



**Kiwanis**

# MINNEKOTAN

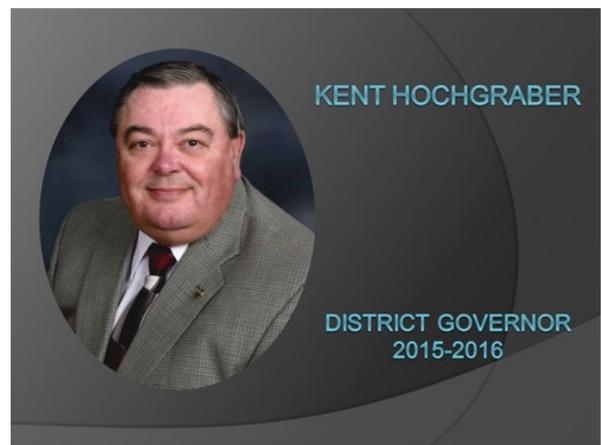
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February 2016

## Message from the Governor

Submitted by: Kent Hochgraber, District Governor

This past weekend the Strategic Planning committee and your Lt. Governors spent meetings in Fergus Falls for our Mid-Winter Board meeting. The Strategic Planning went thru the eight Goals on the Strategic Planning report and changed and revised some of the wording and changed some of the dates to bring the report up to the five year plan. This is a five year planning report and working document. We plan to present this finished document to the Board of Lt. Governors in August for their approval.



We also introduced the I-Plan to the Board and in the next year will merge our plan into the Kiwanis International Plan. It should be noted that Minn-Dak has had a Strategic plan for a number of years and that this is the first time Kiwanis International has put out an ongoing working plan that won't be changed every year that a new International President comes on board.

As a Board we discussed a number of other issues. One was how we can produce some non-dues revenue to support our budget. We have looked at several other options and will have a report for the August Board meeting. We also looked at our money reserves and how we can invest them in safe investments and still get a better return on our investment.

The best part of the meeting of course was the opportunity for each Lt. Gov. to report on the many good things that were happening in their Division. Everyone had good news. There were some concerns in some areas, but on the average everyone had a GREAT report of excitement and doing a lot of SERVICE PROJECTS.

You can be proud of your Board of Lt. Governors for their dedication and the time they spend working with each CLUB. Be sure to thank them when they come to visit and ask them for help if you need, They are a GREAT resource that you can take advantage of to help you build you CLUB or find a new service project, or solve a problem that you may have.

# February Update

Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas

**Governor Elect Candidates:** If you are interested in running for Governor Elect for 2016-2017, please submit a picture and a short biographical sketch not to exceed 600 words, along with an endorsement from your home club, to the District Kiwanis Office, P.O. Box 735, Dalton, MN 56324 no later than February 15, 2016. Your information must be received by that date to be published in the March MINNEKOTAN. Candidates can announce their intention to run at a later date, but will not be able to have an article in the MINNEKOTAN or district website. Governor Elect candidates must be a Past Lt. Governor. The election will take place at the District Convention next August. A complete list of rules and regulations for district officer campaigns can be obtained from the District Office.



**Lt. Governor Elect Candidates:** We are still in need of Lt. Governor Elect Candidates for 2016-2017 in some Divisions. Contact your current Lt. Governor if interested. The Lt. Governor Education program will take place in August just prior to the District Convention in Fergus Falls.

**Reminder about Kiwanis Clubs & IRS filing requirements:** All organizations, including all Kiwanis clubs must file the appropriate annual IRS tax Form by February 15. The form used depends on your annual gross receipts.

**District Annual Audit:** The Annual Audit of the Minnesota-Dakotas District Financial Accounts for the Kiwanis year 2014-2015 was recently completed by Westberg Eischens, PLLP, Certified Public Accountants of Willmar, Minnesota. The report is on file at Kiwanis International and the District Office.

**Tri-K District Board Meeting:** Kiwanis, Circle K, and Key Club District Boards met in Fergus Falls, MN on January 22 and 23, 2016. Minutes of the Kiwanis District Board meeting will be viewable on our district website soon.

