

# MINNEKOTAN

Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

No.74

December 2015

## Message from the District Governor

*11/29/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Kent Hochgraber, District Governor*

By the time you read this article everyone will have had their Thanksgiving turkey and as many left overs as you can stand. As many of know I have been laid up for the month of Oct. and have had a great opportunity to see all the cooking shows on TV. I never thought there were so many things you could do with turkey and sweet potatoes.

A number of the regions have had their Gov. visits and education day, minus the Gov. I have heard a lot of great comments on the day from a number of you. Some have postponed their conference to this spring. Since this is the year to GET BACK TO THE BASICS, I want you to keep MEMBERSHIP in mind and don't hesitate to ask someone to help with one of your service projects and then ask them to join. Be sure you have a number of applications available. You can order them directly from KI.



Richard Odell had asked if I would outline my goals for the next year, so here are the 4 points.

1. We have 20 or so clubs that are under 15 members or less. We need to concentrate on getting them back to 20 members or more. We will do this with the help of the Formula team.
2. Every Club that does not have a membership committee needs to get one. The President-Elect should be the chairman of this committee and they should meet every month to go over the list of prospects in their community that would be good Kiwanians. They should set up a visitors day and have a good program, maybe about their best service project. This committee should also look at the members that have not been to a meeting in a while and send them a post card saying WE MISS YOU.
3. These prospects can also be invited to help on the club's premier service project. Most people will help doing service. Then have the application ready and ASK them if they would like to be a part of this service project helping KIDS or their community.
4. Once that new member joins, give them a job to do. Put them on a committee that is active. If you plan to keep this new member they need to get involved and know that their time and efforts matter.

I am always reminded of the older member up in Grand Forks. He was past 75 years young and every year he would sponsor 20 some new members. He was asked many times how he did this. His answer was always the same. I JUST ASKED, I JUST ASKED, I JUST ASKED.

I WANT TO WISH EVERY ONE A VERY HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

## December Update

11/29/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas



Greetings! The holiday season is upon us and it is a great time to get involved in Kiwanis service and help others in your community! We wish all of you and your families a very happy holiday season.

**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 to be included in the March issue of the MINNEKOTAN. Candidates can announce their intention to run at a later date, but may 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.

**Club Donations to Outreach:** Special thanks to all of the clubs that contributed to the Outreach Program during 14-15. We look forward to seeing your contribution again in 15-16. Most Kiwanis clubs include this as an annual budget item. Dollars given to the Outreach Program are used by Key Club and Circle K District Boards to build new Key and Circle K clubs, to attend Kiwanis District Conventions and Kiwanis special meetings, and to acquire needed supplies and equipment. Our Circle K and Key Club District Boards are very busy and active. They need our financial support. Checks can be made payable to Kiwanis Outreach and mailed to me at the District Office.

**Online Monthly Club Reporting:** Since our online reporting is so very important, I would like to once again review the process for the 15-16 year. Your club should be submitting your monthly club report online by the 10th of the following month. Your Lt. Governors, District Officers, District Office and Kiwanis International are able to view your reports without you having to send any additional emails or hard copies. If you have any questions, please give me a call or send me an email. Here is a link to more information about the monthly online club report [Click here](#)

**Tri-K District Board Meeting:** Kiwanis, Circle K, and Key Club District Boards will meet in Fergus Falls, MN on Friday, January 22 and Saturday, January 23, 2016.

**District Kiwanis Leadership Directory:** Just a reminder that you can view or print a copy of our district leadership directory on our district website [Click here](#)

**Directory of Club Officer and Club Meeting Locations:** Last month I emailed all club secretaries a directory of all clubs in the district. If you would like a copy contact your club secretary, or send me an email and I will email it to you. The club directory is not posted on the district website, but is available upon request.

Thanks again for all your great work in Kiwanis!

**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)

## Kiwanis Service

*11/29/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Al Vanderlaan, District Service Director*

The new Kiwanis year is jumping out to a great start in the area of service. I have been told by several clubs throughout the District that they are working on Scholastic Book Oasis's. Let me know the details of where you are in the process of building them. If you need help and have any concerns, please contact me.

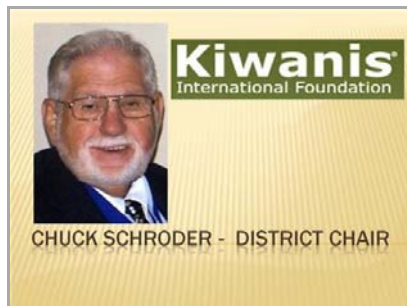


A Scholastic Oasis is now at the Saint Francis Catholic Grade School in Saint Francis, South Dakota. The Watertown Kiwanis club sponsored the Oasis with financial help of the Catholic Church. A dedication will happen in December. I have been told by Scholastic that this is the first Oasis on a reservation. The MnDak District is number one!

