February 2019

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](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](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](http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/Page/1014)

Steve Handegaard
District Secretary/Treasurer
Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis International
Position Openings in Kiwanis - 1/31/2019
Submitted by: Dave Harms, District Governor

We are one week past our Tri-K Board meeting in Fergus Falls and we addressed a number of issues that we all need to look at and put forth our best efforts to achieve.

First and foremost we need members to carry out our mission and ensure that Kiwanis will have the numbers to carry out the mission of Kiwanis in helping children and communities. We do that with vigorous recruiting, and looking for opportunities to open new clubs.

Secondly we have a need in the District for Lt Governors. We have opened the requirements of who can serve. Kiwanians who have served as their club President, Club Secretary, and completed CLE training are eligible in their division. Please consider stepping up and offering your leadership as a Lieutenant Governor in your Division. Doing so provides an opportunity to get and share new ideas, and participate in discussions that will affect the future of our district.

Another item that was discussed was to consider helping to get our district to the 100% level in our combined pledges to project Eliminate. The way to do that was introduced by our District Service Chair. The mechanism would be through Funds2orgs, and the voluntary project would be collecting shoes. The starting date of that effort would be May first and the details of the project are in another section of this Minnekotan issue.

Again I want to thank you all for all of the work and different projects that you are doing in your communities and schools, and in your recruiting efforts. Remember 1 is a small number. If each club in MN DAK ends this year with one more member than they ended with last year we will be well on the way from Good to Great.

Stay warm this winter season.

Please look at the information about the International convention in Orlando, Florida June 26 through June 29. It would be nice to have 100 from the district in attendance. and don’t forget our own District Convention in Fargo, North Dakota in August. It would be nice to have 300+ at our convention.
February Update - 1/30/2019
Submitted by: Steve Handegaard

Signature Project Contest Reminder: Again this year each Kiwanis District can submit the best signature project from their district for recognition at the Kiwanis International convention in Florida.

Each participating district will hold its own selection process to decide which club project to submit to International. Preview all of the questions to include in your submission at following link https://portalbuzzuserfiles.s3.amazonaws.com/ou-87/userfiles/files/signature%20project%20contest%20submission%20questions%20-%202019(1).docx.

Your Lt. Governor will ask a committee to select the top project in your Division and then will send the Division winner to Governor David Harms by February 15th. So if you are planning to submit your project check with your Lt. Governor right away, so they can tell you when they will need your submission for the Division selection process.

International Convention Registration and Lodging: You can now register online for the International Convention in Florida. Click on the following link https://www.kiwanis.org/convention/2019/plan-your-convention-trip You will see that Kiwanis International has blocked rooms at two Disney hotels. I would recommend you try to book the “Disney’s Coronado Springs” as that is the site of all of the convention meetings. The other hotel will work just fine, also, but it is about a 10 minute shuttle ride. So, just a bit more convenient at the Coronado Springs hotel. I assume the Coronado Springs hotel might fill up first.

Governor Elect Candidates: If you are interested in running for Governor Elect for 2019-2020, 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, 2019. 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 2019-2020 in some Divisions. Contact your current Lt. Governor if interested. The Lt. Governor Education program will take place April 26-28 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 2017-2018 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 and Circle K District Boards met in Fergus Falls, MN on January 18 and 19, 2019. 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

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**What Better way to say I LOVE YOU than sharing Kiwanis** - 1/29/2019
*Submitted by: Sharon Scudder*

February is the month of Love. You can say I Love You by asking someone to join Kiwanis and share in the Love of Giving of oneself to a child or a community. Remember during the Formula years it was LOVE IT, SHARE IT, AND LIVE IT. I hear so many wonderful stories on how a member asked another person to join Kiwanis and how they are loving it because they are giving of themselves to those who may be less fortunate, or in need of a role model, or just helping out the community. Share your love as the people listed below have done.