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

Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office

P.O. Box 735

Dalton, MN 56324-0735

Phone: 218-589-7581

Email: [secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org](mailto:secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org)

# Toronto Registration is Open

Submitted by: Courtney Taylor, On To International Convention Chair



Registration for the 101st Kiwanis International Convention in Toronto is open! A few of the features this year will be astronaut Chris Hadfield speaking at the opening session and singer Jewel performing at the gala. Ticketed events include a fellowship breakfast, the Kiwanis International Foundation reception, and the gala night. Alumni and members of sponsoring clubs are invited to an alumni gathering and a Circle K celebration breakfast. Circle K International and Aktion Club will be hosting conferences in Toronto at the same time, which provides an extra opportunity for networking.

If previous articles have piqued your interest in Toronto, but you're a little hesitant to embark on touring a foreign city alone, check out some of these tours: <https://reg.conexsys.com/k16/>. Visitors can enjoy a walking tour, a harbour cruise, Niagara Falls, and more.

Be sure to review the convention schedule before reserving your airfare. US citizens do not need a travel visa, but double-check your passport expiration date! Minn-Dak has been assigned to the Sheraton Centre Toronto, but you are welcome to make reservations at any of the Kiwanis approved or other local hotels. Attendees are encouraged to make their hotel reservations online. For hotels and registration, election information, and other convention details, visits <http://www.kiwanis.org/convention/2016>.

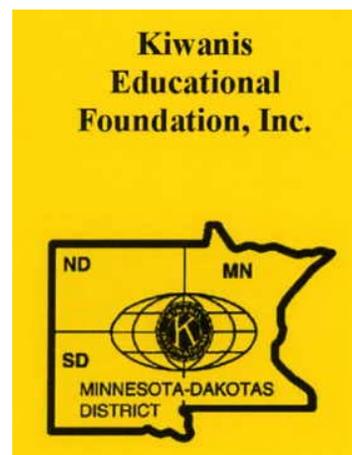
Take a slide show tour of Toronto [Click here https://portalbuzzuserfiles.s3.amazonaws.com/ou-87/userfiles/files/toronto%20convention%20and%20visitors%20bureau-reduced.pdf](https://portalbuzzuserfiles.s3.amazonaws.com/ou-87/userfiles/files/toronto%20convention%20and%20visitors%20bureau-reduced.pdf)

## Is Your Club a "Century Club"??

Submitted by: Denis Cornell, MN-DAK Education Foundation Trustee

Is your club a "Century Club"?? The Century Club program of the Minnesota-Dakotas Education Foundation offers an on-going youth service project for every club. A Kiwanis Club in the Minnesota-Dakotas District becomes a Century Club member with an annual suggested contribution of \$100.00 that can be taken from Youth Activities funds, Project Profit funds or Administrative funds.

The foundation depends on Century Club contributions of \$100.00 from clubs in our district to build foundation assets and to continue providing



scholarships to high school students throughout the district. Last year the Minnesota-Dakotas District Education Foundation awarded fifty-two \$865.00 scholarships to high school students in the district and we plan to award scholarships in the same amount this year. The Century Club contribution should be included in the annual budget of each and every club and sent to the foundation secretary as soon as the club budget is approved.

The Century Club contribution form is available on the MN-DAK District Kiwanis web site under the Foundations tab. Mail your Century Club contribution to: Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis Educational Foundation, 914 Southern Pine Lane SW, Rochester, MN 55902.

In the 2014-2015 Kiwanis Year the foundation received over \$8,500.00 in century club contributions. This is an excellent figure. If every club in our district contributed the small sum of \$100.00 to the Century Club program this figure would be over \$14,000.00. If your club has not made a Century Club contribution in the past, this is a great time to start. Check with your club treasurer to determine if your club is a "Century Club", if not encourage your president and your board of directors to take steps to become a "Century Club". Do it for the future leaders of Kiwanis.

## HAVE YOU ASKED

Submitted by: E. C. SCHRODER

Have you asked your club if they have given to the International Foundation this year yet? If you haven't, why haven't you? Now is the time for clubs to make their donation of \$5.00 pr member before they get too busy and are unable to do it. The ANNUAL GIFT PROGRAM is the main stay of the foundation.



