was to elect the Foundation Officers for this next year. The members of the board elected Bill Daugherty of South Dakota as the Foundation President for the coming Kiwanis year. Denis Cornell was re-elected the Vice President, and Jack Zierdt was re-appointed as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Foundation.

On another topic the Scholarship Packets will be mailed out the first part of November, so all Kiwanis Club
secretaries should be on the lookout for the scholarship application packets in their mail. This will allow all clubs to begin the application process for the 2018 – 2019 school year.

Parnership with Nickelodeon - 8/29/2017
Submitted by: Sherry Scudder

Featured Partner this month is NICKELODEON

I want to thank you all who attended my Partnership Session at MN-DAK Conference in Watertown. It was good to see so many of you and be able to interact and share ideas with you.

We are all so excited that School has begun so I wanted to feature the Vision Partner of Nickelodeon this month. Nickelodeon joined the Kiwanis family as a 2013 Vision Partner of Kiwanis International with a focus on its BIG HELP INITIATIVE, which addresses issues in service, education, the environment and health.

Nickelodeon inspires kids to take action and make a difference in the world. Through the BIG HELP and WORLDWIDE DAY OF PLAY initiatives, kids and adults work together to plan events and activities in the areas of health & wellness, education, service and the environment.

Nickelodeon currently presents two major campaigns year round that encourage action in kids globally. WORLDWIDE DAY OF PLAY on or about September 30th, reinforces Nickelodeon’s mission to make the world a more playful place by leading Play events across the country. The GET DIRTY CAMPAIGN seeks to educate kids, families and teachers about what they can do to help protect the planet in a way that is mindful and fun.

Since this is September, we will focus on the WORLDWIDE DAY OF PLAY 2017. Every year, Nickelodeon goes completely dark for three hours on Worldwide Day of Play, taking programming off the air on all of its channels and shutting down its websites to reinforce one simple message: GET UP, GET OUT, and GO PLAY!!!! Over the years, these efforts have resulted in thousands of events and millions of kids being ACTIVE and PURSUING HEALTHY LIFESTYLES. Plan your Event on or about September 30.

Hosting a Worldwide Day of Play event is fun and totally doable!!! The event can be big, small, an hour long, or all day. Worldwide Day of Play is a great way to increase visibility around your Kiwanis’ commitment to physical activity, sports, and recreational activities. KIDS JUST NEED TO HAVE FUN AND GET THE MESSAGE THAT PLAY IS IMPORTANT.

Get Started: Here are some tips to help you plan an event:
(1) Registering your event with Nickelodeon at DAY-OF-PLAY.COM will allow seamless communication. Nick’s Public Affairs team will keep you posted with dates as September 30 approaches. (2) Select a Date and Location (3) Create a Planning Team, Assemble a team with members of Adults and Kids. (4) Plan your Activities to figure out details such as setup and Cleanup. (5) Recruit Kiwanis Members and the Kiwanis SLP Families. (6) Spread the Word, or Key Clubbers and Circle K members can do great social media and (7) Thanks for the Memories – after your event visit nick.com/play to see if your Worldwide Day of Play story has been featured!

Learn more on the: Day of Play at pro-social.nick.com.

Enjoy and PLAN, PLAY OR PLANT on September 30th.

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25th Annual Golf - 8/28/2017
Club: Mandan - Submitted by: Diane Lillis

The Mandan Kiwanis held its 25th annual golf tournament at Prairie West Golf Course on Saturday, August 19th. The tournament was started as a way to pay and to give back funds to the golf course for allowing the Kiwanis Classic Cross Country meet that is held on the course the second week in September.

The tournament has done very well at raising public awareness of the Kiwanis Club of Mandan and our mission as well as raising funds for needed youth projects…. Oh yes, and it’s just a lot of FUN!!

Wearing the blue is this year’s winning team FARM CREDIT SERVICES OF MANDAN!

