

MINNEKOTAN

Published by Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

May 2010

Time to Build

by: Bruce Klair, District Kiwanis Governor

As you know, May is membership month, and I know many of you are already busy with your membership committee exploring ways to bring more people in your community to share the Kiwanis experience. If your club doesn't have a plan in place, there is still time to do so. Develop a plan to engage all club members in a membership campaign. Create a contest. Divide your club up into teams and challenge one another. Give a prize to the team that can recruit the most members, or a penalty for the team that recruits the least. Now, more than ever, we need more hands in Kiwanis to meet the needs of the people out there suffering in these harsh economic times.



In addition to recruiting new members, we are looking at communities that do not have the benefit of having a Kiwanis club in their midst. Enthusiastic Kiwanians in our District have already built two Key Clubs, three Builders Clubs, a K-Kids and an Aktion Club this year. It is time to add more Kiwanis Clubs to our District.

This month we are working on expanding the Apple Valley, Minnesota club satellite to a full size club. In addition we are having a membership drive in Champlin, Minnesota to build a club there. We are meeting with the Crow River satellite in the Albertville/St. Michaels area to make them an independent club. Work continues in the Tea, South Dakota community south of Sioux Falls, and we are exploring ways to restore the club in Belle Fourche, in the Black Hills area. Marshall, Minnesota also seems like a good prospect. It's time to build.

We were saddened this past week with the news that two of our Past District Governors had passed away - Coralyn Dahl, our 2006-07 District Governor and James Bekken, 1991-1992 District Governor. Our hearts go out to both families during these difficult days. Both were incredible people, great Kiwanians and will be sorely missed.

Remember, May is also the month we elect new officers for the coming year. If you haven't done so, get that nominating committee together now. And there is still time to register for the International Convention in Las Vegas June 24 - 27. Great entertainment and inspiring speeches are being planned along with conducting the business of our organization. Hope to see you there!

Kiwanis International President Visits Minnesota-Dakotas District

Submitted by: Dawn Fairbrother at the Request of Mary Dierbeck

The Minnesota-Dakotas District was honored to have Mr. Paul Palazzolo, Kiwanis International President, come for a Minnesota-Dakotas Official Visit to our District and take part in the “Kiwanis Family Celebration” and “Kiwanis One Day” activities. April 10th was a fantastic day for all those who joined in the activities. The Kiwanis International President visits various Districts once every five years.



The afternoon started with Kiwanians and guests going to the Kids Against Hunger packaging event. There were approximately 100 people, working as a team, and packaging 29,160 meals. When you take the 29,160 meals and divide that by 365 days, that equals enough food to feed about 80 children for the entire year! A container with this packaged food will go to the “Tent City” in Haiti. A big “Thank You” to all those who worked so hard at this event to help the children of Haiti!

In the evening, a banquet was held for President Palazzolo, Kiwanians and guests. Governor Bruce Klair opened the banquet and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Lt. Governor, Denis Cornell gave the invocation. After a very nice dinner, there was a terrific performance, by the Mankato Theatre Aktion Club, led by Director and Kiwanian, Wilbur Neushwander-Frink. The Theatre Aktion Club performed Scene One from “Soph and the Nana” and the following music: “Amazing Grace”, “Skipping a Step” and “I Have a Dream”. They received a standing ovation! John Dierbeck, program Co-Chair, introduced President Paul Palazzolo.

The two addresses presented by President Palazzolo were, “Take Time to Make a Difference” and “Habits of Successful Clubs”. President Palazzolo had a handout entitled, “Ten Objectives of Club Leadership”. President Palazzolo talked about having gathered these objectives as he traveled to various Kiwanis Clubs. He stressed that Kiwanis Clubs need to do a “Community Analysis” and a “Membership Analysis” in August or September of each year. Clubs need to work to have Distinguished Clubs and work on getting new members as you lose an average of 10% to 11% of your membership each year. President Palazzolo stressed, “We can’t let our Kiwanis Clubs slip away!” President Palazzolo thanked each and every Kiwanian in the Minnesota-Dakotas District for their hard work and being part of “...a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time”. President Palazzolo was a very joyous, happy speaker showing strong belief, passion and insight; plus he interlaced his address with plenty of great antidotes and jokes. It was a fantastic day and evening for all who attended.