A new Service program is implemented District wide. Gift Boxes will be collected from Clubs who wish to participate and sent to Native American children. We plan on taking a large number to the Saint Francis School when we go to do the dedication in early December. We will make this an annual event and hope it will grow as the years go by. We will call this "Kiwanis Gift Boxes". Thank you for your service.

## A GIFT TO SHARE

*11/27/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Chuck Schroder*



I first want to wish all a very Merry Christmas and a Joyous New year. God has blessed my family this year and I hope all of you feel the same. There are a lot of young children that can't say that and won't be able to next year. But we as Kiwanians can HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE. I have a couple of ways this can be accomplished.

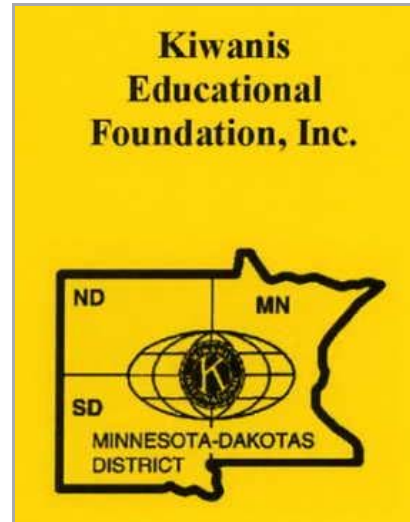
1. GEORGE F. HIXSON FELLOWSHIP. With a gift of US \$1,000 to the Kiwanis Children's Fund or our foundation's endowment fund, your generosity can be honored with a George F. Hixson Fellowship. Named for Kiwanis International's first president, the Hixson fellowship puts you in good company, past and present. For any eligible gift, a plaque with a shadow-boxed fellowship medal, as well as a wearable medallion, a lapel pin and a banner patch, are available upon request. (Progressive recognition for further giving is also available). You can take up to two years to pay for it.
2. KIWANIS LEADERSHIP SOCIETY. With a gift of \$250.00 you receive a certificate. This can be made in two installments.

By giving a gift like this, you are helping the children of the world and not only do you get credit for giving this, but your club and your division and the district get credit. This is how we can help and share a gift. Have a Christ filled Christmas.

## Education Foundation Scholarships

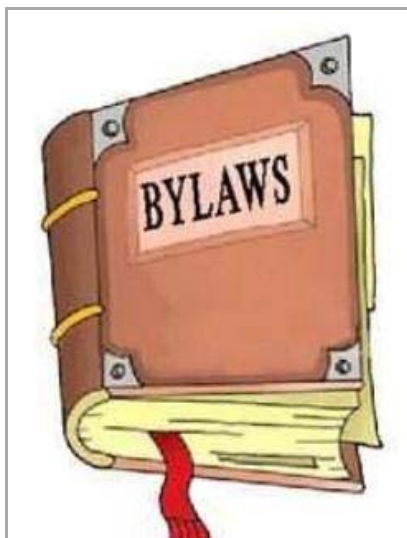
*11/24/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Bill Lardy, Foundation Board President*

The Messer Family Foundation has once again made a generous donation to the investment principal of the Minnesota Dakotas Foundation, in support of our scholarship program. The Foundation Board is very grateful for this gift and extends thanks to the Messer Foundation. As most readers know Kiwanis member Joe Messer was primarily responsible for starting the Minnesota Dakotas Foundation. The Foundation Messer Fellowship Recognition is named for Joseph Messer. Scholarship packets have just been sent out for distribution to high schools in communities in the District where there are Kiwanis Clubs. Students have until January 22, 2016 to complete the application and have their school send the application to Foundation Secretary Jack Zierdt. Each high school is limited to 3 applications per school. Award winners are announced, and recipients informed the first part of April. 55 scholarships for \$865 will be awarded for the 2016-2017 academic year, for a total of \$47,575. These scholarships go to graduating seniors who attend a post-secondary school within the district. Kiwanians, please publicize these scholarships throughout your communities and school systems. Tell family and friends, tell high school seniors. It has happened in the past that one or more scholarships has not been used because no application was submitted. That shouldn't happen and with your help, it won't. If you have questions please contact me, Bill Lardy at [kiwi@bis.midco.net](mailto:kiwi@bis.midco.net), 701-391-4948. Or Jack Zierdt at [jackz39@icloud.com](mailto:jackz39@icloud.com), 507-951-3880.



## Club Bylaws Reminder

*11/30/2015 - District: Minnesota-Dakotas - Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas*



All clubs were asked to adopt the new standard club bylaws by the end of the 2013-14 administrative year (by September 30, 2014). That date has come and gone over a year ago and we still have many clubs that have not submitted their revised bylaws.

