

November 2007

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# MINNEKOTAN

Published by Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

## Bill's Pitch

It's time to celebrate our Minnesota-Dakotas Educational Foundation. The week of November 11th is designated Minn/Dak Educational Foundation Week.

Our Foundation was established in 1934 as a revolving loan fund. Since 1966 the Foundation has been granting scholarships annually. Through the years our Foundation has grown to nearly 1 million dollars. This fund has resulted in our ability to award scholarships to students from the District. Last year 54 scholarships were awarded. Of these, 40 were designated scholarships with the remaining 14 going to each Region for the awarding of 2 scholarships. Funds for our scholarships come from the interest earned by our Foundation.



I encourage all clubs to make their annual contribution to the Foundation during the month of November. All clubs have received information concerning the scholarship applications as well as literature about the various ways to support the Foundation.

Individuals should contribute \$100 to become a Vantine Life Fellow. This fund was previously called the Life Fellowship Fund. It has been renamed to honor Jack Vantine for his efforts through the years on behalf of the Foundation.

Bill Daugherty, Minnesota-Dakotas District Governor

## Update from the Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer - November 2007

By Steve Handegaard, Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer

Greetings,

- Over \$700,000.00, 3286 service projects and 120,000 service hours:**  
According to the online monthly club reports this is the amount of time and money spent on service projects by Kiwanis Clubs in our Minnesota-Dakotas District during the past 12 months. These figures are probably on the low side as some things do not get reported and a few club reports are still not in. Wow! These numbers are just another indication of how important Kiwanis is to our communities!
- New Monthly Online Report feature:** Special thanks to the club secretaries for their excellent monthly reporting this past year. The information submitted is very valuable. I urge you to again get off on the right foot by reporting your Monthly Reports online by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. Remember that this is not just the Club Secretary's job. A club secretary needs information to report, so be sure to keep them informed of your committee activities, etc. All Club Secretaries should have received the necessary information to get started for the new year. A new feature of the program this year allows the club secretary to automatically send a preview of the monthly



club report by email to the president, board members and others before submission. I would highly encourage you to do this. You may catch things that are not getting reported. The reporting program also allows the secretary to email the final monthly report to anyone in your club.

- **Distinguished Member and Distinguished Club Criteria for 2007-2008:** The Kiwanis International Criteria for 2007-2008 are posted on the Kiwanis International Website at the following link:  
[http://community.kiwanisone.org/files/folders/contests\\_awards/entry213.aspx](http://community.kiwanisone.org/files/folders/contests_awards/entry213.aspx) Be sure to review the criteria for Distinguished Club. Please note they are **different** than last year.
- **Monthly MINNEKOTAN Newsletter tip:** When you view the MINNEKOTAN newsletter online or in an email, you will notice that in the upper right corner of the launch page you can click on the words "Printable Version". That will make the entire newsletter display in a more readable format and of course make it possible for you to print the entire newsletter if you desire.
- **Key Leader Program:** The second ever Key Leader Event was held in our district on October 5-7 at Inspiration Point Camp near Clitherall, MN. It was a great success. Obviously there were many people that helped to make the program a success. Jennifer Robbins, the program facilitator from Kiwanis International did a super job! District level leaders involved and attending were Clover Ellingson, District Key Leader Chair; Vickie Walters, Site Coordinator; Mary Sieling, Assistant Site Coordinator; Governor Bill Daugherty and Arlyce, Dawn and David Fairbrother and myself. We also had many other adults serving as chaperones and assisting. Special thanks to David and Dawn Fairbrother for taking photos during the event. If you would like to see the program in action, go to the following link and view over 200 photos taken during the event. <http://picasaweb.google.com/districtk>
- **Club meeting times and locations:** Another 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 in the upper left corner of the Kiwanis International website <http://www.kiwanis.org/> Give it a try. See if your club information is current. Your club secretary can now update your club meeting location online at anytime through the same portal that is used for monthly club reporting. Again, be sure that your information is current, as 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!

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## Confirm Your Plans for This Year

### Confirm Your Plans for This Year

by Bill Lardy, Governor Elect 2007-2008

Last month I suggested that Kiwanians and Kiwanis Clubs make New Year's resolutions that will lead to complete success by year's end. In this column, I encourage a review of the plans to reach the goals committed to in your resolutions.



When determining plans keep in mind that "Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time." So, what areas in your community should be improved? What can your club, what can you as an individual, do to change one child, or change your community? After making that determination what processes need to be followed to effect the changes? If you, or your club, is looking for new projects for children or community, the Kiwanis International website has a number of good ideas.

Another area to review is how your club can be improved. For example: Striving for the Interclub patch. Recruiting new members by hosting potentials members as guests, (Can each member commit to bringing at least one guest per month?). Members agreeing to call another member who has infrequent attendance.

If plans to achieve your goals are not yet in place, it is not too late! Your club or the Board of Directors can host a strategy planning session. Achieving the success you want for your club and yourself is what waits at the end of the year.

Finally, remember to share your story! Make sharing your story part of your plan to have a successful year. Share it with relatives, friends and the larger community. Share it with potential members. You will be pleased with the story you share and sharing it will lead to more success.

## Project Warm Up Attracts Key Club, Sioux Falls Kiwanis Clubs

A year ago -- The Sioux Falls School District identified 669 children as homeless. Project Warm-Up, sponsored by the Lincoln High School Key Club was able provide 100 of those homeless children with a new fleece blanket during the holidays. The goal for 2007-2008 is to increase that number to lease 150 or perhaps several hundred more.

