1955

Governor-- Edwin R. Eklund, Pipestone, MN
International President-- Don E. Engdahl, Spokane, WA
District Convention -- Grand Forks, ND
International Convention-- Cleveland, OH
International Theme: Forward In Kiwanis

Clubs started in 1955 that are still in existence today: Grand Rapids, Midway St. Paul and West Rochester, all from Minnesota.

Convention attends camp & sends talent

District Convention delegates attended Camp Sioux, a camp for diabetic children, on the Turtle River ten miles west of Grand Forks. Camp Sioux was the first camp for diabetic children in the USA. It is the only free camp for Diabetic children in the Country. Grand Forks Kiwanis Club sponsors a Sportsman's Show each year to provide funds.

Delegates to the District Convention voted to send "The Warblers," a musical group from the Kiwanis Club of Fargo, to the International Convention in San Francisco.

Jamestown flies to make inter-club visits

Kiwanians of Jamestown ND visited all Kiwanis Clubs in the State. Distant clubs, Crosby, Tioga and Minot were visited by four "flying" men.

Jamestown Kiwanis Club in North Dakota required every member to make at least one Inter-club visit during the year.

Pictured on the right: E. J. Selland, Cal Beninghouse (Inter-Club Chairman), John Ellsworth and Pilot Lewis Niemeyer prepare to take off for an Inter-Club visit. »»»

Kiwanians compete, help children see and have fun

Alexandria held the annual Kiwanis -Rotarian Golf match and Trap Shoot. Kiwanians won both events.

Williston helped children see. They were on a sustaining program with the Welfare Board to furnish eyeglasses to any child whose parents were not on relief, but yet did not have sufficient funds to buy eyeglasses for their children.

Wells entertained 450 children at their Halloween party for community youngsters.

Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to a white man. The bus stopped, and she was arrested. 75% of the riders were Negro. A boycott forced a change in rider policy.
Crosby Kiwanians, a little town, but think big service projects and big stage shows

Crosby, ND Kiwanians in a little North Dakota town of 1500 people started a library, a camp, built a dam, a golf course and other major projects. Kiwanis has recognized their community service several times in the International magazine.

To pay for such great projects Kiwanians staged great shows: five of the shows featured Kiwanians dressed as women in what they title Kiwanis Capers. In 1955 they put on The Naughty Nineties; in 1981 they played Fiddler on the Roof; in 1983, Camelot; in 1985 Finians Rainbow; and in 1991 they featured Oliver.

All stage shows and other equipment needed is built by the Kiwanis members with help from wives. In each production Kiwanians build a 20 by 48 foot stage and then remove it, after the shows.

Donna Jean, Andrew Larsen, and Ron Olson playing in 1991 Oliver show.

Quentevere is welcomed to Camelot

In Finian's Rainbow the Sheriff, Doug Grazape; Buzz Collins, John Fosland; and Woody, Kent Horntvedt discuss back taxes
1956

Governor-- Jack D. Vantine, Bismarck, ND
International President-- J. A. Raney, Indianapolis, IN
District Convention -- Rochester, MN
International Convention- San Francisco, CA
International Theme: Build as Free Men

Clubs started in 1956 that are still in existence today: North Minneapolis, MN and Clear Lake, SD

**Kiwanis starts Peace Garden Meetings**

Past Governor Charles Hall of Glenboro, Manitoba, and North Dakota Kiwanians started the Peace Garden Association and Annual Dinner Meeting for North Dakota and Manitoba Clubs in 1956.

The annual June Dinner meeting has become a popular Kiwanis Inter-Club event which is held at the Peace Garden. A church group of Dunseith, ND caters a family style chicken dinner at 6:00 PM. Clubs from the United States and Canada provide a program on alternate years, and officers serve under a similar schedule.

Clubs from both countries brought granite stones to build a five foot high monument by the border post. The monument replaced a small bronze marker to indicate Kiwanis participation in International cooperation between Canada and the United States.

A travelling "Oil-Can" Trophy is awarded each year to the club travelling the most "member-miles" Attendance at the family event averages about 200 people.

**Blessed are the thorn smoothers**

Kiwanis marker indicates International Cooperation between Manitoba and ND.