CHUCK SCHRODER - DISTRICT CHAIR

I received a call the other day asking me some questions about becoming a Diamond Hixson. First of all, you need to donate \$1,000.00 to become a first level Hixson. For every \$1,000.00 that person gives to get another Hixson, gets them to the next level and is called diamond levels. For example, if this person has given a total of \$2,000.00 to the Hixson program, they would be a level 1 diamond and if that amount were \$5,000.00 it would be a level 4 diamond. With so many different programs to give to, I can see where it is hard to understand all of them. If any of you have any questions, please feel free to contact me and I will try and help you.

I would also like to remind you that when an individual gives to the foundation, not only do they get credit for it, but so does their club, division and district.

Because of the large number of gifts that were given at the end of the year, no reports have been generated as yet. We look for those to be coming out very soon.

E. Chuck Schroder, KIF Chairman

# Looking for Lt. GOVERNOR CANDIDATES

Submitted by: Sherry Scudder, Immediate Past Governor

February is the month the Lt. Governors are obligated to find a Lt. Governor-Elect or designee to join the team.

We have so many excellent members out there who have been a club president or Secretary who would make wonderful candidates. We just need to find you.

Please contact your Current Lt Governor if you are interested. I would be glad to answer any questions you might have regarding the position, responsibility, and the commitment.

Stand up and let us know who you are!!!!

Sherry Scudder  
Lt Governor Recruitment Chairman  
605-347-7718  
ShareKiwanis@gmail.com

## DIVISION STAR AWARDS (Formerly Region Star Award)

Submitted by: Denis Cornell

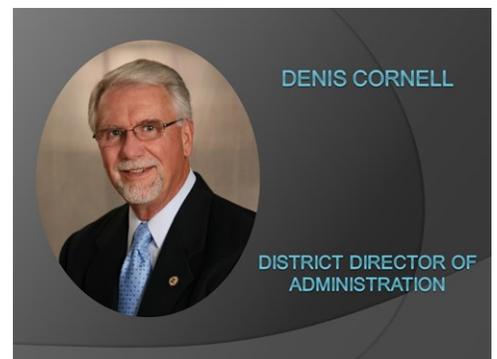
Division Star Awards - 2015-2016

1/28/2016 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Denis Cornell, District Administration Director

Rationale: There are many Kiwanians in our district who serve their clubs and their communities with unwavering commitment who are never recognized. This award is an opportunity for clubs to acknowledge those efforts by nomination, and to publicly recognize and honor them before their peers at the district convention, should they receive the award for their Division. Another goal is to motivate Kiwanians to attend a district convention to either receive this award or to support a fellow club member as he/she is honored for this award. A final goal is to encourage "Divisional pride" centered on each year's award recipients.

Process: Each club in the district is allowed to nominate ONE member for the award each year. The deadline date is APRIL 1st to your Lt. Governor. Each Division determines their own process to select ONE Kiwanian for the award from that Division (The Lt. Governor of each Division must submit Divisional winner to Steve Handegaard by May 1st.)

Clubs are to submit written justification as to why the member selected deserves to be the "Division Star" for their Division. To download Nomination Instructions and Format (go to district website/awards) [Click here](#)



It is important to point out Kiwanis work but any service completed by the individual will also be considered. Work over their entire Kiwanis career should be considered, not just the current Kiwanis year. Included is an essay of no more than 300 words maximum which summarizes and describes the nominee's accomplishments. These summaries will be printed for each Division's winner and distributed at the District Kiwanis Convention. Examples of last year's winners' summaries can be found on our district website/awards at: [Click here http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/Page/24948](http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/Page/24948)

Criteria for Award: All currently paid members of the Minnesota Dakotas District are eligible for the award with the exception of current club presidents, current immediate past presidents, current presidents elect, current vice presidents, current governor and current Lt. Governors. District board members that don't fit the above description ARE eligible for the award. Please note: club secretaries and treasurers ARE eligible for the award.

Special Note: If possible clubs are encouraged to pay for the winning "Division Star's" district convention registration and/or motel-travel expenses. Perhaps the club could send the member as one of their official delegates. The district will furnish the award itself which will be presented publicly by the governor at the district convention. Those selected for the award will be strongly encouraged to attend the convention to receive the award in person, and will be asked to submit a digital photo (head shot) in jpeg format, higher resolution (at least 500 KB).

(Please submit the following information by email and in WORD format to your Lt. Governor.)