**Division 2:** Alexandria. John Martinson. Wayne Farnberg
Division 3: Chisholm. Janey Blanchard. Sponsor unknown
Division 4: Sturgis 321. Michele Freed. Tina Ficek
  Lead. Jay Beagle. Dan Leikvold
Division 5: Sioux Falls Martin Peyes Lyle Terveen
  Sioux Falls. Robert Doescher. John Quello
Division 6: Mankato- Allan Starke. Randall Berkland
  Ortonville- Marilee Haukos. Kathie Thymian
  Olivia- Lyle Norris. Sponsor unknown
  Olivia- Sara Gass. Sponsor unknown
  Mankato.- Robert Roger’s. Sharon Taylor
Division 7: North Suburban St Paul- Jose Coronado. Shannon Schuweiler
  North Suburban St Paul- Phillip Peterson. Robert King
  North Suburban St Paul- John Mills. Richard Hjelm
  Red Wing Golden K- Nancy Featherstone. Richard Houghton

Unfortunately I am unable to recognize some sponsors as their names were not on the application submitted to Kiwanis International. Also some names you may recognize as joining earlier but they were just submitted to me in January. I want to make sure that I give credit to all those members who work hard to bring in new members.

Between my illness and my husband’s surgeries, I have been communicating only through the newsletter but I am on the mend and Larry is better so please expect me to be contacting you for assistance in getting some new clubs opened and recruiting new members. We will be working in Minnesota in February and North Dakota in March. I have received some indications of new club openings in a couple of areas. Please contact me at 605-347-7718 or Sharekiwanis@gmail.com if you have leads on new clubs or any concerns. HAPPY VALENTINE’S DAY to All and SHARE THE LOVE!!!!

K-Kids - Growing, Learning, Volunteering - 1/29/2019
Submitted by: Theresa Looby

Welcome to the new K-Kids Club in Roseville, Minnesota! I have been assured that the Charter Application has been forwarded to International. Thanks to Lt Gov Todd Levig and Jason Stewart for assisting with the organization of this Club.

Currently, we have the possibility of four new K-Kids Clubs in our District. It would be wonderful if
the four Clubs would be organized and Chartered this year. These young Kiwanians are an asset to their school and community learning leadership skills and the rewards of volunteering.

Many K-Kids Clubs have begun working on their projects for this semester. Various projects have been selected by the children and supported by advisors and parents. One project that has been shared is collecting coins. I am told the funds collected will be donated to the local Nursing Home.

I am sure there are many excellent projects throughout the District. I would appreciate learning about the projects and suggest that Clubs share their work by sending articles to the Minnekotan. Sharing helps all Clubs with learning and discovering ideas for projects.

In closing, I would like to ask all Lt Governors to encourage Kiwanis Clubs in their Division to review the Elementary Schools in their area. If a school without a K-Kids Club is located, please, give thought to sponsoring a Club. I believe that a K-Kids Club is an answer to improving one community and one child at a time.

For more information please feel free to contact me.
Theresa Looby
District Administrator - K-Kids
tnl2438@gmail.com
605 490 8698

Kiwanis Serves Others Well - 1/29/2019
Submitted by: Al Vanderlaan

At the recent January District Board meeting we discussed the status of club pledges to the ELIMINATE Project. Clubs in our district have done very well with their pledges and actual donations to the project, but a few clubs should still be encouraged to meet their pledge goals. And it is important to remember that Kiwanis will continue to accept additional funds into the future as eliminating maternal and neonatal tetanus will need continued support to maintain the project.

According to the December 31, 2018 Eliminate Report clubs in our Minnesota-Dakotas District
pledged $1,563,342.41. Of that pledged amount $1,443,325.98 has been paid. That leaves $120,016.43 outstanding. To view the complete December report listing details for all clubs in our district go to the following link

Al Vanderlaan suggested and volunteered to coordinate a voluntary shoe collection project that might help interested clubs to raise funds to complete their pledges and even raise some additional funds. The shoe collection project would be in partnership with Funds2orgs. Here is a link to their website https://funds2orgs.com/materials/

Interested clubs and members could collect shoes through our clubs and members. Our drive would officially start on May 1 and run for three months through July 3, but clubs could start collecting shoes now. Rubber band them or tie them together with their shoe laces. 25 slightly used or new shoes makes a bag of shoes worth 40 cents a pound. Normally $10.00 a bag. Let’s see if we could collect at least 2 bags per member. Start asking your family and friends to clean out their closets. You would need a place to store bags and they would need to be taken to a central location in your Division. We would need to have 100 bags in any one location so we would not be charged for picking them up by Funds2orgs.

