

September 2008

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MINNEKOTAN

Published by Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

Bill's Pitch

With the convention now a memory it's hard to imagine how fast time flies. The table appears to be set for new club building in Appel Valley, Albertville, and Baxter. The hope is that we will be chartering clubs in these areas before next June. We have developed TAG team members to answer the call and work with the communities and clubs willing to sponsor these new clubs.



The beauty of our system of transition of leadership is that I am not done, I am able to continue to work with Kiwanis. I am looking forward to assisting Bill Lardy, Bruce Klair, and Steve Handegaard as a member of the executive board of the Minnesota-Dakotas District.

As club boards of directors set up their budgets for the coming year, please remember the support for our foundations. Both the District and International Foundations are looking for your continued support. For those clubs that have opted out over the past few years, please reconsider and get back to supporting Kiwanis on the District and International level through your donations.

Looking forward to seeing many of you again as we move on to a District that is strong and a leader in Kiwanis. Thank you all for your support.

Bill Daugherty, District Governor 2007-2008

Update from the Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer - Sept 2008

By Steve Handegaard, Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer



Greetings,

- District Convention:** Our District Convention in Moorhead is now completed. It was a great time with lots of Kiwanis education and fellowship. Thanks to all that played a part in making it such a successful convention. Registrations for the convention included: 278 total participants; 96 clubs and 180 voting delegates. Plans are already underway for another great district convention in 2009 in Watertown, SD. Mark the dates on your calendar- July 31, August 1, 2. All clubs should be represented at the district convention! It is a great opportunity to learn new ideas, meet new friends and enjoy great Kiwanis fellowship. Please set aside funds in your club budget to financially support those attending from your club next year. To view photos of the 2008 convention go to <http://picasaweb.google.com/districtk>
- Official District Convention Minutes:** To view official minutes of the following meetings held during the District Convention please go to the "District News" link on our Minnesota-Dakotas District webpage or click on the following links:

District Board Meeting – August 8

<http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/story.php?articleid=2282&id=3>

2008 House of Delegates Session – August 9

<http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/story.php?articleid=2283&id=3>

District Board Meeting – August 10

<http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/story.php?articleid=2284&id=3>

- **Club Secretaries:** Be sure that you have submitted all of your monthly online club reports for the 07-08 year. Remember that the September report (last report of the year) is due by October 10th, 2008. With the monthly online reporting system you will not be asked to submit a separate annual report. In addition, all reports must be submitted to qualify for the Distinguished Club Award.
- **How do members apply for the “2007-2008 Distinguished Member” Award?** Members should complete the online form available on the Kiwanis International Website by no later than October 15, 2008.
<http://www.kiwanisone.org/MemberResources/Membership/DistinguishedMemberForm.aspx>
- The 2007-2008 Kiwanis year is not over until the end of September, but I would like to take this opportunity to give special thanks to Governor Bill Daugherty and First Lady Arlyce for their 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 Bill Lardy and First Lady Dixie who will lead our district beginning October 1. And last, but not least congratulations to Bruce Klair and Phyllis who will serve as Governor Elect during 2008-2009.
- We are still putting the final touches on our brand new Minnesota-Dakotas District Website. We expect to roll it out in the next month. Those attending the District Convention received a preview of the new website. It will have the same address so if you can find our current site, you will be able to find the new one. Watch for more details soon.

There is still a month left in the 2007-2008 Kiwanis year and much still to be done!

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Leading to Serve by Bill Lardy, Governor Designate

Leading to Serve ... Highlighting Service

Last month's District convention highlighted the wide range of service that is provided by Kiwanis clubs and members in their communities. Attendees



were encouraged to return home and lead the way to increased service for children and youth through their Kiwanis clubs.

The forums specifically highlighted how clubs can expand their service outreach: The March of Dimes forum conducted by Melany Jenkins showed how Kiwanis clubs can work with that organization to improve child and maternal health. The panel discussion on Service Leadership Programs showed how clubs can improve and increase interaction with children and youth. And the forum on Key Leader Camp showed how this program gives high school students an introduction to leadership roles.