Kaitlin Vik --- a Senior at Lincoln High School -- and a loyal Key Club Member is taking her story to Sioux Falls Kiwanis Clubs looking for partners. Kaitlin is the daughter of Tracy Vik --- a charter member of the new Sioux Falls Diversity Club -- and former Region 5 Kiwanian of the Week.



The Lincoln High School Key Club will be accepting donations of cash and/or fleece for the 2007 Project Warm-Up which will be held December 8th from 11 to 5 at the Instructional Planning Center at 201 E 38th Street in Sioux Falls. It's hoped that a number of Kiwanis Clubs will be willing to come and work the event and bring their own fleece material--- perhaps shoulder to shoulder with the Lincoln Key Club members.

If you would like to donate fleece please check the sizes below:

**Infant size:** 2 pieces of fleece measuring 1 1/4 yards each

**Child size:** 2 pieces of fleece measuring 1 3/4 yards each

**Adult/High School Size:** 2 pieces of fleece measuring 2 yards each.

Checks should be made out to LHS Key Club or Project Warm-Up.

Donations can be dropped off at or mailed to two locations:

Instructional Planning Center, 201 E 38th or Lincoln High School, 2900 S Cliff

If you would like more information or you donation picked up, please contact Kaitlin Vik: 940-7611, [vkaitlin@hotmail.com](mailto:vkaitlin@hotmail.com) or Tracy Vik: 360-4858, [tracy.vik@k12.sd.us](mailto:tracy.vik@k12.sd.us).

## **Minnesota Dakotas Kiwanis Educational Foundation Announces \$800 Scholarship Application Process for the 2008-2009 School Year**

The Minnesota Dakotas Kiwanis Educational Foundation Endowment Fund will be awarding fifty four \$800 scholarships to graduating high school seniors for the 2008-2009 school year. The student applicants must be residents of Minnesota, North Dakota or South Dakota and Superior, Wisconsin.. The \$800 scholarship may only be used to attend a college or university located in the above 3 states or Superior, Wisconsin. In the past there has been some confusion over the application process. This article is being written to help all Kiwanians understand the process.

**October 12, 2007, the Foundation Secretary sent a cover letter and 3 scholarship application forms to each Kiwanis Club Secretary in the Minnesota-Dakotas District. The President of the Kiwanis Club is to fill out Part I of the application forms. Three(3) application forms should then be IMMEDIATELY given to the High School Principal or School Counselor of each high school in the community where the Kiwanis Club meets and/or where Kiwanis members reside. (The President can make copies of the application form if there is more than one high school in the community as noted above. However each school can only submit 3 student applications as noted below)**

**Part II of the application form is to be completed by the High School Principal or Guidance Counselor and then given to up to a maximum of 3 students in their school. If the school has received application forms from more than one Kiwanis Club the school should still only give the application forms to three students.**

**Each of the 3 student applicants then completes Part III of their application form and returns the completed application and a letter about themselves to the Principal or Guidance Counselor who gave them the application.**

**ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 18, 2008, the Principal or Guidance Counselor must then mail to the Kiwanis Educational Foundation THE ORIGINAL AND THREE(3) COPIES of EACH OF THE FOLLOWING FOR EACH OF THE 3 STUDENT APPLICATIONS: the completed application form; the student letter; a copy of the applicant's transcript; and a letter of recommendation addressing the applicant's character, attitude, and level of responsibility.**

**The applications received will then be reviewed by the Foundation and Application Committees in each region and the winners of the \$800 Scholarships will be announced approximately in late April or early May 2008. The application process to be successful requires the timely cooperation of the Kiwanis Club President, the school officials and the student applicants.**

**It is important:**

- 1. that the Club President delivers the 3 application forms to the school officials and**
- 2. the school officials then get applications to 3 qualified Seniors as soon as possible**
- 3. in order that 3 copies of each of the 3 student applications can be postmarked by the school officials on or before JANUARY 18, 2008.**

**Let's make sure all qualified students are given the chance to apply for this \$800 scholarship. The above steps**

must be followed and proper application packet timely submitted to avoid disqualification. Any questions can be directed to the Foundation Secretary, Jack Zierdt or any Foundation Board member. Their contact information is located on the District website at [www.mndak-kiwanis.org](http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org) on the bottom left of the home page under Minn-Dak Educational Foundation Officers and Reports.

## Kiwanis One Day

Kiwanis has set a goal of having one million members when we celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2015. In order for us to accomplish this feat, we must reach out into our communities and tell folks more about our service organization and show the commitment and dedication of our members.

One way to accomplish this is by participating in the second annual "Kiwanis One Day", on April 5, 2008. Kiwanis One Day debuted this past year with great success, with over 600 Kiwanis-family clubs participating. We would like to double that goal in 2008. Elizabeth Warren, International Service Programs Manager, says "More clubs participating means more communities and children being served."

The objective of Kiwanis One Day is to unite all Kiwanis family clubs around the world with hands-on service projects. It is not too soon to plan this event now. Coordinate the date with the other Kiwanis-family clubs in your community, including Circle K, Key Clubs, Builders, K-Kids, and Aktion clubs. Look for a service project where **all** can participate. Talk with public works directors, churches, social workers, or anyone in your community that sees a need that you can address. April 5 may be a time when we can get our playgrounds ready for the summer or perhaps do yard work for the elderly.

Finally, coordinate with the local media. Tell them what you are doing and ask them to report on it. Sometimes Kiwanis activities seem to be a well kept secret, and we fall short on "blowing our own horn". Showing the dedication, commitment and **fun** we have serving our community may encourage other people to join our clubs and participate in the great service work we do in Kiwanis.

