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
Thank you for a great year! - 8/31/2018  
Submitted by: Dan Leikvold

Having spent the better part of the last two years as Governor-Elect and Governor of the Minnesota Dakotas District, I believe more than ever, that Kiwanis is a great organization with a tremendously important mission and I am proud to have had the opportunity to be a part of it.

Thanks so much to all of the members and clubs for all of the great work you have done, are doing, and will do, to help make the lives and the futures of the children and the families in our communities so much better.

Our goal for 2017-2018 has been simply to do what we can to make Kiwanis even better throughout the District. To do this, we have focused on membership, service, Service Leadership Programs, and financial giving. Through collaboration, the power of positive relationships, hard work, and enhanced communication, I believe we have improved and have moved closer to where we want to be. Although it has sometimes been hard, it certainly has been well worth it. We know that generally speaking, most things worth doing are not easy, and cannot be accomplished alone, and this is certainly true in Kiwanis.

Thankfully, we have so many great leaders throughout the Minnesota Dakotas District, who do so much to help us all be successful. I would especially like to thank our Division LT. Governors who have provided leadership during this time. They are Carol Nitschke, Rachael Disrud, Manual Madrid, John Hauge, Lola Pollard, Dee Emmerich, and Randy Schmidt.

In addition to being difficult, we also know that things worth doing are often not popular. As Lewis Carroll stated, “If you limit your actions in life to things that nobody can possibly find fault with, you will not do much” and success will be elusive. My hope is that when things get tough, members of our organization will choose to focus on strengths and all the good that Kiwanis does, rather than continually pointing out why this and that is a bad idea and relegating new ideas and plans to the scrap heap before they even get a chance to get started. No one wants to envision his or her community without Kiwanis in it, so success is the only option.

Pointing out outdated practices and making suggestions on how to improve Kiwanis is great for our members and clubs. Quickly dismissing ideas out of hand without reflection and conversation does not promote growth and vitality in Kiwanis.
It is no secret, that we have needed to strengthen our membership for some time and we have worked hard to do so. It has not been easy, but when we have worked together, we have strengthened our existing clubs and have been able to start new clubs. Thanks to our growth team, led by Bruce Klair, Sherry Scudder, Dave Odette, and Loreena Luetgers, we have made member recruitment and retention a high priority and have found much success in doing so.

During this time, I have repeatedly seen the generosity of our members and how focused they are to serve children. It is amazing to see so many give so much to so many they do not know and with whom they may have little or nothing in common. Like all of you, I believe strongly in the value of putting public service over personal ambition and the need to place a large emphasis on helping our children and families. Like all of you, I believe Kiwanis is a great vehicle for addressing many of the challenges in our communities and for serving the children of the world. You truly are the spirit of Kiwanis and what makes it great! Thank you all for your service.

With all of the greatness of our organization, we do know we still have work to do to provide even more service to our kids and families. We need to look for new and relevant opportunities for service and can never lose sight of the fact that Kids need Kiwanis. Our service is the vehicle for helping them meet their needs and we must always keep in mind that service is and must be our number one priority.

We have supported and collaborated with our young people in the Kiwanis sponsored Service Leadership Programs such as Key Club, Circle K, Builders Club, K-Kids, and Aktion Club. Continuing to focus on assisting SLPs is so very important to our mission. We know that not everyone can participate actively in all of our service projects, but we do know there are other ways to help. By giving to the Minnesota Dakotas Education Foundation, the Kiwanis Children’s Fund and to the Minn-Dak Outreach Fund, we can serve without doing actual hands on service.

I have enjoyed working with you as we sought to extend the great legacy and tradition of Kiwanis in the Minnesota Dakotas District. Thank you for allowing me to serve in this capacity.