#### DIVISION STAR AWARD NOMINATION

Name of nominee:

Club:

Address:

Submitted by (name and address/e-mail/phone):

About nominee:

oYears in Kiwanis

oYears in current club

oList club offices held (dates if known):

oList club projects and events he/she has been involved in, indicate if chair(C), or originator (O). You may indicate # of years as Chair.

oList other community and church volunteer activities.

oUsing NO MORE than 300 words, write about the nominee and why she/he deserves this award. 300 words is absolute; 301 words will disqualify nomination. This essay will be published (with slight editing if needed) in the program distributed at the District Convention in August, when all 7 Regional Stars will be honored.

Please include name of author and date written.

Email this nomination information to your current Lt. Governor contact, to arrive no later than APRIL 1st, 2016

\*\*Should your nominee win the award for your Division, you must also send a digital photo of the nominee to Steve Handegaard (secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org) for inclusion in the Award Program Booklet.

\*\*The sponsoring club should be responsible for all expenses incurred by the nominee in attending the District Convention to receive her/his award.

\*\* For further information contact Denis Cornell, (cornell.denis@gmail.com), District Director of Administration.

## FRIDLEY KEY CLUB DUCT TAPES TEACHERS

Submitted by: Daniel Ajagbusi



Children's Miracle Network (CMN) hospitals provides aid for over 100 Fridley citizens a year; however, this can't be done without generous donations from the community. Recently, the Fridley High School Key Club hosted a duct taping contest for CMN in order to raise funds and awareness. It was held from 7:50 a.m. to 8:10 a.m. on Friday morning, January 15th. Two teachers, Ms. Bailey, English, and Mr. Nalepka, Math, volunteered to be taped to posts in the high school cafeteria.

Duct tape was sold for three feet for a dollar. For each donated dollar a balloon logo was signed in the donor's name and pasted to the cafeteria wall. As Key Clubbers began collecting money and distributing tape, students began to cheer and yell for their favorite candidate. They also used their phones and recorded the event with video and picture. The crowd became lively.

One student paid \$10 for a half roll of tape. Shortly after, another did the same. This provided a lot of fun as they went around and around the teachers and posts.

At 8:08 a.m., the contest was declared a tie. Balloon logos were taped to the teachers and pictures were taken. Following this, the support chairs were removed and both teachers were left dangling a yard above the floor. Several strong teachers held the taped teachers upright as the Key Clubbers removed the tape and helped them place their feet back on the floor.

The money was counted and \$101.00 was raised for CMN. This was a novel and high-spirited way to raise awareness and funds for CMN and to recognize Key Club in the school.

Daniel Ajagbusi, Fridley Key Club, CMN Chair

## Cars to Y.E.S. Day Care Reading Buddies Program

Club: South Sioux Falls - Submitted by: Arlyce Daugherty

On December 22nd five of our South Sioux Falls Kiwanis readers, Bill Daugherty, Nola Connor, Mary Lou Savold, Allen Herrboldt and John Lewis, met with our 30 Reading Buddies to give each one a homemade wooden car for Christmas.

As a special Christmas gift from our club to the children in our Reading Buddies program at the Y.E.S. Day Care Center, we handed out wooden cars, made by a Kiwanis member of the George, Iowa Kiwanis Club. A smiling car label with a Christmas wish, made by Nola Connor, was attached to each car by club members during a club meeting.

The Reading buddies program has been providing a reading experience to Y.E.S. Day Care Center children over the last five years. Each Tuesday, two Kiwanians read to two groups of children. It has become a welcome event by the children who call Tuesdays, Reading Buddy Day. After the books are read, they are left with the Center for the children to enjoy throughout the year.



## Kiwanis Opens Skating Rink

Club: Fergus Falls - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard

Families gathered on the ice at Lake Alice in Fergus Falls for the grand reopening of the ice skating rink. There were about 500 people present for the outing held by the Fergus Falls Noon Kiwanis Club. Its fundraising paid for the warming house to be open and for the rink to be created and maintained by the Fergus Falls Parks and Recreation Department.

For more photos and information see the following article that was published in the Fergus Falls Daily Journal.



<http://www.fergusfallsjournal.com/2016/01/lake-alice-is-open-for-skates/>

## St. Anthony Inducts Youngest Member

Club: St. Anthony - Submitted by: Mary Dierbeck



St. Anthony proudly inducted their youngest member last week.