Bruce Klair

District Service Director

## FUN STUFF FOR YOUR KIWANIS MEETINGS

Add some fun to your future meetings by asking each member to submit a one paragraph item to your bulletin editor (someone that can keep a secret), and in the article, tell about one thing that has happened to you that NO one in your club would know about, then have all of these articles printed on a sheet of paper, and hand them out to the membership.

Give the members a couple of weeks to work on them and see how many they can identify.

Highest number identified might get a gift certificate to ? or some other fun item.



You will be surprised at what some members have had happened to them during their lifetime, and you can have fun at the same time.

## “OVER THE TOP!” CLEAN WATER CHALLENGE CELEBRATION

On October 11th, 2007, at the regular meeting, the Moorhead Kiwanis celebrated reaching the goal of over \$6,000.00. With the Hilton Foundation provided matching funds, the amount of \$13,598.00 was presented to Rynel Heiser, Area Director of World Vision! This amount will provide a deep well and pump for a village in Mali, Africa. One of the objectives of Kiwanis is “Serving the Children of the

World” and we will be doing just that! Wellspring for the World, a nonprofit organization of which the Fargo-Moorhead Area Foundation is the fiscal sponsor. The “Wellspring of the World” mission is to bring clean water to children in Mali, Africa. Every 8 seconds, a child in the world dies of preventable disease because of lack of clean water. Children of Africa currently have no choice but to drink disease infected water from rivers and ponds. This causes many children to become sick and die before their 5th birthday from water related diseases. The World Health Organization estimates that 80% of all sickness in the developing world is due to unsafe water or sanitation. Of 37 major diseases that attack children in the world's poorest countries, 21 are related to unsafe water and sanitation. At any given time, half of all people in the developing world are suffering from water related diseases. Each year 9 million children in the world die of preventable diseases before they reach their 5th birthday. Over 95% of our fellow Moorhead Kiwanians have participated in this endeavor.

### Top Ten Honored

Ten outstanding and long-standing members of the Kiwanis Club of Aberdeen, SD, were honored and recognized at the annual Installation of Officers banquet on Tuesday, September 26. The following 10 Kiwanis members have amassed a staggering 419 years of service between them, and are all actively involved through leadership roles, attendance, encouragement, and current service and fund-raising projects.

They are: Mr. Robert S. Thompson	57 years
Mr. Lester A. Clarke	56 years
Mr. Richard W. VanBeek	46 years
Mr. Calvin Engel	46 years
Mr. Warren Grebner	43 years
Mr. Arthur R. Buntin	43 years
Mr. Donald D. Whittlinger	36 years
Mr. Ralph Kusler	35 years
Mr. Carroll Erickson	32 years
Mr. William O. Edwards	25 years

Each of these Kiwanis members received a plaque in recognition of his outstanding service and dedication to the club. These men personify what it means to be dedicated to something great. Yes, some of these guys have been members of this Kiwanis club longer than younger members have been on this earth. It is with great honor to serve with these men in Kiwanis.

### Sioux Falls President's Build for the Future

#### *4<sup>th</sup> Class of President's Share Ideas, Opportunities For 2007-2008 Year*

(By Lt Gov Bill Zortman, 2006-2007)

The 4<sup>th</sup> Class of Sioux Falls President's to meet together on a monthly meeting schedule produced new enthusiasm, opportunities for clubs to bring members together to plan for joint projects, and ways to help the community and increase membership.

The President's and/or their representatives will meet together on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month at the

Frying Pan at 12<sup>th</sup> and Western from 11:45 to 1:00PM. Lt Governors Bill Zortman and Al Herrboldt attended the first meeting for 2007-2008 while Governor Bill Daugherty was traveling in the Minnesota Dakotas District.

The 2007-2008 Presidents include:

*Sioux Falls Downtown—Amy DeBerg-Ferwerda*

*Sioux Falls Daybreak---Patricia Steele*

*Sioux Falls Diversity---Chad Zortman*

*Sioux Falls East----Jerri Tjeerdsma*

*Sioux Falls West---Pat Kirschman*

*South Sioux Falls—Dan Tunge*

The President's and their representatives attending the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting came up with a pair of projects or so that would allow clubs to appoint a member to help plan events for the coming Kiwanis year.

One project would be the Sioux Falls 1 Day Committee that would look for ways to work with Title I Hawthorne Elementary School. Hawthorne Elementary is a unique school that has 81% of the students in poverty. Over 20 different languages are spoken and there is a wide variety of cultures under one roof. Jon Martin of South Sioux Falls brought the project to the table. Arlyn Thomas – soon to be Past President from Sioux Falls East said their club is already supporting Hawthorne. Amy DeBerg-Ferwerda of Sioux Falls Downtown gave her support and suggested that we form the Sioux Falls 1 Day Committee – pending Board action from the 6 Sioux Falls Kiwanis Clubs.

The second project is the Re-dedication of Kiwanis Avenue next spring. It was 75 years ago that Kiwanis volunteers planted trees on the western most street in Sioux Falls. Because of that work it was named Kiwanis Avenue. President Amy DeBerg-Ferwerda suggested that as a Kiwanis project we could provide trees to school children and that much of the work could be accomplished by forming a Kiwanis Avenue Committee.

The President's group suggested that we take the notes from the monthly Kiwanis meeting and make them available to each of the 6 clubs to include in their monthly newsletters or on the Sioux Falls Kiwanis website. One other thought was to ask Carolyn Dick to serve as the chair to take the monthly notes and provide them in a way that would be a part of Sioux Falls Kiwanis history.