President Palazzolo received the gift of a Jack Vantine Life Fellowship from Jack Zierdt, Secretary/Treasurer of the Minnesota-Dakotas District Educational Foundation. It was a memorable night for all those in attendance!

Lt. Governor, Denis Cornell received a surprise gift of a George F. Hixon Fellowship and medal for donating \$1000 to the Kiwanis International Foundation.

Mary and John Dierbeck were the Co-Chairs for this event. Between the chairpersons and the members of the committee, they all worked very hard to plan a terrific day of events. The very hard-working Committee members were Governor Bruce and Phyllis Klair, Lt. Governor, Denis and Nancy Cornell, Lt. Governor-Elect Barb Winfield, Mary and Dale Bowen, Denny and Mary Harris, Gail and Courtney Heyda, Diane Johnson, and Liz Lawrence-Ross. Special acknowledgements to Tim Stromer, Director, Kids Against Hunger, Mary Haemig, Mary Dierbeck, Mary Bowen, Mary Harris, Ely Kiwanis, Fridley Columbia Heights Golden K, North Suburban St. Paul Golden K, the Division 9 Key Club and Circle K Club members.

(In photo: Kelly Adler, President of Lake City Key Club and Shannon Johnson, Key Club Lt. Governor along with President Paul.)

93rd Annual District Kiwanis Convention

Submitted by: Pat & Larry Rittgarn, District Convention Director

As we prepare for the 93rd annual District Kiwanis Convention we are becoming very excited, and hope that you and your club will make sure to have a number of delegates and members in attendance. The convention will be August 13,14,15, 2010 in Fargo, ND at the Best Western Doublewood Inn and Conference Center.



This year we hope to have a lot of new things for you all to see, hear and do. On Friday the 13th of August, shortly after the convention opens, we will introduce to you a most exciting, dynamic young Kiwanian (just joined) who will be our Key Note speaker. (This is a switch to have the Key Note speaker at the beginning of the convention.) We hope this will energize us all to really get tuned in to the convention right from the opening bell.

This means that you will want to be at the Doublewood and registered by 1:00 pm on Friday the 13th of August so you will not miss this exciting opening to our convention.

All of the necessary registration blanks, delegate forms and your invitation to the convention can be found in this edition of the Minnekotan and your club President and Secretary will be receiving all of the information in the mail very soon also. Plan now to be in attendance at this year's Kiwanis District Convention. See you there.

Convention FIRST TIMER'S Luncheon and reception

Submitted by: Larry and Pat Rittgarn, District Convention Direct

At this year's Kiwanis District convention in Fargo, ND on August 13,14,15, 2010 there will be another First Timer's luncheon and reception for all of the first time attendees at the convention. Each year for the past 4-5 years we have greeted the First Timers with this reception and luncheon, to help them become more acquainted with what to look for and expect at the convention.

This gathering takes place at 12:00 noon on Friday August 13th, just ahead of the opening of the convention at 1:00pm. Several of the District Directors, plus the Kiwanis Governor will be at the session to greet you all, and you will also have a chance to meet others that are attending for the first time.

We will also present you with a special ribbon to attach to your name tag, so others at the convention can identify who you are and if you have questions they will be glad to help as well.

Be sure to note on your registration when you register for the convention that you are a First Timer and there is a nominal fee of \$5.00 for a partial payment of the box lunch you will receive when you arrive at the session. Please plan to come to the convention, and to attend this very informative session prior to the opening bell.

Educational Foundation Scholarships

Submitted by: Jack Zierdt

The scholarship applications have now been read by judges throughout the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District. On behalf of the students that applied for a scholarship and the Kiwanis Educational Foundation I would like to say thank you to all of the Kiwanis members that helped us in this process by reading and judging the applications.

We have offered the \$750 scholarships to each of the 55 winning applicants within the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District. These winning students will be attending an institution of higher learning within

the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District, including Superior, Wisconsin with a little less of a financial burden on them because of this scholarship.

We would like to thank individual Kiwanis members and Kiwanis Clubs from our great district for your continued financial support of the Educational Foundation with your generous contributions. We would also like to make a plea and ask that every Kiwanis Club within the district support the Foundation annually with a \$100 payment to the "Century Club." This will help us to continue building on our principal so that we continue to gain substantial interest earnings for distribution annually through our scholarship program.