Floral Clock typifies Peace Garden displays
International changes Gov. training time & District Charms The International Convention

Charm Soap, Charming Singers, and Charming travel companions led to a charming and productive year for Governor Jack D. Vantine.

Rails Charm Passengers

Three Railroad Companies: Northern Pacific, Great Northern and Milwaukee Road, all gave charming bids for Minnesota-Dakota District passengers to the International Convention in San Francisco.

Rates from the Twin Cities (less from other spots) were quoted at $125, and if departure was on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday adults and children over 12 years of age would travel round-trip for a one-way rate. Children five to eleven years of age could travel round-trip, half-fare on any day.

Many side trips could be arranged such as stop stopovers at Grand Coulee Dam, Glacier National Park and Yellowstone National Park. Kiwanians who left from St. Paul took a route through the Canadian Rockies, then to Victoria and down to San Francisco.

Warblers "Charm" Convention

Fargo Warblers "charmed" delegates with their singing at the International Convention. They sang the Lords Prayer at the Sunday night memorial services. Warblers sang at the Monday program and at several of the District banquets. Several TV and radio programs also invited them to sing. The Kiwanis Marching Song was a favorite of everyone.

Int. Changes Governor's year

Districts elected Governors in August and they had to have a program planned, committees appointed and Lt. Governors trained by January. To ease the work load International instituted a position of a Governor-elect. This gave the incoming Governor more than one year to prepare for his term. (Continued in next column)

The change also gave the Governor more time to meet all other International Governors, International officers from all over the world. Jack Vantine spoke for most Governors when he said, "It's truly a great experience. Many lifelong friendships are formed that would never have existed except for Kiwanis."

Aberdeen sells Charm soap

Under President Willis Hodson, Aberdeen not only flipped pancakes to raise funds for the underprivileged children; but also, on Pancake Days, they sold more than 400 boxes of soap to help finance the expenses of delegates to the International Convention.

International arranged for Kiwanis Clubs to sell especially designed, four-pack boxes of Packer's Charm Soap. The boxes sold for $1 and clubs kept 50¢.

Kiwanians leave with smiles

Kiwanis clubs sang "Smiles" at the end of their meetings so that every member would leave the meeting with a big happy smile. Kiwanians have a number one, charming smile.
Club sets new club building record

Kiwanis Club of Northeast Minneapolis started a record string of building new clubs when they sponsored the Kiwanis Club of North Minneapolis.


Kiwanians serve youth and disabled

Mpls sponsors baseball benefit

Kiwanis Club of Minneapolis made $9,162.18 in profits from a baseball game and presented the entire amount to Minneapolis Society for the blind.

Minneapolis Kiwanians, in 1956 under the leadership of Elmer Smith, spearheaded a fund drive that raised $50,000 to help match a Federal Grant of $125,000 to establish the first Regional Center for the Visually Handicapped.

Fargo reaches youth & children

Fargo Kiwanis Club sponsored "Teen Town" every Friday night with an attendance of 500 to 600 teenagers.

They also made a profit of $800 for the underprivileged children by selling dates (the eating variety).

Blind boy pops Kiwanis corn

A blind boy in Wahpeton operated a Kiwanis sponsored popcorn stand and did very well.

A diplomat is a man who thinks twice before saying nothing

WE BUILD Kiwanis INTERNATIONAL

“KIWANIS”

The Otchipew Indian word "Nunc Kee-Wanis" could mean "We have a good time", "We trade"; or "We make a noise." Since its inception in 1915, Kiwanis has evolved into a worldwide organization, and as of March, 1994 it was comprised of 8,649 community service clubs with 328,090 members in 78 countries and geographic areas.
1957

Governor-- Allen W. Edson, Morris, MN
International President-- Reed C. Culp, Salt Lake City, UT
District Convention -- Huron, SD
International Convention- Atlantic City, NJ
International Theme: Integrity—Leadership—Service

Clubs started in 1957 that are still in existence today: Chamberlain, SD

Conventions feature important people

Dorsey plays for District Conv.

Jimmy Dorsey's Band under the direction of Lee Castle played for the Governor's Banquet. They put on an hour and forty-five minute program. Following the stage show, the band played for dancing for the Kiwanians and their ladies. Cost for the banquet and the entertainment by the band was $4.00.