Kiwanis International Counselor, International Trustee Designate, Dr. Tadao ODA, reinforced for us the international aspect of Kiwanis and the great work Kiwanis has done in developing areas of the world.

The announcement of each Region's Star Award recipient was especially meaningful. These 7 people are role models each of us should emulate. These people are often unsung heroes. Recognizing their service at the District convention is a fitting tribute to their unselfish generosity in giving to their communities. Their work should inspire and motivate all of us!

With a new Kiwanis year about to begin make a commitment now to ratchet up our service a notch or more. The children in your community may need your help now more than ever! Can we make 2008-2009 the best year ever in the Minnesota Dakotas District? I say, "Yes!" Together we can make it happen!

KIWANIS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION OF THE MN-DAK DISTRICT

At the Friday afternoon convention session Jack Zierdt, Executive Secretary of the Educational Foundation, presented the Foundation report. The endowment fund currently has about \$900,000 in the investment portfolio. This is about \$40,000 less than one year ago and is due to the downturn in the market. We are still striving for the \$1,000,000 level in the endowment fund but it is going to take a little longer than we anticipated a year ago. Only the interest from the endowment fund is spent each year. During the current year 53 \$800 scholarships and one \$1,000 scholarship were awarded. Students receiving these scholarships must be from the MN-DAK District and must attend a college or university within the District. For the next academic year we anticipate awarding the same number of scholarships. It is hoped that the amount of the scholarships can be increased somewhat above the \$800 level. At the current time interest earned on investments indicate an increase may be possible. Dale Carlson from Minnesota and Lionel Muthiah from North Dakota were re-elected to 3 year terms on the Board of Trustees for the Educational Foundation.

The Board of Trustees of the Educational Foundation met on late Friday after the convention general session. The following actions were taken:

1. Board minutes of May 17, 2008 were approved.
2. Jack Zierdt presented the Secretary/Treasurer report.
3. Jim Bekken was elected President for 2008-09. Lionel Muthiah was elected Vice-President for 2008-09. Jack Zierdt was appointed Secretary/Treasurer for 2008-09.
4. The dollar amount for 2009-10 scholarships will be determined in early October and will be based on interest earned in 2007-08.
5. Students receiving the matching Kiwanis International Foundation/District Foundation Key Club Scholarships will not be restricted to college attendance within our District

boundaries.

During the convention collections to increase the endowment fund were taken at the Friday afternoon session (\$878.00) and at the interdenominational church service on Sunday (\$814.00). Money was also donated toward Vantine Life Fellowships (\$600.00) and one new Century Club donation (\$100). As a result of the Convention an addition of \$2392.00 has been placed in the endowment fund.

At the Board of Trustees meeting at Fergus Falls, MN in May the week of Nov. 16-22, 2008 was designated as Minnesota-Dakotas Educational Foundation week. All District clubs are asked to focus on the work of the Educational Foundation that week and all Kiwanis clubs and members are asked to support the Foundation with financial gifts.

Submitted by Dale Carlson

Newest Aktion club in Mn-Dak

On August 13, 2008 the FM Aktion Club of Fargo & Moorhead received their charter.

The number of charter members is 139, and 10 more members have joined since the chartering.

At the charter party were members of all 7 Kiwanis clubs that were involved with the building and sponsoring of this club.

Nearly 180 people were on hand to see this history making event.

The mayors of both cities as well as nearly 90% of the charter members were in attendance.

Media coverage included 2 television stations, as well as radio and the local newspaper.

Fall Rally

Mark your calendar for Key Club's Fall Rally Convention on November 1st and 2nd. This is a fun filled event where key club members from all around our district come together and learn more about Key Club.

The District officers will be holding forums for the key club members to attend. Some of the forums help train officers on their duties and responsibilities, where others allow members to be creative and express their artistic side by creating Thanksgiving Day cards for a retirement home. This weekend also allows key club members and kiwanians to learn about people on the district board.

We would be honored if you would join us this November. Please contact your Key Clubs to make sure they are attending as well. :-).