Like us on Facebook and follow along in Mandan! #kidsneedkiwanis

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Kiwanis member leads the 2017 ND State Fair Parade - 8/28/2017
Club: Minot - Submitted by: Carla Dolan

Some of us have been noted for our loyalty, others for hard work and dedication and still others for bravery. But for a longtime Kiwanis member, all of these apply and even more. As a World War II hero, Lynn Aas was the...
Grand Marshall of this year’s ND State Fair Parade July 22. Lynn earned the Bronze Star and Purple Heart for his bravery during World War II. For those of us who know him and may not be aware of his past accomplishments, his personality, genuine charm and tenacity make it clear why he was chosen as Grand Marshall. The parade was no small event either, as there were 208 entries this year!

We fellow Minot Kiwanians are proud of Lynn and all his accomplishments. As a member of Kiwanis since 1960, Lynn has helped to increase membership, mentor young members and keep our group on track. At 96, we can all envy his great memory and storytelling ability. Thank you Lynn for all you have done for our group, our community, and most of all our country!

North Suburban Golden K Awards Scholarships - 8/28/2017
Club: North Suburban Golden K, St. Paul - Submitted by: Kent Gustafson

The North Suburban Golden K Kiwanis Club recently announced the winners of $1000 dollar scholarships. The awardees are:

- Prgya Karmacharya, the Vern and Erma Comstock Scholarship. Prgya is attending St. Catharines College, St. Paul.
- Jessica Mendoza, The Golden K President’s Scholarship. Jessica is attending Augsburg College, Minneapolis
- Asia Yang, the Elwood Caldwell Scholarship. Asia is attending St. Thomas, College, St. Paul
- Teresa Skubal, the Elwood Caldwell Scholarship. Teresa is attending the Illinois Institute of Technology, The award winners are shown addressing the Golden K Club meeting. Club President Ric Soderstrom is looking on.

Harvey Kiwanis Welcomes Students Back to School - 8/28/2017
Club: Harvey - Submitted by: Sandy Teubner

Harvey Kiwanis members greeted elementary students back to school on Wed. Aug. 23rd at B.M. Hanson Elementary school. "We handed out pencils, a small gift, but it’s the hellos and good mornings to the students that is the fun part of greeting the students" said Sandy Teubner, President. They are excited and maybe a little apprehensive so it's always nice to see a familiar face.

Pictured is Kathy Anhorn, Kiwanis Board member with elementary student
Summer Meals Program Completed - 8/27/2017
Club: Bismarck - Submitted by: Paul Schadewald

Bismarck Kiwanis volunteers completed 12 weeks of volunteering to serve noon lunches for the Bismarck Summer Meals Program. This was done in cooperation with the Great Plains Food Bank, United Way and the Bismarck Public School system. Appropriately meals were served week days at Kiwanis Park. This the the third year that members have volunteered to serve these meals. This year we served every Wednesday and Thursday. Volunteers from several groups covered the other weekdays. Thanks go out to Roger Wetzel who coordinated volunteer scheduling and to the members who helped.

The Bids For Kids Committee has started preparations for the 2017 fund raising auction that will be held on Friday, December 1 at 10:35 PM. This TV auction is our club’s biggest fund raiser and provides over $10,000 for Kiwanis programs each year. Members will collect auction items from businesses and auction the items. Brett Mealio and Dennis Kelly are the Bids Committee Chairs.

The Bismarck Kiwanis Club is hosting the Region 1 District Governor’s Conference on Saturday, October 14 at the Bismarck Ramada Hotel from 11 AM to 3 PM. Join us if you can.

Photo: Member Keith Lauer at Kiwanis Park.
School supplies - 8/25/2017  
*Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn*

Fargo South Point Kiwanis club members Rande Knudsen, and Mary Ann Berg delivered over $500 worth of school supplies to Madison School.

Several students helped with the unloading of school supplies for students that were needing some assistance with the necessary items for the first day of school.

This project has been an ongoing club project for nearly 15 years.

This project is supported by club members and club raising efforts.

The articles include many of the items each student is required to have.

Due to many of the students coming from lower income families, it's a welcome sight each fall to fill the supply rooms with much needed school supplies.