District Leadership sessions (CLE)

Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn, District Education Director

Club president-elects, secretaries, treasurers and all interested members, you are soon going to be attending your Club Leadership Education CLE session in your region. Be sure to watch for the information when it comes to your club by mail, and make your reservations to attend the one nearest to you.



The nominal fee for this session covers your meal, plus the meeting supplies that will be provided to you and your club when you are there.

Your Lt. Governor for your region, plus a Kiwanis Certified Instructor will conduct the session, and your leadership skills will be improved simply by learning some new methods of club leadership. No matter how much time you spend in front of people, it's always good to begin the year with a good understanding of what your job involves.

Many of the sessions are already scheduled and others will be coming very soon, so plan now to attend.

Region 2-Kiwanis ONE DAY-Kids Against Hunger

Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

Region 2 came together on Kiwanis ONE DAY on April 10, and packaged 28,948 meals for the Kids Against Hunger project. 116 volunteers worked from 1:00 in the afternoon until 7:00 in the evening, and had a great time working on this wonderful project.

The Fargo North Key Club promoted the project, including the fund raising to set up the first satellite station in North Dakota for this world wide project. On Saturday there were 6 Key Clubs, 1 Circle K Club, 6 Kiwanis Clubs and 1 Aktion club working side by side to accomplish this project. Now that we have a permanent site in ND, we hope to do this more than once a year.



K-Kids Sponsor Easter Party

Submitted by: Tom Allen, President Rapid City Downtown

On Tuesday, March 30th, 11 K-kids from General Beadle Elementary in Rapid City visited the Golden Living Center in Rapid City with boxes of Easter bags for its 67 residents. Jean Clarie Hamblin, Community School Coordinator, Larry Meagher, Dean of Students at General Beadle, and Becky Fisher, Rapid City Downtown Kiwanis, accompanied the students.

The K-Kids met the residents in the day room where the students read a story and recited Easter poems, before handing out the Easter bags. The students had decorated the bags and filled them with food items and Easter treats they had purchased on a group shopping trip. Downtown Kiwanis donated monies to the K-Kids to help cover part of the costs.



The residents were touched by the children's gifts and the children thought it was fun and enjoyed sharing and giving to the residents!

West Middle School Builders Sponsor Egg Hunt

Submitted by: Tom Allen, President Rapid City Downtown

On March 31st the West Middle School Builders held an Easter egg hunt for the children of an Early Headstart Program located on the grounds of Soo San Hospital in Rapid City.

The Builders constructed baskets from recycled milk jugs. They placed some grass and candy inside each. They had raised the money from bake sales and a school hat day. Rapid City Downtown Kiwanis matched their funds for the supplies.

After school they went to visit the young children aged from only months old to three years. The Builders place nearly 150 plastic eggs containing candy in the lawn nearby for the older children and then presented the four little babies with plush toys.

After the eggs were all found with help of parents, teachers, and of course the Builders, the kids were treated to sidewalk chalk and bottles of bubbles. It was a contest to see who had the most fun, the small children or the Builders. According to Ms. Ann Hast, advisor to the Builders, it was amazing how the kids got the wind to blow the bubbles for them. A great time was had by all!

Our Kiwanis Family lost two great friends and leaders this past week. We mourn the loss of Corlayn Dahl, Past Governor 2006-2007 and James Bekken, Past Governor 1991-1992.

James Bekken – 1948-2010

James M. Bekken, 61, New Rockford, died May 3, 2010, in Rochester, Minn. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 8, at First Lutheran Church, New Rockford, ND. Funeral arrangements are with Evans Funeral Home, New Rockford.

Jim was District Kiwanis Governor 1991-1992. He was currently a district judge in New Rockford, North Dakota. A short biographical sketch can be viewed on the following website <http://www.ndcourts.gov/court/bios/Bekken.htm>

A more complete obituary will be posted on the Evans Funeral Home website. <http://evansfuneralhomend.com/JamesM.Bekken.htm>



Coralyn Dahl - 1939-2010

Funeral Services were held for Coralyn Dahl on Friday, April 30, 2010 at Atonement Lutheran Church in St. Cloud. Coralyn died in her home on April 23, with her husband, Orin and son, Lee by her side, after a courageous battle with cancer. Coralyn was born in Arnegard, North Dakota and married Orin in 1959.