Lt Governor Al Herrboldt – 2008-2009 – agreed to help plan for car-pooling to the November 3<sup>rd</sup> Statewide Conference in Pierre. The session begins at 10:00 and finishes by 4PM. Cost is \$17 per head. Lt Governor Bev Werner – 2007-2008 will be in Sioux Falls on Monday October 15<sup>th</sup> and should have additional information.

Here are some other doings from our Sioux Falls Kiwanis Family:

#### **Sioux Falls East**

- Jerri Tjeerasma stepped up to become President after the President Elect stepped aside a few weeks before the scheduled installation of officers. Lt Governor Werner will lead the contingent Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> for the last changing of the guard for Sioux Falls Clubs.
- East is doing very well with membership. Outgoing President Arlyn Thomas reports they have added 6 to 8 new members in the last six months --- with four additional members in the pipeline.
- East --- like many clubs has new members wanting to do more projects. Thomas will become the club's new Treasurer.

#### **South Sioux Falls**

- President Dan Tunge reported that this coming Thursday is guest day. Each of the club members were to come up with the names of 3 people to invite to the meeting. 35 letters have been sent out. Phone calls will be made to those early in the week to encourage them to attend and consider joining South.
- Sisson Printing has completed printing a member book that includes contact information. Cost was expected to run \$200. Other clubs asked if Vickie Shaw at Sisson Printing would consider giving each of the clubs a rate for printing the member's book.
- Another South project is the food pantry --- all helping to provide back packs for kids.

#### **Sioux Falls Downtown**

- President Amy DeBerg-Ferwerda reported they are looking at “Teacher” memberships that could allow teachers to sort of job-share a Kiwanis membership. It’s a part of the suggestion that was made at the International Convention in San Antonio this summer.
- Amy was congratulated on the Argus Leader article in City Style. The interest created by the Kiwanis ink has brought new member requests to not only Downtown but other clubs.
- Suggestion made that each of the six Presidents provide information and a picture that could be submitted to the Argus. The paper might also print information where the club meets and at what time.
- With the Downtown Club having the only website for Kiwanis Clubs in Sioux Falls – Amy was going to check and see if each of the clubs might have their own page or two on that site. Kevin Terveen has served as webmaster. Each club might need to provide a webmaster or at least a reporter/photographer or contact.
- Downtown Club gives speakers a book in the name of the program speaker to the Sioux Falls Library. 26 books will be given in 2007-2008.

### **Sioux Falls Daybreak**

- The new home for Daybreak is the Original Pancake House on West 41<sup>st</sup>. The club is the only morning club with the opening bell at 7AM on Thursdays.
- The Spinoza bear --- according to President Pat Steele is still the key project. Recently one of the guests ---- read “Miss Tizzy” which stirred the thoughts about how the actions of adults affect the activities of our youngsters.
- Daybreak is working with Younkers on the \$10.00 off coupons. The \$5.00 goes to the club for projects.
- The club has reorganized with the new home --- and is looking to actively attract members that could attend a morning meeting.

### **Sioux Falls Diversity**

- President Chad Zortman reported that Diversity will begin meeting at Achieve on November 13<sup>th</sup>. The club still meets every other Tuesday --- but has discussed meeting weekly in the future.
- Board Meetings have been moved to the first Thursday of the month at IPC.
- Among the projects – collecting canned goods and baby formula for Haiti. The club will also buy a goat to be named “Billy D” after our Diversity Club member and Minnesota Dakota Governor Bill Daugherty.
- Shoes are being collected for Guatamaela --- all sizes – but generally smaller than a 10 for men and 8 for women.
- Cartridges are being picked up for a re-cycling member. The proceeds go to the Diversity Club projects.
- Clubs is working with new standing committees – one of wish is setting up a Cinco de Mayo with Shriners while the other would park cars for jazz fest.

Next meeting of the President’s group --- is November 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:45

### **Hendricks Club adds 5 new Members**

October 8th was a Red Letter Day for the Hendricks Kiwanis Club, as 5 new members, all ladies, were inducted into the club, with another lady, who was unable to attend this meeting, to be inducted at the next meeting. This will raise the membership of the club from the previous 26 to 32, with 28 of the members having active status. Two of the ladies have husbands as members and they are the first husband and wife teams in the club. We will now have 8 lady members in the club, and our new president is the first female president we have had.

## Homeless Sleepout

Last Friday I went to the Homeless Sleepout. My first impression was that I saw the nightlife of the school field. Everything was spinning around me: students set up their boxes and took out their sweet supplies. Less than in an hour a little Camp town aroused.

It had its own rules and life. Its citizens, students, played frisbee, American football, rode bikes, listened to music, played the guitar and simply talked to each other and had fun. At first, no control and involvement of teachers seemed to be strange things to me. But very soon I understood that there was no need in controlling us. I experienced how democratic America is. Your teachers trust the students and, as the respond of students' appreciation, students respect teachers and don't do anything that can make them disappointed. The only thing that I was really disappointed in was the cold weather. I put on two sweaters, a coat, two pair of gloves and I was cold. Other students took their blankets, but they didn't save them from freezing either. The only way out was to move or to sleep. The frosty air and stars brought some atmosphere of romanticism and spirit of nomads or travelers. People started to get ready to have a chat or snack or nap or whatever. I was too excited to sleep. I wanted to run, jump and scream to everyone how happy I was. I went to the track and started running. I felt myself free from everything negative: boredom, doubts, and dark thoughts.