The revised bylaws need to be submitted online. Here is a link to the Kiwanis International website that contains all of the necessary information. [Click here](#)

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## Club News

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### Devils Lake Kiwanis provides Thanksgiving Dinner to Community

*11/29/2015 - Club: Devils Lake - Submitted by: Dave Nick*

The Devils Lake Kiwanis held their annual Thanksgiving Day meal for members of our community. Club members and local volunteers prepared, cooked and served meals for about 200 hungry seniors, their families and friends. We also delivered about 50 meals to homes and apartments.



Our club members have been serving the traditional Thanksgiving meal for about 50 years and is this is a service we look forward to every year. Besides the comradery we enjoy during the event with fellow Kiwanians, we meet many others who volunteer to help our club any way they can. They come alone, as couples or in entire families, which is very special. It's pretty neat when mom and dad engage their children in learning how important it is to help others. Our Kiwanians have been doing this for years, getting their children involved in learning how to serve those in need.

Our club has been fortunate to be able to use the Eleanor Wilcox Senior Center for this event. They provide many services to the seniors of Devils Lake, from transportation and activities to Meals on Wheels. Free will offerings are accepted for the Thanksgiving Day meal, and that allows our club to provide needed donations to the senior center. This event is one example of how our Kiwanians help foster the meaning of community.

### Builders Club making a difference

*11/29/2015 - Club: Watertown - Submitted by: Tim Oviatt*



Watertown, SD Kiwanis Club sponsored Builders Club is well on its way to making waves in Watertown's Middle School, where a nucleus of about 20 students in 7th and 8th grades is recruiting members for the newly chartered club. Kiwanian Curt Trego has attended meetings to assist in educating the "builders" on Kiwanis objectives of giving back to the community. Former Watertown High School Key Club advisor Tricia

Gerlach is the Builders Club advisor.

The Watertown Builders partnered with the high school's Key Club on a service project at the Watertown Boys & Girls Club for a Halloween event and plan to assist with the community's holiday banquet as well as prepare Christmas cards for and go caroling at an assisted living facility in December. "They are a very enthusiastic group with a lot of great ideas," observed Trego. Kiwanis Club intends to have a representative at every meeting of both the Builders Club and Key Club to lend support, partnering and advice.

### Willmar Kiwanis Donates \$10,000

11/29/2015 - Club: Willmar - Submitted by: Dennis Hier

The Willmar Kiwanis Club recently donated \$10,000 to United Way of West Central Minnesota for their Imagination Library program. This program helps prepare kids in the region for Kindergarten by providing a book a month to children ages birth to five years of age at no charge to the families enrolled. This donation was made possible by the Kiwanis Peanut fund raising campaign supported by area individuals and the wonderful generosity of our businesses.



## Key Club Week

11/29/2015 - Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Abby Ladwig and Kati Stevenson



Every year, the first week of Kiwanis Family Month is an excellent opportunity for Fridley Key Club to show the community who they are. From November 2nd-6th, Key Clubbers all over the school made sure to show their Key Club spirit! Monday's theme was "Show your K in every way". On this day, Key Clubbers made sure to wear their club shirts and pink flamingo headbands to grab fellow students' attention and to get them to ask about the club. This brought in new members who were eager to sign up for such a fun service club!

Tuesday was "Kudos to the Key Players". It takes many people to have a successful club, and it's not just advisors, so this year Key Club sent "Messages in a Bottle" to the principal, vice principal, athletic director, communications specialist, and four advisors, to thank them for their support of the club. Many people also

attended We Day, the "movement of our time" that kicked off another year of service in our school.

Wednesday's theme was "Dare to Care." Key Club made over \$50 for Eliminate from a successful Hat Day as one event for "Dare to Care." Also, during lunch, any student was invited to stuff dolls and dogs to send to orphanages in Africa, which convinced many of them to join Key Club. As students walked through the halls Thursday morning, it wasn't uncommon to see little cards taped on lockers and desks. Thursday was "Random Acts of Kindness," so Key Club taped Pass It On cards around the school where they encouraged students to do the random act of kindness act on the card and then pass it on to another student. There was lots of cards passed around Thursday, spreading an air of inclusiveness and caring throughout the school!

The final day of Key Club week was "Connect the Ks" day, where Key Clubbers are encouraged to celebrate the whole Kiwanis family. Fridley Key Club invited the Builder's Club at Fridley Middle School and the Columbia Heights/Fridley Kiwanis Club to an ice cream social where all could interact and discuss what was all going on in their different clubs. With plenty of frozen custard donated by Culver's, the party was hit and set a great tone for Kiwanis Family Month. All in all, the week was fun and everyone had a blast sharing and bringing attention to all the great things Key Club does!

