Welcome to the latest news from around our Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District. In addition to articles by some of district leaders you will also find many interesting articles and photos from Kiwanis Clubs in our district.

As always we encourage clubs to submit news articles about their activities, service projects or fundraisers. To submit an article go the District News on our website and find “News-News Story Submission” page  http://mndak.portalbuzz.com/Page/1013

This document is a PDF summary of the latest news that can also be found on the district website. If you prefer you can also view all of our news articles directly on the district website. You can search by District, Division or Club and view or print each article individually or as a group. In addition the photos appear in a larger format on the website. Here is a link to the website  http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/Page/1012

An archive of current and past MINNEKOTANS can be found on our district website http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/Page/1014

Steve Handegaard
District Secretary/Treasurer
Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis International
Dear Fellow Kiwanians,

It is with gratitude that I join you on this Kiwanis journey as your governor from October 1, 2019 through September 30th, 2020. What we are becoming tomorrow, we are beginning today. We must translate our ideas into action. Our theme will be "Minnesota Dakotas Called to Action".

We are grateful for those who have served in Kiwanis through the years. They have encouraged and guided us. We learn from their experience. Now we welcome new club presidents, officers, new members, the MNDAK board and leadership team and all members who have given of their time and talents and have worked to improve communities and the lives of children.

Thank you to 2018-2019 Governor Dave Harms who will continue to serve on the Executive Team. We welcome our new Governor Elect, David Odette; new Interclub Chair, Jane Amble; Bylaws and Administrative Chair, Paul Redlinger; Aktion Club Chair, Amanda Thrift; Public Relations Chair, Bruce Klair; and our New Club Builder, Dan Leikvold. Our new Lt Governor Teams are committed to serving our 7 Divisions and Clubs. Thank you to all others who are continuing in their positions. We encourage Kiwanians and Clubs to be in contact with persons in leadership so clubs and members are given service in a way that is helpful and meaningful.

Our hopes and goals for this year will be:
1. To increase communication among clubs so areas of service are enhanced and shared.
2. Strengthen Lt Governor relationships with clubs and provide resources and relationships among members and leaders.
3. To understand the meaning of diversity and adaptation to the changes in our world so we can be available to others including young people who have served and learned about leadership through Key Clubs and Circle K.

We need to encourage our young people's desire to continue in service through strong relationships with their Kiwanis family. To do this, we may need to look at how and when we meet and how we adapt to inviting others to join in serving with us. We know the joys that come from seeing a child's life improved and how our communities benefit from our existence. How are we sharing our story? How are we bringing others to service? We need to include community members in our activities to 'catch' the enthusiasm of our Kiwanis mission. Be proud of who you are.

We in Kiwanis are the only organization in the USA and 50 countries whose primary Goal is to serve and develop the lives of children. Our International President Daniel Vigneron's theme is: 'Action, Not Only Words'. Our Minnesota Dakota's Theme for 2019-2020 will be 'Minnesota Dakotas Kiwanians: Called To Action'. Let us call each other to action and assist one another as we carry out our mission of 'Serving the Children of the World' which includes our own communities! Thank you for being on our team.

Rachael Disrud
District Kiwanis Governor 2019-2020
October Update - 9/29/2019
Submitted by: Steve Handegaard

October is the start of another Kiwanis year. Welcome to our new Governor, Rachael Disrud and the great team of Lt. Governors and other district leaders. They will be working hard to promote and support Kiwanis in your area. They are there to help local clubs at any time. Just give them a call or send them an email.

2019-2020 Directory of District Kiwanis Officers: A directory of all of the new District Officers and Lt. Governors can be found on our district website.


Important information for processing your club’s membership for the 2019-2020 billing period: Club Secretaries received this message earlier from Kiwanis International, but just a reminder!

You have until October 10 to delete non-returning members. These updates will be reflected in your 2018/2019 certified membership count. Kiwanis will use this updated information to invoice clubs in October 2019.

We appreciate your assistance in maintaining accurate membership records and reporting your membership changes on time!