That mysterious night inspired me and I felt myself in condition running to nowhere for getting something unimaginably important. I found out what that "something" was only after I got tired and fell asleep shaking feverishly from the coldness. About an hour I got up after the dawn. I wanted to see it so much, because I love the rising sun which reminds us that every day brings a new hope, but I missed it. I lost my temper just before an hour I could make my wish come true. Don't homeless people feel the same? Mostly, they got their lives broken because they didn't realize their ambitions and it cracked them. I can prove it, I know lots of life stories about that kind of people.

I was picking some rubbish from the ground when I looked at my red crooked fingers. They moved so unnaturally, like fingers of the homeless woman from the movie "Home Alone-2 or 3". My head was full of thoughts about hot shower, warm bed and rest. I came home and looked at myself in the mirror. Miserable, tired. That's good that I can have a rest. Homeless people can't stop and sleep in a cozy sweet bed. They are not able to say: "O'k guys, I had fun with you but I am cold and tired, so I'll go HOME and in a day we'll continue our all-night hanging out." They are freezing and tired all days long, they are suffering and getting angry because of no help all nights long+ I guess so+I didn't experience those feelings, but I understood the aim of our Homeless Sleepout. A funny game can be horrible reality. Homeless people got lost in their lives and they don't have any point of the final destination. They live the way it is.

P. S.: Thank you for the opportunity to understand people better. It made me more tolerant and kind. I had fun, toooooo.

Gabriela Yevstafyeva, Exchange Student from the Ukraine

Fridley High School Key Club Board Member

## Region 3 Kiwanian of the Month of October Announced

Jodi Rochon was surprised on Thursday, when the Lt Governor of Region 3, Barb Fisher, called her forward to award her with the very first Kiwanian of the Month for Region 3.

Jodi, as most Kiwanians is dedicated to helping children and her community, but what also makes Jodi special is the wonderful newsletter she publishes for her Superior Club. With Jodis, many computer skills she has helped the Superior Key Club with events and also been there to share her knowledge with those of us that are less talented in this area.

Jodi has also agreed to help us with the publishing of a quarterly news Letter for the Region. **THE REGION 3 REVIEW** watch your e-mail for the upcoming publication. Thank you Jodi for all you do for our community and world.

**you are one that does make a difference**

## South Dakota Kiwanians Head For Pierre -- November 3rd

### South Dakota Kiwanians Gather in Pierre - November 3rd

It was a real happening in Chamberlain -- November 4, 2006. Now --- for the 2nd year in a row -- Kiwanians across South Dakota are invited to meet in Pierre on Saturday November 3rd, 2007.

Lt Governors Lyle Sonnenschein in Region 4 and Beverly Werner in Region 5 have planned the Kiwanis Statewide event for the Trinity Community Center -- First United Methodist Church. Start time for the conference is 11:10. The cost is \$17.00 which includes a meal -- materials --- and **priceless** fellowship.

Those attending will have the opportunity to hear from South Dakota's favorite son Bill Daugherty --- now Governor of the Minnesota-Dakotas District -- and Bill Lardy -- Governor Elect. Keynote speaker will be 2005-2006 Governor Stewart Ross who has played the role of a "good past leader" by serving as Membership Director for the District.

Former Governor Ross will review club efforts to increase growth, look at ways to hit the plus one membership number for all clubs, talk about the new member orientation and assignment to club committees, as well as address the all important retention effort.

With just one club built in the 2006-2007 year in the Minnesota Dakotas District--- and it was right here in South Dakota with the Diversity Club of Sioux Falls -- Stewart will look at ways to find and build communities that need the service -- while utilizing Membership and Tag Team Coordinators, and use the help Kiwanis Club Development Managers.

Patricia Monson --- of the State Department of Social Services -- will discuss the State Child Care Programs and what Kiwanians should know and can do.

Governor Daugherty and Governor Elect Lardy will discuss the District Goals for 2007-2008 which includes the need for sharing our story with Kiwanis moments, newsletters, local media, websites, and program announcements. Also, the way to share with the media service projects with impact --- quarterly leadership meetings -- -plus way to send stories to the Minnekotan, Region websites, and the resources of the educational foundation.

Lt Governor Sonnenschein said, "Many of us sense there are two overarching challenges facing Kiwanis today: Giving real meaning to our Young Children: Priority One Program; and Membership -- stopping the "Bleeding" and moving forward on the healing process." Lyle says the Governors Visit will address these challenges.

Lt Governor Werner said, "Let's be sure all our clubs are represented to honor and learn from Governor Daugherty. Many of us carpooled last year to save expenses while having a good visit."

While registrations will be taken at the door -- both Lt Governors would like to have an approximate headcount not later than November 1st. Email Lyle Sonnenschein at [lyles@gwtc.net](mailto:lyles@gwtc.net) and Beverly Werner [b89wer@nvc.net](mailto:b89wer@nvc.net).

The conference will conclude as close to 3:30PM as possible.

Agenda (Central Standard Time):

- 10:30–11:15 a.m.    Region 5 Meeting
- 11:15–11:30        Pierre Kiwanis Club
- 11:30–12:15        Luncheon
- 12:15–2:15 p.m.    Min-Dak Director of Membership Stewart Ross leading a Membership Development Forum
- 2:15-3:00    Patricia Monson, State Department of Social Services on State Child Care Programs
- 3:00-3:15    Min-Dak Governor Bill Daugherty comments

3:15-3:30 Wrap-up with Min-Dak Governor-Elect Bill Lardy and others

Meeting Adjourns

## **Kiwanis Donates Playground Equipment to the Thief River Falls Northrop Park**

The Thief River Falls Kiwanis Club members raised over \$45,000 for the first phase of playground equipment for Northrop Park in Thief River Falls. Working with the City of Thief River Falls, the Kiwanis Club helped assemble the equipment and put it in place. The City of Thief River Falls provided \$10,000 for site preparation and protective surfacing at the playground. The Pennington County Daycare Association raised money and donated one of the pieces of the playground equipment.