We would like clubs to consider participating in this project. We will be getting more information before May 1st. Here is a flyer that the Michigan District used to help them to do a successful drive. https://portalbuzzuserfiles.s3.amazonaws.com/ou-87/userfiles/files/michigan.jpg. According to the Michigan District Governor they have done two drives with Funds2Orgs over the last couple years and they are planning another drive.

This could be a chance for your club to partner with your sponsored Key Clubs, Circle K Clubs, Builders Clubs, K-Kids, Aktion Clubs or even other community organizations.

This project could help bring our clubs together as they work for a common cause. This would also give clubs and members an opportunity to speak with individuals that we may not normally speak with. They could become good members of our clubs. This would be another opportunity to ask others to join your local club to serve children. Contact Al Vanderlaan if you are interested in the project. creativealv@gmail.com
Get ready for a Division 6 Spring Conference that will leave you exhilarated!

We have six compelling speakers, some of which will share experiential presentations.

You will also have the opportunity to meet and lunch with our own MNDAK Governor David Harms who will share his message with us.

You will be experiencing inclusion, miracles, a raffle, diversity, sparkling lights, skating, theatre, winning, refreshments, and so much more!

Save the date! Saturday, April 6, 2019
Where: City Center Hotel, 101 East Main Street, Mankato, MN

The Mankato Downtown Kiwanis Club is head-over-heals eager and enthusiastic to host each and every one of you.

In the next several weeks you will receive emails from me via your club secretary with more information. Look forward to hearing about parking, how to register, discounted accommodations should you wish to take advantage of all Mankato has to offer, and other majorly good and important things to know.
Go put this date, April 6, on your calendars now!

This is for EVERYONE in our Current Division 6.

Contact Sharon Taylor for more information sjtaylor@hickorytech.net

Greetings from Fargo! As you may have heard, the 102nd Annual Mn-Dak District Convention will be held in Fargo on August 8-11th this year. The committee is busy planning for a weekend full of
learning opportunities, Kiwanis comradery and FUN!

A Kiwanis convention inspired haiku:

Gather Kiwanis
From near and far, east and west
Fargo welcomes you!

I invite you to share your own Kiwanis haiku on the Kiwanis Clubs on Minnesota-Dakotas Facebook page: www.facebook.com/KiwanisOfMinnDak

See you in Fargo!

2019 Division Star Award - 1/28/2019
Submitted by: Denis Cornell, District Director of Administration

The annual Division Star Award is an excellent vehicle for clubs to recognize the exemplary service of members for recognition during the district convention. One club nominee is selected from each division as the Division Star. Clubs must submit Division Star Award nominations to their Lt. Governor no later than April 1st and Lt. Governors must submit the Division Star Award selectee to the District Secretary-Treasurer no later than May 1st. It is critical that these deadlines be met to allow for plaques to be acquired and for the Division Star Award program to be printed.

The division recipient should be notified and encouraged to attend the district convention. The recipient's club is encouraged to pay the expenses of the award recipient to attend the district convention.

The Division Star Award Criteria and the Nomination Form are available on the MN-DAK web site, http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/, click on Menu and scroll down to Awards.
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Scouting gives young people the training they need to lead. Working with your club, Boy Scouts will further their development, even taking on leadership roles in joint projects and fundraisers.