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Correctional Facility Key Club - 8/25/2017  
*Club: Red Wing Golden K - Submitted by: Phyllis Klair*

The Minnesota Correctional Facility Red Wing Key Club recently kicked off a campus-wide cleanup project. The Key Club is sponsored by the Red Wing Golden K Kiwanis Club.

Key Club members enjoyed getting outside and took great pride in their work. From there they decided that they wanted others on campus to join in their efforts and turned their campus cleanup project into a facility-wide contest. The idea was that if it became a contest, more residents would participate. Their idea was well received and continues to gain momentum.

Each cottage is responsible for maintaining the grounds around their living unit. This includes ensuring weeds are pulled, trash is picked up, sticks are picked up, equipment is put away, sidewalks are clean, and that flowers and gardens are maintained. These responsibilities make up the seven categories in which each cottage is scored on.

Volunteer center staff visit all of the cottages randomly and award one point for each category if expectations are met. At the end of the contest, the cottage with the highest amount of points will be awarded a game. The contest runs through Labor Day.
Boys and Girls Club - 8/16/2017
*Club: Watertown - Submitted by: Tim Oviatt*

The Boys & Girls Club of Watertown, SD is about to begin a nearly $5 million expansion and renovation and must move to temporary quarters for the next 12 months, which is no easy task given that all of the games, library, kitchen appliances, dishes and utensils, pool tables, audio, video and digital equipment, office desks and computers and much much more had to be dismantled, packed, trailered and then unloaded just a half mile away in a former elementary school. Kiwanians pitched in with many spending the good part of a day assisting with the well-organized relocation. Removing the smart screen from the library’s wall are Kiwanians (left to right) Scott McMahon, Mat Nelson and Trent Binde.

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Reading Oasis for Edgerton Elementary - 8/7/2017
*Club: North Suburban, Saint Paul - Submitted by: Deanna DeMay*

On August 7th, North Suburban of Saint Paul Kiwanis club installed it’s second Reading Oasis at Edgerton Elementary School in Maplewood, MN. They were excited to install this cozy nook for their student body of nearly 500 students.

This install is the second of five that our club in planning as part of our 5-5-5 plan. Our plan is five Reading Oasis's, over five years, with five years of supplemental financial support for each school we install an Oasis. This is a $40,000 commitment being fulfilled over a ten year period.

We are partnering with Scholastic books for Reading Oasis materials with a focus on connecting with schools serving diverse and economically disadvantaged student populations.

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Police Dolls - 8/1/2017
*Club: Early Risers, Worthington - Submitted by: Loreena Luetgers*

Members of Worthington’s Early Risers Kiwanis Club recently teamed up with the Worthington Police Department to craft 37 comfort dolls out of old police uniforms.

WPD officers will hand out the small navy blue dolls, each equipped with a WPD patch, to children if they are traumatized, or in a stressful situation. “When we go into homes, kids are scared,” said WPD Sergeant Brett Witrout. “When there’s a lot of stress and issues going on in the house, we give them teddy bears, Care Bears to hopefully make the situation a little better.”
Wiltrout came up with the idea after seeing a collaboration in December, when Early Risers Kiwanis members created 18 “hospital dolls” and donated them to the WPD, Nobles County Community Services and Sanford Worthington Medical Center.

He contacted Club Secretary Nancy Hofstee and asked if the Early Risers would be able to use the uniforms to make dolls. “It was a success last time, so we were happy to do it again,” Hofstee said.

Soon after receiving a batch of uniforms, club members got to work in what was a group effort. Loreena Luetgers cut the uniforms out, while fellow members Hofstee, Jeanene Townswick, Joanne Carlson, LeAnne Meyer and Priscilla Williams all helped sew together and stuff each doll. During an interclub with the Noon Kiwanis Club, member Kern Schwartz donated stuffing that he didn’t know what to do with and Zuby Janssen, another Noon Kiwanis Club member, also helped sew about half of the dolls.

Club members presented 37 dolls to Wiltrout, who took them back to the Prairie Justice Center for use.

Back row Sgt. Wiltrout, Nancy Hofstee and Loreena Luetgers
Front row: Jeanene Townswick, Joanne Carlson, LeAnne Meyer and Priscilla Williams