Northrop Park is adjacent to the site of a former elementary school on the north side of Thief River Falls. When the school was closed, demolished and the property sold a number of years ago, the playground ground equipment on the property was also removed to make way for a multi unit housing unit. This school playground site was the only one on the north side of the city and for many years the children living on this side of the city did not have playground to visit.

The Kiwanis identified the community need and addressed it by working with the City about five years ago and gained permission to raise money for playground equipment for the park. The Club's fund raising efforts took on many forms from pancake breakfasts to receiving grants and donations.

In July the equipment was ordered with delivery and assembly in late August. The playground equipment is of the new EVOS system, which is designed to motivate children to use their imaginations in climbing and swing on the equipment.

On Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> a ribbon cutting ceremony was held in conjunction with a Grand Opening Community Picnic hosted by the Kiwanis and the City of Thief River Falls. The reward to all who worked on the project is driving by the park and always seeing kids playing on the new equipment. Phase two is the addition of a Pinnacle Rock Climber to the playground equipment array. Also planned for the future is a picnic shelter to provide a eating and sitting area near the playground equipment.

## **Region 2 Governor's Conference held October 27**

We had a very good day on October 27th in Fergus Falls at the Region 2 Governor's Conference. We had 12 out of 22 clubs represented. It was great to see some new faces at the meeting too! The conference was facilitated by Lt Gov, Mary Sieling, who introduced the agenda for the day and Governor Bill Daugherty who talked about all the good things our Region is doing in our communities. Topics discussed included membership, recruitment, mentoring new members, keeping members, completing a Club Survey, benefits to a member by joining Kiwanis and then fundraising efforts and how this would gain new members.

Steve Handegaard talked about club reporting including the Club Resource website portal available to all of us to use for a uniform website look and to use for club reporting all online.

You can view some photos of the event at the following link:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/districtk>

Mary Sieling

Region 2 Lt. Governor 2007-2008

## Great Success for the Key Leader Weekend at Inspiration Point, MN

The weather was perfect. It was even hot on Saturday, a beautiful autumn lake day. The food was fantastic. The students were awesome. There were numerous key club members, key club district officers, 4-H members, and student counsel members. Comments by the students were overwhelmingly positive, and they loved the location.

The adults were enthusiastic and enjoyed a relaxing weekend. Our Kiwanis Governor and Secretary attended as well as a few of our Lt. Governors. In addition, there were two adults from Kiwanis International who experienced the colorful fall season of Minnesota. Hospitality by the area Kiwanis was incredible. The Fergus Falls Kiwanis helped provide food and water for breaks and provided a few adults who helped out at registration and during the day.

Students learned about integrity, respect, community, service leadership, growth and excellence. One of the comments received was about how this particular student never realized how important his values were and how these "non-negotiables" influenced his choices in life. Many of the skits showed the imagination and talent that students in our district have. Lastly, all the students took with them, memories for a lifetime.

I personally want to thank the district and all the adults who helped with this event. It is because of the numerous and generous volunteers in our district that we were so successful in our program. We are hoping to hold next year's event at the same location and date. Watch the district news for the upcoming announcement.

Service Leadership is "To give to others, to encourage them to do things they need to do, to do the things they want to do, to be better than they were before. To do this all without ever preventing them from being themselves." –Tracey Lynn Thomas

Check here for photos of the event

<http://picasaweb.google.com/districtk>

In Service,

Clover Ellingson

cloverjean@cableone.net

MN-DAK Kiwanis Key Leader Program

## KIWANIS AKTION CLUB NETWORK

The Downtown Kiwanis Club of Mankato sponsored a Theater AKTION club several months ago and it is up and running full force. Fortunately, the Kiwanis Club had a member willing and more than enthusiastic in being the advisor, director and coordinator of the club. The members came from the Mankato area through word of mouth, affiliation with ARC, People First, SMILES, LEEP, MRCI and friends. Never, has there been a more excited group with such vitality and feeling of appreciation for this opportunity to be acknowledged as vital members of our community.

The meetings are held twice a month at Centenary United Methodist Church from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M. and guests and new members are welcome. Each member purchased a T-shirt that includes their name in large bold letters on the back. The officers and board members were elected followed by a commissioning ceremony at a later time. The members take their responsibility very seriously and are proud to be a KIWANIAN.

Many of the members are personally affected by the past horrific actions of the state institutions only having a grave marker with a number for identification. This is being corrected and in August a service was held at the St. Peter State Hospital acknowledging this situation. The AKTION club developed a play under the direction of Wilbur Nueswander-Frink, their adviser that was presented at the site in St. Peter. It was a magnificent, humbling expression of the deepest sentiments of all present. They also presented the play at an annual event in Mankato. Markers are now being placed on the graves with names, birth and death dates. Funds are urgently needed to accomplish this much needed acknowledgment. Currently, they have two occasions to prepare plays for in the future including the District meeting April 12th. Along with Wilbur, the director, there is Melanie who is the drama coach, teaches and leads exercises in breathing, expression of emotions, motions, voice tones, movements and overall building of self confidence.