DISTRICT WEBSITE and MINNEKOTAN !!! Thanks to all the clubs that have submitted articles! If you have club “news” that would be of interest to other clubs around the district, please submit them to our website….things like new service projects or fundraising ideas that your club has tried. You can also share a photo. Your story will also appear in the monthly MINNEKOTAN. The news submission form is located on the “News” menu of the district website. http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/public_district/pub_Content.aspx?PageID=109

Club Election Reports: We are still missing some club election reports. If your club has not submitted your 2019-2020 club election report, please do so right away. The easiest and preferred way to submit the election report is for the club secretary to do it online. Even if you have the same officers as last year we need to know or we will not have the necessary information to communicate with your club. Also a reminder that if any of your reported officers change during the year, the club secretary can edit the club election report online at any time.

Monthly Club Reporting: Just a reminder to club secretaries and presidents that if you have submitted all of your 2018-2019 monthly club reports online, you will not need to do a separate Annual Report. All of the necessary information will already have been submitted via your monthly reports. Complete your September report by no later than October 10th. If your club has a new secretary, be sure that they get registered for the online reporting program. If you have questions about that, let me know.

Club Incorporation Reminder: All Kiwanis Clubs are or should be incorporated with their respective Secretary of State. Non-Pro corporations such as Kiwanis Clubs are also required to file an annual renewal each year. The renewals are quite easy to do, but sometimes they slip through the cracks when officers change. Each state has a slightly different procedure so see the website for your respective Secretary of State for details. You can also check the status of you club renewals online. Here are links:

- Minnesota- http://mblsportal.sos.state.mn.us/

Club meeting times and locations: Just a reminder to keep your club meeting time and location up to date on the Kiwanis International website. Anyone visiting the Kiwanis International website can now search for clubs anywhere in the world. The
“Find a Club” is found on the Kiwanis International website http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanis/clubs-for-every-age/find-a-kiwanis-club#.Ukm7CZMo7IU Give it a try. See if your club information is current. Your club secretary can update your club meeting location online at any time through the same portal that is used for monthly club reporting. Many prospective members use this online search method to find a club.

If I can be of any assistance, please give me a call.

Have a great Kiwanis year!

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

2018-19 Distinguished Club and Member online submission forms - 9/29/2019
Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas

As this administrative year comes to a close, it’s time for those Kiwanis clubs who have fulfilled the necessary criteria to submit their information for consideration of distinguished status for the 2018-19 year. To facilitate this, an online form can now be completed at Kiwanis International website https://www.kiwanis.org/clubs/member-resources/awards-and-recognition/distinguished-recognition This form should be submitted only once by either the outgoing club president or secretary, and will be available through November 30, 2019. Once the entry period ends, review of all submissions will be undertaken so that we may communicate each district’s list of recognized clubs by December 31, 2019.

Along with this, club presidents and secretaries are encouraged to submit nominations for 2018-19 distinguished members from their Kiwanis clubs. An online form for this award can also be found at the above website.

Links to both forms are also located under the LINKS section of each club’s secretary dashboard found on the Kiwanis Connect reporting site http://www.kiwanis.org/login

Thank you for the leadership that each of you has provided this past year.

Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas

Have you heard? Some improvements are coming to the monthly club report in the new year! Beginning with the October 2019 submission, your club will see several enhancements to the activity report that each club submits through their online secretary dashboard on Kiwanis Connect. Using feedback from diverse club and district leaders and Kiwanis staff, Kiwanis International is excited to share this opportunity to simplify and increase the value of the monthly club report to the Kiwanis members who
Some of the enhancements include:

- Annual questions that need to be answered only once a year, rather than monthly
- Removal of redundant or duplicate questions
- Information “pop-ups” to provide clarity on certain questions
- An area to provide a text description of club monthly activities
- Coming soon: A monthly club summary report that provides a snapshot of club activity and trends within your district and North America

To assist with any questions on the report changes, they have created a user manual that club secretaries can follow step-by-step. Club secretaries should have received a previous email about this.