Coralyn was very involved in her community and held several positions within Kiwanis including Lt. Governor (2003-04) and Governor (2006-07) of the Minnesota –Dakotas District. She was an original member on the Board of Directors for Kids Against Hunger of Central Minnesota, and was passionately involved in numerous activities at her church, Atonement Lutheran including serving as a mission interpreter.

While raising their 4 children, Coralyn attended Drake University (Des Moines, IA) and received her BA and Masters in Education. She began her teaching career at Phoenix Elementary as a Reading Specialist, continued her career as a Reading Program Clinician at Drake University on campus in the early 1980's. As an instructor at Indiana State University she started the Writing Center and was the first person to incorporate the use of computers with writing. For her efforts, she was named the Director of the Writing Center. At South Dakota State University she started and administered the Writing Center for the University. She retired from St. Cloud State University, where she taught Composition.

She is survived by her husband, Orin Dahl; children, Deborah, Lee, Jeannette (Robert), Rolf (Susan); grandchildren, Erika, Matthew, Alexander, Rachel, Alyssa, Casey, Noah, Luke and Lorin; brothers, Rev. Steven (Norma), Rev. Richard (Gail) and Rev. Lowell (Linda). She was preceded in death by her parents, Rev. Rolf and Cora Brandt; and brothers, Rolf and James.



The funeral home obituary and guest book can be found online at: www.williamsdingmann.com

Goodbye Coralyn....We Will Miss You Greatly

4/25/2010 Submitted by: Stewart Ross, Kiwanis International Trustee

Coralyn Dahl passed away on Friday, April 23, 2010. A simple sentence that means little to those who did not know her. However, to those who were friends with, worked with, and knew her, it is a fact that needs to be read over and over to sink into our minds.

I first met Coralyn at a Kiwanis function, what else? I was struck by her passion, her caring, and humanity. In time my life became meshed with her life through the magic of Kiwanis. The more we talked the more we realized how much we cared about the same things. As the Minnesota-Dakotas governor-elect she worked with me as governor. We traded hundreds of emails, many calls and often met for lunch in Hutchinson, MN for face-to-face meetings (about halfway between Mankato and St. Cloud).

Over time, Orin (Coralyn's faithful husband) became a good friend to both Liz and I and soon the four of us could be found going to restaurants together when we were in the same town. We spent much time together at Kiwanis International Conventions and our own district conventions.

Coralyn loved to talk about Kiwanis and try to find ways to improve our district. There was nothing she would not do if asked when it came to helping others, especially through Kiwanis. That being said, she was NOT a timid woman. There were a few times she let me have it when my thinking was not correct. I appreciated that about her. You always knew where you stood. She was not the type to say what you wanted to hear and then talk behind your back which can happen all too often in volunteer organizations. Coralyn was a straight shooter which was both refreshing and helpful for our relationship.

It is hard to believe Coralyn is gone...well not really gone. She will live on in my heart and mind as long as I live and for many others too. Coralyn was a great Kiwanian. She understood the responsibility and rewards of being a Kiwanian and she tried to spread that excitement to others.

I am going to miss her physical presence, that I know. But I also know that I am blessed to have known Coralyn and to have been a close friend for many years. Coralyn was a special person and those of us who found this out are the lucky ones. Thank you Coralyn for all you have done for your Kiwanis club, your MN-DAK district and all of Kiwanis. You will not be forgotten. You left us way too early but even so were able to share so much with us.

Coralyn Dahl passed away on Friday, April 23, 2010. This is a fact that will take time to get our heads around. It is a sad time yet we need to celebrate a great life. Coralyn, I will never forget you and the amazing person you were and always will be. Thanks for being my friend.

With Love,

Stewart

Kiwanis International Trustee 2010-2013

Ortonville Kiwanis Golf Outing

Submitted by: Richard Ash, Past President, Ortonville Kiwanis Club

The Ortonville Kiwanis Club invites you to join us for another Annual "Golf Outing" on Tuesday, June 15, 2010 to be held at the Ortonville Golf Club. We are blessed to have a beautiful 18-hole golf course which provides challenging experience at any handicap.

As always, the Tournament is a 9 hole competition that will be played on the front nine and will **start by 1:00 P.M.**

However, most of us usually like to play a full 18 so come early and "warm up" on the back nine first.