The officers conduct a business meeting and currently are preparing to volunteer for the Salvation Army Red Kettle along with a Sponsoring Kiwanis member. They also have ideas for a fund raiser. They spend time in aerobic exercises, singing, and some dancing. All in all it is an extraordinary evening. A local Pub has volunteered to open their establishment one night a month in the early evening hours for the Developmentally Delayed adults in the community. They are having a costume Halloween Party at the Pub that will be exciting and fun.

We encourage you to connect with the other clubs through this Network to share your ideas, plans and to ask questions. MNDK AKTION CLUB ADMINISTRATORS ARE: CAROLE AND DWAIN PETERSEN 124 SAPPHIRE COURT MANKATO, MN 56001

## **Pierre Kiwanians Spearheaded Fund-raiser**

### **Kiwanis Club coordinates fund-raiser for Southeast**

Thanks to a fund-raising effort spearheaded by the Pierre, SD, Kiwanis Club, the Southeast Pierre Community Center in Pierre has several new pieces of equipment to serve the Community Banquet with each Thursday.

Kiwanis donated \$200 toward the project and challenged any other service group or organization that serves the Community Banquet to donate what they could. Eldon Lindquist and Patrick Van Lith served as co-chairs of the project for Kiwanis. Thrivent Financial Services, of which Lindquist is assistant financial director, made a \$500 gift, and 20 organizations donated a total of \$3,300.

With the money, an upright 23-cubic foot refrigerator, eight new roasters, a rolling cart and a metal serving table were purchased.

"The people that serve the banquet are really pleased," said Larry Cass, chairman of the board at Southeast. "It's been a really good help for us."

Cass said that salads and desserts can be kept in the refrigerator until they are needed. Banquet officials especially like the adjustable shelves of the refrigerator, he said.



## **St. Cloud Kiwanis Officers Installed, Awards Presented**

Jeff Voit was installed as president at the St. Cloud Kiwanis Club at the Club's installation dinner Monday evening, October 1. The event was held at the Kelly Inn and included a silent auction fundraiser. Voit's term will run through September 30, 2008. Voit is a registered investment advisor for Schluchter Investment Advisors and a member of Kiwanis since 2001. Jeff and his wife, Michelle, have three children.

Other officers installed were: Rose Blesener, president-elect; Sam Stone, vice president; Coralyn Dahl, secretary; John Gamades (deceased, October 9) treasurer; and Art Grachek, immediate past president. Chris Kellett-Sawdey, Immediate Past Lt. Governor of Region 3 of the Minnesota Dakotas District of Kiwanis International presided at the installation ceremonies. This year's installation event was notable in that it was held in conjunction with the St. Cloud Sunrise Kiwanis Club.

The Club also presented its annual awards. The Kiwanian of the Year Award was presented to Charity Hovre. Hovre has been a member of Kiwanis since 2005 and chaired the 2007 Kiwanis/Kids Against Hunger fundraising event. The event raised over \$8,000 and will be used to help fund the work of Kids Against Hunger of Central Minnesota. In addition, Hovre serves on the Club's board of directors and was a delegate to the 2007 Minnesota Dakotas District Kiwanis Convention.

The Louis Coursolle Volunteer of the Year award was given to Fran Voelker for his support of Kids Against Hunger projects and his dedication as a KAH food packager volunteer.

A special recognition award for a lifetime of contributions to Kiwanis was given to Gerald Eilers. Eilers submitted his resignation from Kiwanis earlier this year because of health issues and was not present to accept the award. It was noted that prior to his resignation, Eilers had completed more than 41 years of perfect attendance. During his tenure in Kiwanis, Eilers served as Club president and as Region 3 Lt. Governor. He is a Legion of Honor award recipient and a Hixon Fellowship member. Eilers and his wife Blanch reside at St. Benedict's Senior Community in St. Cloud.

Legion of Honor awards were presented to Dave Ebnet for 25 years of perfect attendance and to Dennis Tufte for 35 years. Other Kiwanians earning perfect attendance recognition were: Ralph Searles (16 yrs.); John Gamades (14 yrs.); Coralyn Dahl (12 yrs.); Manuel Madrid (6 yrs.); Ron Zitzow (2 yrs.); Orin Dahl (2 yrs.); and Art Grachek (1 yr.).

Special guests attending the event were Lt. Governor Elect Marwin Bogue and wife Maxine, Former District Governor Jean Collins, and immediate Past Governor Coralyn Dahl and husband Orin, both members of the St. Cloud Kiwanis. To recognize her husband's support during her term as District Governor, Dahl presented Orin with a membership in the George F. Hixon Fellowship. The Fellowship was created in honor of Kiwanis International's first president and recognizes significant contribution to the International Endowment Fund.

## **Mankato Downtown Kiwanis Club Recognized at 2007 Arc Minnesota State Convention**

Aktion Club Theatre of Mankato started in late 2006. Many self-advocates (people with developmental disabilities) in the Mankato community had expressed interest in a theatre group, so the Downtown Mankato Kiwanis Club supported them in this desire. The theatre group is a collaborative, community group that welcomes anyone within the community to join. The theatre club's focus revolves around social justice issues that people with disabilities face. The hope of the actors is to raise community awareness about disability issues and to develop and enhance their acting skills. The Arc of Minnesota Southwest, the ACCESS Program and People First of Mankato also support Aktion Club Theatre of Mankato. They have already performed twice and are now working on a new performance for the Kiwanis Region Six meeting being held in Mankato in April of 2008. Thanks to the Downtown Mankato Kiwanis Club, more people in the community have the opportunity to share their gifts and talents!