## Jamestown donates gifts to Rosebud Indian

## Reservation

11/24/2015 - Club: Jamestown - Submitted by: Katie Ryan-Anderson

Jamestown Kiwanis members donated 100 gifts to the regional shoebox project. Gifts included socks, mittens, stuffed animals, toys and toothbrushes. Volunteers from Ave Maria Village helped assemble all the gifts into 20+ shoe boxes. The gifts will benefit Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota at Christmas. Clubs from North Dakota, South Dakota and also Minnesota also participated in the project.



The 100-item collections are in celebration of Kiwanis' 100th birthday. Collections throughout the year included:

- \* 100 canned goods for the food pantry – February
- \* 100 personal/hygiene items for Community Action – March
- \* 100 Pancake Day tickets to local law enforcement - May
- \* 100 ice cream bars for the Kiwanis/Rotary Camp Rokiwan – June
- \* 100 games & toys for Park & Rec -July
- \* 100 school supplies - August
- \* 100 hats & mittens - October

## HARVEY ND KIWANIS VOLUNTEERISM

11/24/2015 - Club: Harvey - Submitted by: Sandy Teubner



Kiwanis volunteers picked up trash in the ditches between the Artos Motel and Little Mart along Hwy 52 in Harvey, ND in October as part of their community service. "We want to keep Harvey beautiful" says volunteer and President Sandy Teubner "so next time think twice when you want to toss that pop can or pizza box out your window. There's a proper place for garbage and it's not the ditches". Let's work together to keep our community clean!

Kiwanis also participates in other community projects to benefit children in the area. Scholarships are awarded to local students each year with funds raised through various projects. Providing playground equipment in Centennial Park is one of our current projects we are working on over this next year.

## Roughrider Country Kiwanis Club

11/24/2015 - Club: Rough Rider Country, Dickinson - Submitted by: Ninetta Wandler  
Past President

Greetings to all and since it will be Christmas soon Merry Christmas to one and all and a very Happy New Year.

Once again our club has been busy, we have put together for the 3rd or maybe the 4th year, 70 shoe boxes for the Shoe Box program, with great thanks to one of our directors Diane Melbye for taking this task



on. Enclosed picture is from 2014.



Also we have been busy with fundraising again with selling Herbergers Community Day coupons for \$5.00 each and the club gets to keep what we sell and participate in the profits from the sale at the store as long as we meet the quota which is 75 but we sold over 100 coupons. This is a great and fairly easy way for the club to make money, so I would like to thank each and every member that helped in this fundraising effort.

We have been in the 1st stages of planning for the After the Prom Party which will be a bit earlier next year so hopefully the weather will be cooperative then.

Till next time  
Ninetta Wandler  
Past President

## Jamestown packs 212,000+ meals for Kids Against Hunger

11/23/2015 - Club: Jamestown - Submitted by: Katie Ryan-Anderson



With the help of many volunteers, Jamestown Kiwanis packed more than 212,000 meals for Kids Against Hunger. Based in Omaha, Neb., Kids Against Hunger is a non-profit organization dedicated to ending hunger in the United States and starvation around the world. Jamestown Kiwanis raised \$50,000 to purchase the meals' ingredients: rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and chicken flavoring. More than 500 volunteers packed 212,544 meals.

Half of the meals packaged in Jamestown benefit local families through the Great Plains Food Bank. The other half will go to starving children around the world. "We know there is a need locally," said Kiwanis member and local organizer, Tim Perkins.

"We also know some children eat nothing but flour and water. A hungry child is a hungry child. We're proud that Kids Against Hunger helps all children, no matter where they are located."

Packaged meals include vegetables, vitamins, rice and soy. Each meal costs 23 cents. The cost of the meal is kept low, thanks to the assembly lines of volunteers.

Jamestown Kiwanis raised \$23,000 for its first Kids Against Hunger event in April 2011, packaging 100,000 meals. It again raised \$25,000 in October 2011, matching a \$25,000 gift from the anonymous donor. With the help of multiple anonymous donors, Kiwanis raised \$30,000 in 2013 and \$40,000 in 2014.

For more information, email [JamestownKiwanis@gmail.com](mailto:JamestownKiwanis@gmail.com) or visit [Facebook.com/JamestownKiwanis](https://www.facebook.com/JamestownKiwanis).

## Fill the Dome groceries

11/22/2015 - Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

Each year a special food drive is done by all of the local schools in the Fargo area, and the goal this year was to





raise over 170,000 pounds of food, and have enough to cover the floor of the Fargo Dome.



Fargo South Point club members continue to support the Madison Elementary school with all sorts of support, so the members and club donated a total of \$440.00 towards this project, and 4 members purchased the groceries and delivered them to the Madison school.

Shown in the photo along with the children are members Mary Ann Berg, and Rande Knudson, and Bobby Olson, Principal of the school. Members not shown in the photo that also were involved with shopping and deliver were Kathleen Nesvig and Margaret Mowery.