Thank you for all you do to serve children and improve communities — and for sharing that information with us through your monthly reports!

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**A New Kiwanis Year is Upon Us - 9/28/2019**  
*Submitted by: Sherry Scudder*

We have another year to share Kiwanis with our community and giving others an opportunity to belong to a wonderful service organization that helps children and communities all over the world. For ever member, we can touch the lives of 206 children. If you take your MEMBERSHIP and multiply that by 206, you do the math. We hope you will participate in inviting a person to share Kiwanis.

I would like to brag a little on Division 6. They shared Kiwanis with 6 new members in September so kudos to your DIVISION and pats on the backs to those sponsors who did the deed of ASKING. CONGRATULATIONS and keep up the good work.

Division 5 is on fire as well. We visited the Chamberlain club. Lt. Governor Jeff Anderson installed the new officers and a special thank you to LUCAS from the AKTION club who greeted me with such great charm. Keep up the good work, Chamberlain, you are a club full of respect and provide great service to your community.

I also want to reach out to clubs who are struggling with MEMBERSHIP. Call me so we can talk and share ideas. I am willing to help and work with your clubs and Lt. Governor in any way possible. My phone number is 1-605-347-7718. I sincerely wish you the best of luck this year in sharing the joy of Kiwanis.

We would like to welcome the following new members and their sponsors:

**DIVISION 1.**
MANDAN. **TRAVIS DENGEL. WILFRED VOLESKY**  
ROUGH RIDERS COUNTRY DICKINSON. **FERN POKORNY, NINETTA WANDLER**  
ROUGH RIDERS COUNTRY DICKINSON. **SCOTT SKONES, MARLYS STEVENSON**

**DIVISION 2.**
DETROIT LAKES. **MONTE MCDOUGHALL, BETH PRIDDAY**
Minnesota Dakotas Education Foundation - 9/28/2019
Submitted by: Rachael Disrud

As a new Governor, I am a district representative appointed to serve on the MNDAK Education Foundation Board. Our District Foundation supports youth through scholarships given to graduating Seniors who will be attending college in one of our three states of Minnesota, North or South Dakota. If you have put this foundation into your annual budget, thank you. If not, please prioritize it. Each Club is suggested to contribute $100.00 which qualifies the club to be a 'Century Club'. Another opportunity is to honor your outgoing President or any person by giving the Vantine Life Fellowship which is $100.00 and a lifetime honor for the person.

To learn more or to send your contribution, please contact Jack Zierdt, Secretary Treasurer, 914 Southern Pine Lane SW, Rochester, MN 55902, jackz39@icloud.com

What Will Your Impact Be? - 9/28/2019
Submitted by: Nancy Cornell Builders Club Administrator

Congratulations to the Fridley Middle School Builders Club and the Lead-Deadwood Middle School Builders Club for being Distinguished Clubs for the 2018-19 year. Fun service, camaraderie, leadership and submitting the Annual Achievement Report are rewarded.
Kiwanis advisors encourage your Builders Club to use the Annual Achievement Report as a guide. See how many items you can get points for now and then submit it online at the end of the school year.

I am looking for more Kiwanis Clubs to sponsor a Builders Club. Once you make the commitment, there is no minimum number of students to start a club. Yes, it does cost something to sponsor and the renewal each year is $180.00, which pays for the membership kit, including member handbooks, advisor guide, pins, poster, flyers, monthly e-newsletter and support form KI.

And the impact? You may never know what the impact of Builders Club has meant to a student. But sometimes you do. The following happened in our district. A mom of a Builders Club student hugged and thanked the advisor for offering Builders Club to her daughter, an Hispanic girl who was being bullied at school and did not want to go to school anymore, until she joined Builders Club. Her world was turned around and now she saw hope, had new friends and had a purpose— to serve with others for others. Wow!

Now it is your turn to offer the same hope and purpose to other middle and junior high students. Add sponsoring a Builders Club to the agenda of your next board meeting. You can do it. I can help you get started. Go to www.buildersclub.org and click on “start a new club”. Scroll through what is necessary. And please contact me with any questions or concerns.