Future U.S. President speaks

Richard Nixon spoke to Kiwanians at the International Convention in Atlantic City.

Kiwanis Projects

Minneapolis Kiwanis club heard Hugo Erickson speak on a new type of highway called a "Freeway." The fifties introduced the four lane freeways that bind the United States together today.

Lloyd Fields represents the Kiwanis Club of Sioux Falls in a Soap Box Derby held in that city.

Board plans Little Int. Conv.

The District Board decided that the Minnesota-Dakotas District would meet for a joint convention with western Canada in 1959. The convention was called "The Little International Convention.

The Board also divided the district into fourteen Divisions.

build communities

Fins were "in" on cars and the Indy 500 and other car races were back in style.

Moorhead, MN Hobby Show netted $1,500 for boys and girls work.

Alexandria, MN continuously operates a Kiwanis fish rearing pond and a demonstration shelter-belt project.

Hutchinson, MN took all the bed-confined and home-confined children to the county fair on children's day.

Williston, ND reprinted and revised the church directory and distributed it throughout the city in places of public lodging.

Clear Lake, SD Kiwanis Club sponsored a Dale Carnegie Course with sixty-five in attendance. This was the smallest city in the United States to have held such a course.
Governor-- Simon L. Mark, Aberdeen, SD

International President-- H. Park Arnold, Glendale, CA

District Convention -- Fergus Falls, MN

International Convention-- Chicago, IL

International Theme: Dedicated Community Service

Clubs started in 1958 that are still in existence today: North Suburban, St. Paul

Fargo serves adults to serve children

Aunt Jemima was there in person to help Fargo Kiwanians make pancakes in 1958. Of course, they used Aunt Jemima Pancake Flour, and they netted over $1,000. In 1991 Kiwanians served 10,342 people and netted $22,212.

In 1958 flour was mixed by hand in a large dishpan. Special sausages were fried in the F-M Hotel Kitchen. Ten gallon cream cans from the Knerr Dairy were used to brew the coffee.

Fargo Kiwanis Club, today, owns twenty large commercial size electric and gas griddles, their own coffee urns, and all their equipment.

The Club has raised over $240,000 for Boy and Girl Scouts, YMCA children’s work, the Salvation Army, New Life Center and the Children’s Hospital Merit Care.

Fargo Kiwanians serve pancakes to over 10,000 people in one day each year.
Kiwanians honor judge and farmers

Sioux Falls Kiwanis Club honored member Judge John T Medin at a testimonial dinner for serving as a Circuit Judge in SD for fifty years. More than 200 persons joined with Kiwanians and members of the State Supreme Court to pay their respects. Judge Medin, sits on the left, Mrs. Medin, Toastmaster Blaine Simons, and Club President Stanley D. Morrill view guests.

Wahpeton Kiwanians served 121 guests at a combined Ladies' Night and Farmers' Night. 87% of the membership were present. The Gay Nineties Male Quartet of Montevideo entertained the group.
Dickinson Kiwanis buys city an ambulance

Kiwanis Club of Dickinson, North Dakota purchased an ambulance from a local mortician when he quit his business. Through the medium of dances and contributions Kiwanians raised $4,200 for the project. They presented the ambulance to the City with one year's insurance paid and a check for $1,500. Pictured left to right are: James Civilla, Richard Bertie, Buzz Osburn, Dr. Robert Gilliland, Ansul Suckerman and Dr. Keith Foster.

Lakefield Kiwanis sells Halloween brooms

Witches? Moons? No! Brooms? Yes! Lakefield Kiwanis Club took one evening to sell brooms to defray costs of their annual Halloween party. They sold more than $200 worth of brooms.

AN OBJECT OF KIWANIS
To give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life. RIAL—"RELIGION IN AMERICAN LIFE" THE KIWANIS CLUB OF FLANDREAU, SD MADE A CITY-WIDE DISTRIBUTION OF THIS MATERIAL
Kiwanis grows to serve & serves to grow

Kiwanis clubs around the District provided a variety of services for communities.

Midway St. Paul Kiwanis club planted 400 flowering crab-apple trees in Como Park. Mayor Dillon Wields the shovel while kneeling Commissioner Holland and Kiwanis Chairman Arthur F. Williams hold the tree.