If you choose to play 18 you will want to start before 11 am to take advantage of the free cart rental.

The rates and other important information are on the registration form

<https://www.kiwanisone.org/Files/Districts/79/Documents/Ortonville%20Kiwanis%20Golf%20registration.pdf>

So, if you pay green fees for a full 18 before 11:00 am (remember the tourney is only 9 holes) your cart rental is free.

Coffee and rolls will be provided for morning golfers starting at 9:30 am. Tournament registration will be between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. We have booked the Club House to serve us a Buffet dinner beginning at 5 p.m.

As always we will have some fun prizes and of course the person-mile trophy is up for grabs again.

So treat yourself to some Kiwanian fun and pick up an Inter-Club Credit as well!

To make sure we have enough for food, set up the team lists, and other planning preparations, if you would please email your registration back to me no later than June 1st, 2010. If you have any questions, please call me at 320-305-1569!

May 2010 Update

Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas

Following are some important reminders and updates:

Call to Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Convention, August 13, 14, 15, 2010 in Fargo, ND. The Official Call to Convention letter will be sent by U.S. Mail to all Kiwanis Club secretaries the first week in May. The mailing contains registration forms and also your club's delegate certification form. Early bird convention registrations are due before July 1st. Register early! Also, remember that your Club Delegate Certification form needs to be returned by July 15. You can also access and print the District Convention Registration form and information on our district website home page at: http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/public_district/pub_Content.aspx?Page=70



2010-2011 Club Election Report Online: Club secretaries should submit the results of club elections through the online reporting system as soon as elections are completed. Due date for the club election report is June 1st.

The Standard Club Bylaws state that clubs should hold their election of officers for the upcoming year between the first meeting in April and the second meeting in May. The club election report must be filed by June 1st. It is very important that this information is received in a timely manner so that directories and mailing lists can be compiled by Kiwanis International and the District Office.

Distinguished Kiwanis Club Status: Just a reminder that your club secretaries can now access an online summary from their "Monthly Report Launch Page" that will show you the points your club has currently accumulated towards the Distinguished Club Award. How is your club doing? You need 80 points to qualify. You have until September 30 to add to your points.

District Kiwanis Foundation and Past Governors Meeting: The District Kiwanis Foundation Board and Past Governors Meeting will be held on May 14-15 in Fergus Falls.

International Convention in Las Vegas, 2010: As of the end of April we have 80 Kiwanians and 27 guests from the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District registered for the Kiwanis International Convention. The total registration count is at 5575. That is up from the previous five years attendance. There is still time to register for the International Convention. You can also get all of the necessary forms and information on the Kiwanis International website <http://www.kiwanis.org/convention/> Register online before May 25, and save US\$50 off the registration fee.

Magazines

Check out the new digital magazine editions

There's a new way to check out the latest editions of Kiwanis-family magazines. Take a look at [Kiwanis magazine](#), [CKI magazine](#) and [Key Club magazine](#), which just launched.

Contest

Kiwanis hosts commercial contest

Turn your next club meeting into a commercial! Enter the Kiwanis International convention commercial contest. Create a 60-second spot about your club, post it on You Tube and send the link, your name and phone number to www.kiwanisone.org/videocontest. It may end up on the big screen at the [Kiwanis International Convention in Las Vegas!](#) Find tips, ideas and official rules at videocontest@kiwanis.org. Deadline for entries is May 14.

Education

Webinar Schedule

<http://www.kiwanisone.org/Pages/Resources/default.aspx?PageID=380>

Worldwide Service Project

A cause to care about

Which will Kiwanis choose as its next Worldwide Service Project? We'll all find out this June at the [Kiwanis International convention](#). In the meantime, read all about these important causes at www.kiwanis.org/wsp.

To view more news and current and past MINNEKOTAN newsletters go to www.mndak-kiwanis.org and click on "News".

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE MINNEKOTAN NEWSLETTER

If you do not receive the MINNEKOTAN Newsletter directly to your email address each month you can find a subscription link on our district webpage. (highlighted in red lettering on our home page)
Be sure to select "MnDak Kiwanis Newsletter" from the list.

Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office Contact Information:

Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office
P.O. Box 735
Dalton, MN 56324-0735
Email: secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org

Phone: 218-589-7581