Our partnership gives them access to:

- Hands-on service. Like many young people, Boy Scouts enjoy active engagement and direct experience. Your projects offer them exactly that—along with ways to see their effort make an impact in their communities.
- Financial support. Kiwanians know how to raise money. As Boy Scouts lend their hands-on service to projects, they’ll also learn about fundraising by working alongside Kiwanis family members.
- Proven partners. Kiwanis has a proven process for selecting partners. Now they’ll all get stronger, and strengthen us in turn, by working with and learning from each other. See more at kiwanis.org/partners.
- Continued service opportunities. Like Key Club or CKI members, Boy Scouts eventually age out of the program. And like the members of Kiwanis programs, their experience makes Kiwanis club membership a good fit for them down the road. This partnership makes it more likely—by keeping their love of service alive.

Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA)

When it comes to serving children, Kiwanis International and Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) both have long and successful histories. The two organizations work collaboratively, promoting and supporting local Kiwanis and Boys & Girls Clubs partnerships at the grassroots level.

The leaders of Kiwanis and BGCA, as well as local affiliates of the two organizations, continue to work closely to achieve an even greater positive impact in the lives of children and in communities nationwide. A critical need that has been identified by the two organizations is the shortage of adult mentors for children in urgent need of a caring adult role model in their lives. To that end, the two organizations have mobilized a National Mentor Recruitment Partnership to address the mentoring needs of all children—with an emphasis on closing the mentor gap for minority males in the United States.

At the local level, the National Mentor Recruitment Partnership model is simple. Nearly 1,300 local Boys & Girls Clubs have received National Mentoring Program grants from BGCA and the U.S. Office
of Justice Programs. And the professional staff of local Boys & Girls Clubs have been trained to reach out to their local Kiwanis clubs. The local Boys & Girls Clubs and Kiwanis clubs may work with each other to determine the need for and feasibility of mentor-recruitment partnerships in their communities. BGCA will provide all appropriate and required communications, reporting, recognition, technical assistance, and partnership-management support.

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**Kiwanis MN-DAK Educational Foundation - 1/28/2019**  
*Submitted by: Denis Cornell*

Is your club a "Century Club"?? The Century Club program of the Minnesota-Dakotas Educational 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 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 sixty-four scholarships to high school students in the district.

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.

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 become a Century Club. Do it for the future leaders of Kiwanis.

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**Children's Fund - 1/28/2019**  
*Submitted by: Kathy Welle*
Our Winter season has arrived in force. Hope everyone is staying warm and comfortable.

I’m going to start thinking a little SPRING and flowers!

**KIDS need KIWANIS**

MN-Dakotas District has again earned the 15% Children’s Fund Rebate. Total giving for 2017-18 was $32,116 to the Children’s Fund. The rebate amount will be $4,811. The application for the rebate is due no later than March 1, 2019. **Our district application has been submitted!** (Rebate is $1100.00 less than previous year.)

**NOTE:** It is so very important for all Clubs and members to support the *Kiwanis Children’s Fund*. The rebate adds to the *District Education Foundation* for additional scholarships. To start, consider giving $10 per member.

If your club has not sent in the Children’s Fund giving for 2018-2019, this would be a good time to make the payment. If your club does not have a SLP, here is a way you can assist to have education scholarships awarded in your areas. Applications for scholarships go to all high schools via your Kiwanis Club Secretary. Also, if Key Clubs have a fund raiser, encourage them to submit a giving gift to the Children’s Fund and give recognition to you as their sponsoring Kiwanis Club. This is a way to add to your giving amount for the year.

Planning for the next year. Each year the President’s Challenge is issued by the Children’s Fund President. To qualify for 2018-19 Rebate, we (the district) must meet the following criteria.

1. 50% club participation
2. a 10% increase in giving, based on an average of the previous three administrative years.
3. Minimum total giving. Unrestricted giving must reach a minimum of $2000.00

(We should be able to meet No. 3 easily. The challenge is to have a 10% increase in giving)

Proud to be a Kiwanian.

Thank you everyone for all you do and keep up the good work!!

*And Good News!!*

**4 OUT OF 4 STARS**

*Kiwanis Fund earns highest rating from Charity Navigator*

The Kiwanis Children’s Fund has again earned the coveted 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, the largest independent charity evaluator in the United States. The rating is Charity Navigator’s highest
The designation sets the Kiwanis Children’s Fund apart from its peers, Charity Navigator CEO and president Michael Thatcher wrote in a letter announcing the rating. “Attaining a 4-star rating verifies that the Kiwanis Children’s Fund exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in your area of work,“ he said.