## **St. Cloud Kiwanis Present Check to Make-A-Wish Foundation of Minnesota**

The St. Cloud Kiwanis Club presented a check for \$9,000.00 to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Minnesota at its October 29<sup>th</sup> club meeting. The proceeds for the donation came from the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual golf classic hosted by the St. Cloud Kiwanis Club and co-sponsored by Sprint. The event was held at the Territory Golf Club on September 17 and attracted 82 participants. The check was presented by Ralph Searles, co-chair of the golf classic, to Jim Wensel, a wish parent and volunteer for the Make-A-Wish Foundation

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Minnesota is dedicated to granting the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. In accepting the donation, Wensel stated that the objective of Make-A-Wish is to fulfill 250 wishes in 2008 in Minnesota.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Minnesota was established in 1982 and has since granted over 2,800 wishes. During that time, over 250 children in central Minnesota have benefited from Make-A-Wish. "Wishes can range from having a special toy to a family trip to Disney World; be as functional as a computer; or as exciting as meeting a favorite celebrity. Whatever the wish, it is the dream of the child," said Wensel.

Kiwanis is an international service organization whose primary objective is to serve the children of the world. Locally, in addition to the Make-A-Wish fundraiser, the St. Cloud Kiwanis provides substantial funding to Kids Against Hunger of Central Minnesota, scholarships to students from six area high schools, and sponsorship of a K-Kid's Club at Lincoln Elementary School, District 742. More information about the St. Cloud Kiwanis can be obtained at [www.stcloudkiwanis.org](http://www.stcloudkiwanis.org).

Art Grachek  
Chair Public Relations Committee  
St. Cloud Kiwanis Club

## **LET'S EXPLORE THE B.U.G. (BRING UP GRADES) PROGRAM**

Recognition includes being placed on the school's B.U.G. Honor Roll, a pizza, ice cream, or other food-themed party; and presentation of certificates, pins, and other giveaways.

Bring Up Grades is the academic achievement component of the Kiwanis Kids offerings.

The B.U.G. Program was created for use in a school setting, but a community center or

agency supporting youth could use this program to encourage academic achievement.

The designed program coordinator would recognize participants when report cards are shared and it is noted that a grade has been raised.

B.U.G. (Bring Up Grades) is the academic achievement component of the Kiwanis Kids offerings.

Teachers spend more time at the onset of this program identifying specific student goals. There is also some time involved with writing letters to parents about this program.

Charts to record student progress and sample form letters are all included in the program kit.

Many teachers find the extra effort is well worth the end result of increased participation, cooperation in the classroom and an atmosphere more conducive to learning.

Volunteers supporting the B.U.G. program initially spend the most time identifying partnering businesses to support the program.

They also become involved with planning student recognition activities and decorating the school premises with recognition bulletin boards and promotional banners. Most volunteers find involvement in the program extremely rewarding and well worth the time.

If you would like to [have a program presented to your Kiwanis Club](#) on B.U.G. (Bring Up Grades), K-Kids, or TERRIFIC Kids, please contact [Dawn Fairbrother](#), the MN-DAK District Administrator via e-mail at [muffins3@charter.net](mailto:muffins3@charter.net) or home telephone at [507-451-5939](tel:507-451-5939) or cell phone at [507-363-6766](tel:507-363-6766).

**If you are thinking about starting a B.U.G. (Bring Up Grades), K-Kids, or TERRIFIC Kids program or Club, please let Dawn know and she will be glad to help you through the process.**

You can also get a step-by-step guide for implementing and managing a B.U.G. program by going to the website at [www.bringupgrades.org](http://www.bringupgrades.org) or by calling **1-800-Kiwanis, (1-800-549-2647) extension 390 to order.**

## **SOME KIWANIANs GO TO GREAT LENGTHS TO INTERCLUB!**

While visiting their son in Bloomington, Illinois, Judie Rosendahl, Lt. Governor-Elect of Region 6 and Myron Rosendahl, Director of Membership for Region 6, both of the Madison, MN. Kiwanis Club, decided it would be fun to attend a Kiwanis meeting, outside of the MN-DAK District.

Judie and Myron decided to visit the 150 member Kiwanis Club of Bloomington, Illinois. John Corullard, is the president. The president said that their Kiwanis Club is very happy for having the distinction of having the longest running continuous fund raiser in all of Kiwanis International. They serve pancakes for two days and make about \$35,000 each

year which goes to help children in Bloomington and the surrounding area attend camp.

### **HEY MA, I CAUGHT A FISH!**

Each year, the Golden "K" Kiwanis Club, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and members of the Duane Engbard family hosts the annual Duane Engbard Memorial Big Brothers/Big Sisters Fishing event which is held on the Lake Kohlmeier dock.

On a bright, sunny Wednesday, September 19th there were 15 “littles” (kids: boys and girls) from Steele and Dodge Counties and 10 “bigs” (adult: men and women) who took part in this event. One “little” caught 25 fish and another “little” caught 23 fish. The fishing is a “catch and release” program so they may have caught the same fish more than once!

After an hour of fishing fun, the “littles” and the “bigs” got together for a hot dog roast and other goodies. After the hot dog roast, prizes were awarded for the two top winners for catching the most fish. Then there was a drawing of names for other prizes. So all the “littles” went home winners! The best part for the “bigs” was to see the excitement and awe on the faces of the “littles” as they caught a fish! Some of the “litties” had NEVER gone fishing and/or caught a fish before in their young lives!

Our Kiwanians had a blast interacting with the kids; seeing the joy on their faces, hearing them talk about their lives; and, watching them with their fish when they had their pictures taken.



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