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2018 District Convention Photo Album - 8/31/2018
Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas

To view many photos of the 2018 District Convention click on the following link:
**September Update - 8/30/2018**  
*Submitted by: Steve Handegaard*

**Kiwanis International and District Dues for the 2018-2019 Kiwanis year are as follows:** (same as 2017-2018)

- Kiwanis International Dues - $52
- Member liability insurance - $13
- Directors and Officers Liability - $4
- Magazine - $8
- MNDAK District dues - $30

The **2018 District Kiwanis Convention** held in Willmar, MN. was a great success. We hope to see all of you at the 2019 District Convention in Fargo, ND, August 9-11. In addition to the educational portions of the convention we also had two district board meetings and of course the District House of Delegates business session. The minutes of those meetings will be posted to our district website within the next few weeks. You can view many photos taken during the convention at the following link [https://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/Page/24941](https://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/Page/24941)

Thanks again to Club Secretaries for submitting the **Annual Club Election Reports for 2018-2019**. The reports were due June 1, so if you have not submitted your information online, please do so ASAP! We are still waiting for some club election reports! Please include email addresses whenever possible. It is very important that Kiwanis International and the District Office both receive this information in a timely manner so that directories and mailing lists can be compiled. When filed online the report automatically goes to both Kiwanis International and the District Office.

**Club Secretaries: Be sure that you have submitted all of your monthly online club reports for the 17-18 year.** Remember that the September report (last report of the year) is due by October 10th, 2018. With the monthly online reporting system you will not be asked to submit a separate annual
Club Secretaries be sure to update your online membership roster before October 10th:

Club Secretaries should go to their “Club Secretary Dashboard” at KiwanisOne.org/login and check to be sure all non-returning members are deleted by October 10. If you have members on your roster that you know will not be returning… you don’t need to wait… do it now. After October 10 Kiwanis International will bill you according to whoever is still on your roster after October 10th.

We appreciate your assistance maintaining accurate membership records and reporting your membership changes on time. If you need assistance with your membership records, contact the Kiwanis helpline at 1-800-KIWANIS or 1-317-875-8755 extension 411 or email memberservices@kiwanis.org.

Special Thanks and Congratulations: The 2017-2018 Kiwanis year is not over until the end of September, but I would like to take this opportunity to give special thanks to Governor Dan Leikvold for his hard work and dedication to Kiwanis this past year. Also, special thanks to all who served in a Lt. Governor, District Director or District Committee position. They all worked very hard to support Kiwanis on the Club and District level. Congratulations to Governor Designate Dave Harms who will lead our district beginning October 1. And last, but not least congratulations to Rachael Disrud who will serve as Governor Elect during 2018-2019.

Annual IRS Tax Reporting: Remember that all clubs must file the appropriate IRS 990 Tax form each year. Nearly all Kiwanis Clubs are on an Oct 1 to Sept 30 fiscal year, so that means your next tax return is due no later than February 15, 2019. Failure to do so will result in fines and loss of nonprofit status. Further information can be found on the Kiwanis International website http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanisone/lead/club-leaders/treasurer/irs-forms#.VeUDYpdRTRE

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Convention Corner - 8/29/2018
Submitted by: Judie Rosendahl

Dear Kiwanis friends, I want to express a very heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated their time to be at the 2018 Minnesota Dakotas District Convention in Willmar. Because of all of you, it was a very good convention, in my opinion. I send a special thank you to anyone who was a presenter for a forum or who did anything to make the convention a success.

The Silent Auction for Eliminate raised nearly $2400 to be used to save babies' lives around the world. With involvement like that we will get the job done to raise the $110,000.000 needed for our commitment. Remember we are not done raising money for the Eliminate project. Any donations you can make will be greatly appreciated by Kiwanis International. Your used books raised another $388 for Eliminate. I always seem to buy more than I bring so I am well supplied for the coming year! The donation of diapers again was a huge success and the Salvation Army and Safe Avenues are thrilled with our gift to their organizations making it possible to help the children of the Willmar area. It takes all of us doing our small part to make our convention worthwhile for our members.

I want to thank everyone for the great three years I had as your Convention Director. I really enjoyed the time spent working to make our convention a great time for our members. I want to wish Shara Fischer a successful time as your new Convention Director. I know she will do a great job as she has lots of energy and enthusiasm and fresh ideas. I trust you will give her the same wonderful support that you gave me!

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the 2019 Convention! Thanks again for all your help and cooperation!

In Kiwanis caring, Judie Rosendahl

Service - 8/29/2018
Submitted by: Al Vanderlaan

We are blessed to have outstanding people to work with and through Kiwanis.