It’s a new Kiwanis year full of potential and action. Let this be the year that you reach out to the youth in your community and lift them up to hope and service. Be the wind beneath their wings. Contact me at nancyc2@centurytel.net or 507-346-2044

October Partnership Highlights - 9/28/2019
Submitted by: Denis Cornell

LANDSCAPE STRUCTURES
Landscape Structures (LSI) has joined Kiwanis International as a vision partner to bring play to communities across the globe. LSI is proud to provide high-quality commercial playground equipment and planning consultation services that reflect the high degree of integrity that Kiwanis clubs expect. To learn more about Landscape Structures go to www.playlsi.com

SCHOLASTIC
Kiwanis is proud to partner with Scholastic, an organization that provides children access to books and promotes a lifelong love of reading. Thanks to our partnership, Kiwanis clubs receive crucial resources for helping children in their communities get access to books and reading opportunities—regardless of socioeconomic status.

Scholastic offers the Kiwanis family of clubs a wide range of programs and packages that will promote and support literacy projects in communities all around the United States. Whether you are ordering books for a literacy project, opening a Reading Oasis, or helping with a local Book Fair, Scholastic is there to support your club's efforts to “Open a World of Possible” to children in local communities through reading.

Reading takes children to new places, opens up their imaginations and presents new ideas to enrich their experiences. Transform how books brighten a child's life by starting a literacy project in a local school.
Why Are You in Kiwanis - 9/28/2019
Submitted by: Dave Harms

Why are you in Kiwanis? Ever asked yourself that question? We join a lot of different things in our lifetimes, some we stick with, some we move on from. Why?

I don’t know the reasons that motivate people. It was never easy for me to step forward and volunteer, but somehow I seemed to always be there when there was an event or a fundraiser, probably because I couldn’t say no. What I can say positively is that I did say yes to joining Kiwanis when I was asked. I had been a member for a couple years, and I missed a meeting for some reason, and when I came the following week, a couple people congratulated me for being nominated and elected president elect. I thought they were fooling me. About 7 months later I found that it was not a joke. From that point on, it was a learning experience, and I found out that Kiwanis does real things for real people. My reason is that I see the needs that Kiwanis supports in my own community, I know that my participation and contribution no matter how big or how small I know that it does some good in my community.

What I can do individually would be insignificant, but what we (KIWANIS) can do collectively has an impact that makes a difference. What is your WHY?

Eliminate Project Silent Auction - 9/28/2019
Submitted by: Arlyce Daugherty

Thanks to all the clubs that participated in this year’s the Eliminate Project Silent Auction at our District Convention. The total bids came to $2112.00 which was sent to Kiwanis International, the Eliminate Project. Each club should be given credit toward their club’s pledge. Your dollars saved the lives of 1173 women and their unborn babies. You can email arlyce.daugherty@yahoo.com to receive the results for each club. Thank you Dixie Lardy and Rande Knutson for you invaluable help.

Children’s Fund Update - 9/28/2019
Submitted by: Kathy Welle

Are we ready for a beautiful Fall Season? Colorful leaves are beginning to blow around.

As we close our 2018-2019 Kiwanis fiscal year and prepare for another fun and busy new year, I would like to Thank all of the MN-Dak District Kiwanis Clubs who took action in August and September to achieve the District President’s Challenge by having more than 50% club participation to the Children’s Fund. This is exciting news to share with you. I am proud to hold the District Chair position for Kiwanis Children’s Fund.

As of 9/23/19, the total amount contributed, $23,025, is slightly less than the President’s Challenge, of $24,408 however Mn-Dakotas District qualifies for the 15% rebate by having 57% club participation. If any Clubs sent a payment to Kiwanis Children’s Fund late in September, that may not be included in the most recent report at this time. The total rebate will be 15% of the total
$$ contributions during the fiscal year by the clubs. The total $$ amount will be reported as of 9/30/19. As of 9/23/19 the grant may be $4903.00

Again, thank you Kiwanis members, family and friends for participating in the K Dollar Challenge at the District Convention in August. Adding those dollars brought the contribution amount closer to the President’s Challenge and increased the 15% rebate amount.