**Overnight Stays - 1/27/2019**  
*Submitted by: Peter Larson*

Just a short youth protection guideline this month:

Overnight Stays: While attending a Kiwanis event that requires an overnight stay in a hotel or camp/conference setting, adult chaperoning must include no fewer than one adult male for each 10 or part of 10 youth males, and one adult female for each 10 or part of 10 youth females. Except for a parent sharing a sleeping room or other sleeping quarters (e.g., tent) with his/her own child, no adult should share a hotel or dormitory sleeping room or other sleeping quarters with a youth. In the event that sleeping quarters consist of multiple beds, such as a bunkhouse or camp cabin, adults may share the sleeping quarters with youth members of the same gender, provided that two or more adults are present.

If you have any questions about this guideline, please contact me at 701-261-7012 or at phlarson@midco.net.

If you hear about a youth protection education event in your area, please contact me so I can keep my information on this topic up to date.

**Congratulations! A New Builders Club - 1/27/2019**
Submitted by: Nancy Cornell Builders Club District Administrator

Congratulations to the Foothills Kiwanis Club for sponsoring the newest MN/DAK Builders Club. The Stagebarn Middle School Builders Club chartered on December 20th. Sharon Wilson is the Kiwanis advisor to this exciting new Builders Club.

Division 4 is now tied with Divisions 6 and 7 for the most Builders Clubs- 6 each. The rest of the divisions have three or less Builders Clubs.

More Builders Clubs mean more students age 12 to 14 will have opportunities to do service and gain leadership experiences. Help give them ways to think beyond themselves and engage in service to others. They will also energize your club.

Now is a great time to check into sponsoring a Builders Club. Go to www.kiwanis.org/charter. Make 2019 the year you make the commitment and enrich the lives of students who are eager to help others.

Please contact me with any concerns or questions. nancyc2@centurytel.net

Lake Agassiz Kiwanis Donate Food to Key Club Project - 1/2/2019
Submitted by: Kristi Engelstad

The Lake Agassiz Kiwanis Club was honored to attend a recent Fargo North High School Key Club model meeting. LAK members and Key Club members worked together to make fleece tie blankets for patients at the Roger Maris Cancer Center in Fargo. The Lake Agassiz Kiwanis presented the Key Club with a check in support of their club as well as a donation of canned and dry goods to use in food baskets that were given to Fargo North High School students who may not have had much food over the recent winter break. The Lake Agassiz Kiwanis are are very proud to sponsor this group and also proud of all of the good work that the Fargo North Key Club does!

Free Books to Every Student - 1/1/2019
Club: North Suburban, Saint Paul - Submitted by: Shannon Schuweiler

On December 18th, 2019 the North Suburban Saint Paul Kiwanis teamed up with Scholastic Books, Inc. to provide each student at the Paul and Shelia Wellstone School in Saint Paul, MN with a free book (or two). This was facilitated through a book fair where each student was given a certificate, paid for by the club, to pick out up to $10.00 worth of books.

This project is part of the North Suburban Saint Paul Kiwanis Club’s current "5-5-5" plan. The plan is to install 5 Reading Oasis’ in 5 years with 5 years of ongoing support. A Reading Oasis is a designated area at the school specially designed furniture and new books bought through Scholastic to provide students with a safe and relaxing space to read. The initial investment to provide a school with an Oasis and books for students is $5,500. Ongoing the club pledges to commit each school with $500.00 each year for 5 years after initial instillation.

The club has already installed and supports oasis in three other schools including: Central Park Elementary in Roseville, Edgerton Elementary in Maplewood, and Little Canada Elementary in Little Canada.

The North Suburban Saint Paul Kiwanis club is known for their Malt Shop at the MN State Fair. They will be celebrating their 60th year anniversary this year. This signature project is fundraiser that allows this club to provide this opportunity to these schools and students.