Books 4 Kids and Scholastic Book programs complement each other. Here are the people and telephone numbers to call for help:
2] Scholastic Books, North and South Dakota, Angie Oshia, 314-502-6505
3] Scholastic Books, Minnesota, Lynne Lavota, 262-527-4768
Contact any of these people anytime if your club is considering working on Books in your area school systems. They can give you all the advice needed.

TRAFFICKING
Kiwanis in the MnDak District is going to explore more deeply the problem of Human TRAFFICKING including SEX TRAFFICKING. A task force is being implemented to work on this crime. We need to train our children what to look for in their surroundings. We also need to EDUCATE them how to protect themselves if they were confronted. If you wish to be part of this task force or know of someone who should be included in our Tri-state area let me know their contact information.

Keep service at the forefront of your efforts. It is what we are all about.

Youth Protection Guidelines Education - 8/29/2018
Submitted by: Peter Larson

There are 12 parts to the Youth Protection Guidelines. I will be writing articles on each of those guidelines. The first guideline is about education. There are 3 parts to the education guideline.

1. Every Kiwanis club is expected to educate its members on the Kiwanis Youth Protection Guidelines. Each year, a club should provide members with a copy of the Guidelines with educational training -- informing them of the highest standards of conduct and awareness. The guidelines and a PowerPoint course are available at: https://www.kiwanis.org/clubs/member-resources/training/risk-management/youth-protection
2. Every Kiwanis district is expected to help inform and educate. During every district-produced convention and conference, the district is expected to provide an educational forum or workshop regarding the Guidelines and best practices for adults who work with youth. Districts should use materials provided by Kiwanis International.

3. Every member should attend training annually -- whether offered by the club or district, or via the online tool.

Each member can access online training by clicking onto this option at the above web site: Kiwanis Youth Protection Guidelines online training (for Kiwanis members) If you have any problems accessing this training or questions please contact me at phlarson@midco.net or at my cell: 701-261-7012.

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**Kiwanis Children’s Fund - 8/29/2018**  
*Submitted by: Kathy Welle*

Our District Convention celebration in August was another great event! Thank you Judie Rosendahl and committee for all your efforts in planning a great get-together in Willmar, MN.

My first experience as District Chair for Children’s Fund and raising funds for the Kiwanis Children’s Fund was very exciting and enjoyable. The raffle table, plus Kiwanis caps and shirts, and room snacks and beverage added to the success in fund raising. (Thank you Todd Levig for your idea to add the caps, shirts and room snacks)

Also added to the fund raising was the “K” dollars challenge. 8 Clubs participated in the challenge and a total of $844.00 was collected. Stillwater’s Tim Taylor took the challenge to a new level. Tim made an 81” circumference logo using the K dollars and brought a picture for all to see. The total dollars from The Stillwater Area was **$338.00**. A report listing the Kiwanis Clubs and dollar amounts contributed will be sent to Kiwanis Children’s Fund. Each club should get their club credits.

This fund raising project plus the convention raffle table, caps, shirts and room snacks amounted to $1610.00, plus $355.00 that goes to our District Education Foundation.

**Thank you** everyone who brought raffle table items, and participating in all the activities. Fun, Fun, Fun
The *K Dollar Challenge* to you continues during the next 12 months, until our District Convention in **Fargo in 2019**. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

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**Thank You** - 8/29/2018  
*Submitted by: Rachael Disrud*

It is with warm appreciation and deep gratitude to Minnesota Dakotas 2018 convention attendees and all Kiwanians who have given me encouragement and support for the adventure of serving as your Governor-Elect during the coming year. Together we will realize the potential impact that is ours as we continue to serve the children in our families, our communities, our district, our Division and our world. Kiwanians are Kind, Innovative, Warm, Attentive, Nifty, Interesting and Sensible. **KIWANIS! Thank you!**

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**WRAPPING UP SEPTEMBER WITH MEMBERSHIP** - 8/29/2018  
*Submitted by: Sherry Scudder*

We have 30 days to Open New Clubs and Strengthen them with new members. We need every one to help. Below are some divisions that are stepping up to the plate.

**DIVISION 5:**  
MILBANK - THOMAS JENSON- DARYL HALVERSON

**DIVISION 6:**  
MANKATO - PATRICIA ANDERSON-DWAIN PETERSON  
HENDRICKS - CHRIS SIMMONS- MARK VAN ECK
Based on the membership challenge of new members between the dates of August 10—September 15th will be awarded $20 gift certificates.