Standing in the back are Club President Edward B. Holbert (second from left), Saint Paul Kiwanis Club Kenneth O. Johnson (fourth from left) and St. Paul Secretary Stephen Guilder (sixth from left).

Aberdeen paints Kiwanis House

Aberdeen Kiwanis club painted the Kiwanis owned house which they maintained for a widow and her children.

Chisholm sends needy to camp

Chisholm Kiwanis Club sent eight needy young people to a 4-H camp for a one week period.

They also paid $260 for dental work for a needy family with five children.

Madison, SD pays swimming fees

Madison, SD Kiwanis Club provided funds for swimming suits and admission fees for all the City’s needy children so that they could use the community swimming pool.

More than 2,000 boys and girls had entries at the Kiwanis sponsored Teddy Roosevelt Art Exhibit.

Hastings Kiwanis Club set a record; they inducted 12 new members at one time.

Think Growth

TRIVIA OF THE YEAR
Southern California began a hullabaloo over the Hoola Hoop. Arthur Melin and Richard Knerr promoted and sold a plastic tubing version of bamboo hoops used by Australian Children. Customers bought over 25 million the first year in 1958.
1959

Governor-- Harold S. Hedman, Chisholm, MN
International President-- Kenneth B. Loheed, Toronto, ON
District Convention -- Minneapolis, MN
International Convention-- Dallas, TX
International Theme: Build Individual Responsibility

Clubs started in 1959 that are still in existence today: Columbia Heights-Fridley and Westbrook in MN; and Fargo Lake Agassiz in ND.

District dances with West Canadians

Dancing to the music of Wes Barlow and Dixie Land Ramblers Minn.-Dakotas District and the District of Western Canada enjoyed joint entertainment and held separate business sessions at the "Little International Convention" held in Minneapolis.

The Tonka Belle and other smaller craft gave free boat trips on Lake Minnetonka. Teenagers scrambled for various rides at the lake shore Excelsior Amusement Park and listened to the Dixie Land Ramblers, sons of local Kiwanians.

The Convention was alive to the music of the Hawaiian String Quartet, and the Winnipeg Koristers. Schieck's Sextet entertained at the Banquet to the theme of "an Evening in Paris."

Kiwanis Educates Youth

That's what "Key" Club stands for.
Kiwanis moves offices, changes name

Kiwanis International moved their offices to new headquarters at 101 East Erie St., Chicago; and changed the name of the International Magazine.

The new air-conditioned building cost over one million dollars and handled the administration for 4,660 clubs and 256,000 members.

The Kiwanis International Magazine, about the size of the Reader’s Digest, was called the Kiwanis Hornet - a Periodical of Personality and Pep. International charged the name to The Kiwanis Torch a Periodical of Personality.

The Chuck Wagon Gang of Odessa, Texas boasted that they could, “Feed 15,000 people in 15 minutes” for the next International convention in

Kiwanians fly, fulfill congressional duties

District Kiwanians flew "patriotism" to Alaska, and the International Board held a Congressional Dinner in Washington D.C.

The admission of Alaska to the Union as the 49th state required a new flag with 49 stars. The Minnesota-Dakotas District sent representatives on a "49th Star Tour" plane trip to Fairbanks, Alaska with a new flag to welcome them into the Union.

Congressional members, including Kiwanian Congressman Karl E. Mundt, attended the Biennial Kiwanis Congressional Dinner at the Statler Hotel in Washington, DC. All of the members of the Kiwanis International Board of Trustees and several past International Presidents and Governors attended.

Alaska, welcome to the U. S. A.

International named Emil J. (Jim) Beckstrom, Minneapolis Downtown Kiwanian, song leader for the International Convention in 1958; and he held the job for eight years.
Mpls. Club receives achievement award

Minneapolis Society for the Blind awarded the Minneapolis Downtown Kiwanis Club with the Grace Swift Strong Achievement Award at their annual society meeting.

The award is granted to persons or groups from the Midwest, who by example or service, have made significant contributions to the welfare of blind citizens.

Kiwanians had raised $100,000 to acquire a new building at Lyndale and Franklin, the Society's present location. In 1956 Kiwanians spearheaded a fund drive, raising $50,000 for a Federal grant of $125,000 to establish the first Regional Center for Visually Handicapped.