Hope you all have fun with the ongoing K Dollar Challenge for 2019-2020. As stated above, I am proud to be the District Chair for the Kiwanis Children's Fund.

Club Leadership Education "Thank You" - 9/28/2019
Submitted by: Loreena Luetgers

A new year is beginning and officers are completing the required education needed for their positions. Some of you had contacted me with questions and problems with the online session. Kiwanis International education staff has been very helpful, so if you need help, please let me know. I believe they have them worked out.

This year is encouraging to see that there were 55 Kiwanis members that attended a classroom session in five different locations throughout the District. These sessions have great discussions sharing about our clubs and learning a lot about Kiwanis. Online modules were completed by at least 8 presidents, 22 secretaries and 19 others for board member, committee member, youth protection and membership committee. There is so much information to learn from the online sessions and they are beneficial to all members and everyone in a club leadership role. There is so much to learn about Kiwanis. The more you learn, the better member and leader you will be.

"Thank You" to all of you who completed an education class which in turn helps your club. However, if you haven’t taken an online program, it is never too late. Do it today! Your club will thank you.

Youth Protection - Background Checks - 9/27/2019
Submitted by: Peter Larson

There is a new pamphlet available that takes you thru the six step process to get your background check completed. I can mail or email you a copy if you want a copy. It advises you on what items are needed when you make the application, what items are checked and how the data is secured.

Who needs a background check:
1. Any SLP Advisor is required to have a clear background check.
2. It is encouraged for all Kiwanians that are working or serving Kiwanis youth.

With the start of a new Kiwanis year, please have your club complete the required review of the Kiwanis Youth Protection
Guidelines (including providing a copy of the guidelines to each member) and have your club secretary include that information in the monthly report.

If you have any questions or would like a copy of the Background Check pamphlet, please contact me at 701-261-7012 or at phlarson@midco.net

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**Lake Agassiz Kiwanis Featured in International Magazine - 9/27/2019**

*Club: Lake Agassiz, Fargo - Submitted by: Kristi Engelstad*

The Lake Agassiz Kiwanis were recently featured in the INTERNATIONAL Kiwanis Magazine!

Past LAK member Riley Rude learned CPR from member Kristi Engelstad - he then used those skills to save a life!

If your club or group doesn't know CPR, it would be a great idea to learn - you never know when you might save a life (or end up as a featured story in an INTERNATIONAL magazine)! Please check with your local ambulance services to see if they will come out to teach hands-only CPR at one of your meetings!

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**Kiwanis helps distribute backpacks with Police - 9/27/2019**

*Submitted by: Cassandra*

Kiwanis Club of West St. Paul helped the local Police Department hand out pre-stuffed backpacks filled with school supplies to local kids. The event gave away all 500+ backpacks within the first 45 minutes of the event.

Along with backpacks the Police were grilling up hot dogs and had chips, bottled water, and some donated bakery items and produce for families to take. This was a "green" event with composting: the hotdog boats, food waste and any napkins were diverted away from the landfill for composting.

What a fun community event that Kiwanis was proud to partner on!

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**Kiwanis Club Diner & Malt Shoppee - 9/11/2019**

*Club: Crookston Pioneer 100 - Submitted by: Susan Sylvester*

Kudo's "Kiwanis Club Diner"

While attending the MN State Fair, my granddaughters saw a Kiwanis Club Diner, and knew I would want to take it in.
What a special treat it was to see the Kiwanis Club Diner in Falcon Heights - 50 year of success, donating 100% of the proceeds to MN service projects for Kids. They have raised millions of dollars for communities. Nothing but Incredible!! AND the malts were absolutely delicious.

PHOTO...Susan’s twin granddaughter’s, Courtney & Savannah Oaks from Superior Wi. Both are registered nurses at Essentia Hospital in Duluth.