Mark Vaneck will be awarded 2×$20=$40.
Linda Joyslin will be awarded $20.

See what each member asking someone to join can bring them. 15 days left in this challenge. Good for first 50 members submitted. Only 47 awards left.

Here is the challenge that was made at the district convention in Willmar: $20 will be awarded to each sponsor who submits a new member application to your club. To qualify they must pay their dues. Application recorded by club secretary and turned in to Kiwanis International between August 10 – September 15. Please help by asking someone to join.

Kiwanis Educational Foundation Scholarships - 8/28/2018
Submitted by: Jack Zierdt

With the hot and humid weather that we are experiencing today, it doesn’t seem possible that we are beginning the last month of another Kiwanis year and also beginning a new school year for 2018 – 2019. This statement brings to mind a number of items regarding activities surrounding your Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis Educational Foundation.

The end of one Kiwanis year brings to light that some of our clubs still haven’t become sustaining members in the Century Club. We ask that each club enroll in the Century Club annually to help support the scholarship fund of your Kiwanis Educational Foundation. Please check with your club officers to make sure that your club has contributed for the 2017 – 2018 Kiwanis Year. September means that there is still one month left to become a sustaining member in the Century Club for this Kiwanis Year.
Scholarships is another area that comes to mind with the month of September upon us. Schools have started or will soon be starting and scholarships from last year’s winners have been paid out and will continue to be paid out over the next couple of months. If you know someone that was a recipient of a scholarship from the graduating high school class of 2018, please remind them to have their college send in the verification of enrollment and attendance, if they haven’t already done so. The verification form is necessary for us to pay out the scholarship award.

Speaking of scholarships, we are starting to gear up for the new round of applications for this coming year’s seniors. The new scholarship information and application materials, for the graduates from the 2018 – 2019 school year, will be sent to the club secretaries the first part of November 2018. Please be on the lookout for these materials to arrive in your US Mail. Once you receive the materials, please deliver the application and instructions to the school for the students to be able to apply in a timely fashion.

The Board of Directors of your Educational Foundation continue to thank you and your club on behalf of the many deserving recipients, for the support of the annual ongoing scholarship program.

Harvey Back to School Welcome - 8/28/2018
Club: Harvey - Submitted by: Sandy Teubner

Harvey Kiwanis greeted elementary students on the first day of school on Aug 22nd. Eddy Kline, 1st grader, received a pencil and a “good morning” from Pam Stewart to start out his first day of the new school year. Always a joy to see the students’ enthusiasm coming back from summer break!

Harvey Kiwanis will be celebrating their 95th Anniversary on Nov. 17th with a dinner and show at the Eagles Club in Harvey. Those Kiwanis clubs interested in attending – watch for more information to come on this event!
Human Trafficking Speaker Presents to Harvey Kiwanis & Community - 8/28/2018
Club: Harvey - Submitted by: Sandy Teubner

Sean Levesque, Love2Hope, presented a great informational session to the Harvey Kiwanis on Aug 7th on Human Trafficking and exploitation of young adults. We had several community members join us from the police force, public health, ministerial, Chamber of Commerce and teachers to name a few. The Harvey Public School also invited Sean back to speak to the students the second week of school and to the community in the evening about this important topic. Great awareness for our children and community!

Welcome and Thank you - 8/28/2018
Division: Division 2 - Submitted by: Rachael Disrud

Division 2 of the Minnesota Dakotas District welcomes Paulette Odette of the Thief River Falls club as the new Lt Governor elect. Mary Sieling of the Fergus Falls Noon club will begin serving as Lt Governor on October 1. We thank George French of the Crookston Club for his service on the Lt Governor team. We enjoyed working with George and will be continuing to enjoy his positive and talented leadership as he directs the Khorale practices and performances at our Minnesota Dakotas Conventions. Thank you, George! Rachael Disrud of the Rough Riders club will serve as Immediate Past Lt Governor. Other clubs in Division 2 include Moorhead, Vikingland, Alexandria Golden K, Alexandria Noon, Wahpeton-Breckenridge, Valley City, Otter Risers, Grand Forks, Grafton, South Point, Fargo Club, Lake Agassiz, Hillsboro, Detroit Lakes and Lisbon. We wish all our past and incoming leaders a great experience as we continue to serve together.