Brandi Hidde is a graduate of Grand Rapids High School in 2014. Brandi has moved to St. Paul and is studying at St. Thomas for a Business Marketing Degree. Brandi was very active in Key Club and Kiwanis in Grand Rapids and checked for clubs in our area. I met with Brandi and convinced her that our club would be a good fit. She started coming to meetings and getting to know all of us. She has already put her skills to work setting up a Facebook page for our Club.

In the picture is Paul Redlinger doing the induction and myself as Club President and Brandi's sponsor. Paul and I are both Past Lieutenant Governors for our District.

## Christmas With Dignity event

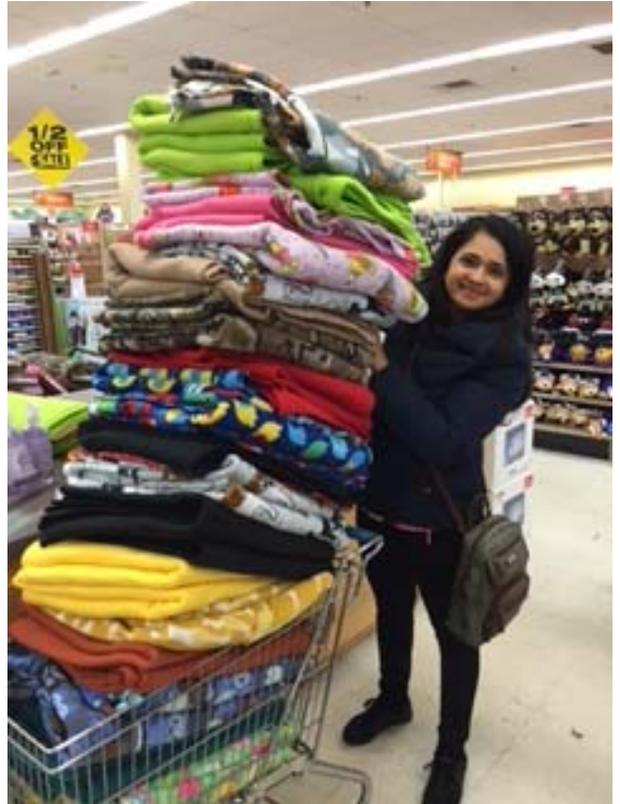
Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Abigail Ladwig

Friday, December 18th, Fridley Key Clubbers met up at the high school to carpool to the Christmas With Dignity event. Christmas With Dignity is held annually at the Hospitality House in Minneapolis. The purpose of this event is to provide a safe shopping experience for parents with low income to go and get Christmas gifts for their kids for very cheap. What volunteers do at the event is act as a shopping cart for the parents and carry all the gifts the parents would like to gift. They also help them out with picking gifts. Throughout their shopping experience there are raffles going on and if a parent is drawn then they can get the option to buy a bigger gift for their kids. When they are all done shopping they line-up with their volunteers to get all the items bagged and a purchase slip is given to them that says how much they have to pay (which commonly is less than \$20 for a family with like 4-6 kids at times.) It is really a great experience to help out the parents and hear about their different holiday plans and hopefully next year will bring even more volunteers to help out too

## Blanket Project

Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Abby Ladwig

Each year Fridley Key Club has a specific project they are working on and this year the project is to collect and donate blankets. In April, Fridley Key Club would like to donate at least 91 blankets to the Bridging Organization. Bridging provides furniture for little to no money to people transitioning from poverty or homelessness. The founder of the organization is turning 91 this year and that's how the idea to make 91 blankets came up. The Bridging organization needs a minimum of 100 blankets a week so Fridley Key Club's goal may be 91 blankets but more will be gladly taken! Fridley Key Club will be accepting new or gently-used blankets and we are asking for donations from the community also. Donations can be made at Fridley High School (just make sure to say it's for Key Club!) So any blankets that you have lying around, put them in a bag and just drive them on over to Fridley High School. We're thankful for any donations we can get!