The Society gave the award to the Kiwanis Club of Minneapolis for devoted service to blind persons over a thirty year period; for service in all areas of activity through the Minneapolis Society for the Blind.

Kiwanians tour farms and honor officials

Milbank, SD Kiwanians toured four farms as a project of the committee on Agriculture and Conservation.

Tracy, MN had an appreciation night to honor all of the public officials and officers of Tracy.

Fergus Falls, MN purchased a canoe for the Red Valley Council, Boy Scouts of America.

NORTH-"DAKQUOTAS"
"Grandpa used a tranquilizer too. He called it work."
"Ask a woman how she stubbed her toe and
she'll say, 'I walked into a chair;'
Ask a man, and he'll say,
'Someone left a chair
in the middle of the room!'''

THINK SERVICE
KiwanisBuilds
Better Communities

NORTH-"DAKQUOTAS"
If you are not afraid
to face the music, you may
someday lead the band
Citizenship Sixties—"The Devastating Years"

The Sixties picture the shame of the cities, the humiliation of America, but also the pride and citizenship of Kiwanis. Race riots, burning cities, campus demonstrations, assassinations, an unpopular war, draft-card burning, and a polarized citizenry shook the nation. The shame multiplied because television played these demonstrations to the world. The first Telstar Communications Satellite circled the earth in 1962. The world could watch as blacks were torn by dogs, washed down with fire hoses, and beaten with sticks. The world watched President John Kennedy gunned down, Woodstock, hippies, sex orgies, acid rock mixed with LSD, campus students dropping from bullets, cities burning as looters ran off with merchandise, the assassinations of Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy. The "Law and Order" projects such as the recognition of law officers by Worthington to answer the violence of the decade should be repeated today.


The Supreme Court of the United States of America declared a school prayer unconstitutional in 1962. Justice Hugo Black stated that no government has the "power to declare by law any particular form of prayer...to be used as an official prayer." The court held the prayer violated the "establishment clause" in the U.S. Constitution. Kiwanis responded to the storm of protest with "In Support of Churches," the "Citizenship Quotient" and monthly prayers in the Minnekhota during the 50th year celebration. To rate your "CQ" Kiwanians were asked to ask themselves, "Am I taking an active part in: my church, my school, my community, and in service to others?" Kiwanis International supplied "Prayer Tents," and materials for prayer breakfasts. Read thoughtfully Therkel Jorgensen's prayer, "Good Morning God," with which he opened the 52nd District Convention. (Jorgensen's prayer can be found in "1969" copy, on page 105.)

The unpopular Vietnam War, the Cuban Bay of Pigs and missile crisis, and the civil rights riots challenged the patriotism and freedoms of Americans. Kiwanis responded with a series of themes on Citizenship Responsibility and Freedom. More than 16% of the members of the U.S. House and Senate were Kiwanians. U.S. Senator Karl Mundt, Past Governor of the District, said, "Kiwanis representation in Congress exemplifies a key Kiwanis objective: "To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive, and serviceable citizenship." President Richard Nixon dedicated the Karl E. Mundt Library at Madison, SD. Kiwanis clubs like Webster and Harvey placed freedom floats in local parades.

President Johnson signed a series of "Great Society" bills designed to help the politically and economically impoverished. Laws provided: food for undernourished children, help to rebuild burned cities, medicare, voting rights, and millions for the war on poverty. Wilmar gave bicycles to children of a welfare family. Fargo-Moorhead helped build an addition to a school for retarded students. District clubs raised over $10,000 to build a cabin at Camp Courage for disabled children and adults.

Putting the sixties decade of Kiwanis in perspective with United States History not only helps one to see how Kiwanis adapts to fit the needs of the day, but also reminds one of the continued need for gratitude toward civil servants and especially police officers who need our encouragement and thanks today. A little "PR" in these areas builds better communities. Violence and disobedience don't contribute to growth. The District built 14 new clubs—less than half as many clubs as in the last decade. However, no time is so bad that one cannot find some good: In times of strife, violence and atrocities the computer chip opened new doors to the heavens. Alan Shepard shot into space, John Glenn circled the earth and Neil Armstrong walked on the moon. Kiwanis International entered the computer age in 1962, moved up in '67 to an IBM card computer and in '68 they moved on up to a tape disk system.
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