EARLY RISERS KIWANIS CLUB of WORTHINGTON, MINNESOTA - FIFTY YEARS of SERVICE - 8/23/2018
Club: Early Risers, Worthington - Submitted by: Dale Carlson
The Early Risers Kiwanis Club of Worthington, Minnesota was chartered on October 23, 1968 with 35 charter members. The Charter Presentation Night was November 20, 1968 at the Coliseum Ballroom, Worthington, Minnesota. The Worthington Kiwanis Club (noon) was the sponsoring club. The Club is a small but very active club and has fluctuated between 25-35 members over the years. The strength of the Club is based on the membership who are ready to help with fund raisers, projects and our youth programs. Our small club has provided one District Governor, four Lieutenant Governors and one District Director of Education.

The Club has been involved in many service projects around the community over the years. However, we are most proud of the sponsorship and work we have done with sponsored youth programs. The Prairie Elementary School K-Kids Club was chartered in 2001. It has been very active and has had as high as 90 students enrolled. About 10 years ago the VOKK (Volunteer Optimist Kiwanis Kids) Club was formed at the Worthington Middle School. It was chartered as a Builder’s Club by Kiwanis and as an Optimist Youth Club by the local Optimist Club. The two clubs jointly sponsor the VOKK Club which provides service to both the community and the school. We also sponsor QWIK (Quality Work Inspires Kids) Awards at Prairie Elementary School. The elementary school teachers work individually with students to set academic and personal goals. Students who achieve their goals receive a beautiful certificate, signed by the teacher, school principal and the Kiwanis Club President, and they also receive a pencil. These awards are presented about 5 times a school year. Serving the Children of the World is the heart of this Club.

Anyone in the MN-DAK district is invited to our 50th Anniversary Celebration. Specifics are as follows:

**Date:** October 11, 2018  
**Location:** The Hickory Lodge/Norwood Inn  
2015 N. Humiston Ave.  
Worthington, MN  
**Time:** 5:30pm social  
6:00pm meal  
Program: to follow meal  
**Cost:** $20/person  
**RSVP to:** Clair Williams, Treasurer  
224 Clary St. W  
Worthington, MN 56187  
(507) 360-5955  
clairwms37@gmail.com
School supplies - 8/22/2018
Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

School supplies were delivered directly to Madison elementary school for the 11th year. Fargo South Point Kiwanis members recognize that all families cannot get to the location where back packs and school supplies are handed out each year. The club members see to it that the students have what they need right at the school.

Each year a supply of needed items are delivered to the school so students and their parents can pick up what they need free of charge. In addition to school supplies, the club also donates warm clothing, including many pairs of sweat pants, etc.

Another great air show. - 8/22/2018
Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn

A follow up to an earlier story regarding the 2018 air show held in late July in Fargo.

A combined effort with the Fargo Rough Rider club, Fargo South Point Kiwanis club, University of Jamestown/Fargo campus, (who are corporate members of the South Point club) Frat members from NDSU, and members of a local photography club worked as a team to host nearly 2,000 Corporate VIPs each day. It was a great opportunity to meet and work with volunteers from other organizations.

Plenty of sunshine, airplanes and exciting times with the featured event, the Blue Angels.
Convention Diaper Delivery - 8/11/2018  
*Club: Rochester Day Makers - Submitted by: Richard Odell*

Rochester Day Makers deliver their diapers to the MN-DAK Convention in Willmar, MN.

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Slayton Kiwanis Club Recognizes Orville Grieme for Sixty-Six Years of Membership - 8/7/2018  
*Club: Slayton - Submitted by: Robert Koehler*

Slayton Kiwanis Club held a reception Tuesday afternoon, July 31, to honor Orville Grieme for his sixty-six year membership in the club. Orv joined the club on March 5, 1952. Orville is moving from the community. His long term membership included leadership positions including club president. Orville was also very active in the community over the years. His dedication to the Kiwanis Club and community will be missed. Pictured is Past President Cal Wurpts presenting a Legion of Honor Certificate commemorating the sixty-six year membership.