## North Hennepin 2015 Scholarship Award

Club: North Hennepin, Minneapolis - Submitted by: Gail Heyda, Secretary

North Hennepin Kiwanis proudly presented the 2014-15 scholarship award to Tracey Warsett, graduate from E J Cooper High School, at our January 18, 2016 club meeting. Pictured include Courtney and Gail Heyda, Tracey, Howie Fisher, scholarship committee member, presenting check for \$1000.00, Stacy Ondov and Mort Reminick. Tracey and her mother, Estee, attended our luncheon meeting and is currently attending the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, studying sociology of law, criminology, and deviance. It was a great visit and we wish her well in her studies. Thanks, Tracey.



# Granite Falls Kiwanis Popcorn Stand

Club: Granite Falls - Submitted by: Leslie Bergquist, Popcorn Stand Co-Manager



The Granite Falls Popcorn Stand has been a long running tradition on the corner of Prentice Street and Seventh Avenue in downtown Granite Fall, MN. The Popcorn Stand has been in continuous operation since 1922, and is now open seasonally from May 1 to Labor Day, 7:00 to 9:30 pm, every day. The 36 square foot building was donated to Granite Falls Kiwanis in 2002 and has been the major fundraiser for the organization. The Popcorn Stand is operated solely by Granite Falls Kiwanis volunteers. This coming summer, plan an evening destination to Granite Falls

and enjoy the best buttered popcorn and 1919 root beer found only at the Granite Falls Kiwanis Popcorn Stand.

## Builders Club

Club: Sturgis Golden K - Submitted by: Debbie Looby

Sturgis Builders Club Officers are shown here organizing their Disney Ball to be held in March. They have been very serious in their planning and have learned many things!



## Lights Fantastic

Club: Mankato - Submitted by: Matt Norland

This article also appears on the Kiwanis International website:

[Click here http://www.kiwanis.org/theformula/community-impact/the-formula-headlines/the-formula/2016/01/14/lights-fantastic#.Vq9kCrlrLIV](http://www.kiwanis.org/theformula/community-impact/the-formula-headlines/the-formula/2016/01/14/lights-fantastic#.Vq9kCrlrLIV)

The holidays are over, but for the Mankato, Minnesota, Kiwanis Club, the good cheer just keeps coming. If past results are any gauge, its 120-member roster will be bolstered throughout the coming year with newcomers attracted by Kiwanis Holiday Lights, the club's signature project.

"It's really built our brand," says immediate past-president Matt Norland. "When someone's already experienced Kiwanis through this event, it's easy to ask them to come to a meeting. It's a great calling card."

He reckons the four-year-old festival has attracted close to a dozen new members—along with plenty of food and money for area charities. From the day after Thanksgiving to New Year’s Eve, Kiwanis Holiday Lights draws approximately 165,000 visitors to Mankato’s Sibley Park by offering a mammoth display of some 1.3 million lights. Roughly 80 nonprofits pitch in to help with the gathering, which accepts donations of cash and food from visitors.



“The park is open every night, staffed by volunteers,” Norland says.

It goes without saying that anyone dedicated enough to spend an evening running an outdoor charity event in the midst of a Minnesota winter would probably make good Kiwanis material. That’s why, weeks and often months after the festival’s conclusion, the club makes a point of following up with those folks.

“When we’re visiting with volunteers and their leaders, we thank them for their dedication in supporting the event and let them know that we’d love to have them come as a guest to a meeting and get a glimpse of what Kiwanis is all about,” Norland says. “Recently we decided that guests don’t have to pay for their meals, so it’s literally a free lunch.”

The cadre of newcomers attracted by Kiwanis Holiday Lights includes Ruth Koestler, executive director of PACT Ministries and manager of a neighborhood thrift store. Her group has helped out every year since the event’s inception.

“It has a huge community impact,” Koestler says. “It’s amazing what they’re doing with it.”

She was so impressed that last July she became a Kiwanian—both to raise awareness of her own organization and to get to know her community.

“My dad was a member of Kiwanis 40 years ago, so I knew a little bit about the organization,” Koestler says. “But I did some research before joining to find out who they were and what sorts of service projects they did. I felt like it was a good match with who I am.”

Even as the club works to bring in new members attracted by Kiwanis Holiday Lights’ 2015 edition, planning has already begun in next year’s festivities.

“It’s not only benefitting southern Minnesota, it’s also getting out the word on the great things Kiwanis is doing,” Norland says. “It’s the gift that keeps on giving.” — Sam Stall