AKTION CLUB DEVELOPMENT

AKTION Clubs offer opportunities to members of all communities who have in the past been overlooked in their potential in contributing to society in a dignified manner. As administrators, we offer assistance in "planting a seed" in local clubs to consider sponsoring an Aktion Club.

First, dial 1-800-KIWANIS and request an AKTION Club building kit which contains guidelines for establishing a club. Assess your community for possible leadership, we call them Angels. We all know how to find angels, pray and they will appear.

If the angels are not currently members of your Kiwanis Club, share your ideas with them and invite them to a club meeting. Keep in mind that Kiwanis is established on a focus of SERVICE and fellowship. Be creative and accepting in your brainstorming. There may be agencies in your area whose clients are developmentally delayed.

Perhaps you could visit the administrators of the agency to propose the idea of AKTION. Emphasize that this is an interaction of all segments of society and not a division of ability levels. It is one of the finest examples of mainstreaming that exists today.

If possible, we would visit a board or club meeting to share the excitement of sponsoring an AKTION Club. If you wish to discuss the idea, please contact us by phone, email, regular mail, facebook or in person.

Barb Graber, the Angel of the 139 member Fargo-Moorhead AKTION Club would also welcome your questions and comments. Her addresses are: bgraber@fraserltd.org and Fraser LTD, 2902 University Dr. South; Fargo, ND 58103.

The Mankato Downtown Kiwanis Club; PO Box 733, Mankato, MN 56001 www.mankatokiwanis.org has sponsored a Theater Aktion Club and it is absolutely amazing the enthusiasm and productivity that the members exude.

If you already have sponsored an AKTION Club, please give us a summary of your organization, activities, fund raisers and outreach. We guarantee you will never regret reaching out to this population of your community.

91st District Convention is not History

The 91st annual convention was a complete success with many good forums, speakers, projects, and entertainment.

This year's convention also had an increase in attendance, and we want to thank all of the clubs that were represented plus all of the members, delegates and guests that helped to make this another wonderful experience for all.

Photos of the convention are on line and can be enjoyed by all.

Plans are already under way for the 2009 convention in Watertown, SD., so make your plans to be there.

Thanks from Pat and Larry Rittgarn/Convention Directors

District Votes to Support Stewart Ross for International Trustee

The delegates at the Minnesota-Dakotas District Convention voted unanimously to support the candidacy of Stewart Ross for International Trustee. Former Governor Ross is well qualified for this position as he has been dedicated to the work of Kiwanis for many years.

After joining Kiwanis in 1989, he has served as a distinguished president and for the past 8 years has served as distinguished secretary of his club. He was a distinguished Lt. Governor of Region 6. He is a Certified Leadership Education (CLE) Instructor.

Stewart is a Kiwanis Life Member, a District Life Member and a District Foundation Messer Fellow. He served our district as Governor in 2005-2006 and is the current District Director of New Club Building and Membership Growth.

He is currently serving on the International Task Force for Membership Diversity, the Kiwanis International Global Membership Growth Committee and will be serving on the Kiwanis International Committee for Leadership this next year..

In the months to come, I will be asking for your help - each club, each member to assist with this campaign. I will be telling you of the obstacles to overcome, but also the great rewards of helping with this exciting campaign. I thank those who

have already volunteered to help - we will need many, many more of you to help. I'll tell you more next month! If you wish to volunteer now write to me at clbdahl@aol.com

Thank you,
Coralyn Dahl

2008 Circle K International Convention Report

The 2008 Circle K International Convention took place at the Sheraton in downtown Denver. Minn-Dak attendance was Matthew Schuweiler, Josie Greve, Kristin Thomas, and Daardi Sizemore from MSU Mankato; Sarah Shepherd and Will and Bernie Backes from Itasca Community College; Erica Dahl from Concordia College; Emily Mountain, Ryan Harmon, and Courtney Taylor from North Dakota State University; Kacy Haatvedt and Senia Jutila from the College of St. Scholastica; Kari Hipsak from Augustana College; and Ann and Courtney Backes-Dodge.

The opening session of the convention included remarks from Don Canaday, the Kiwanis International President-designate, and from representatives of the CKI service partners: UNICEF, March of Dimes, STUFH (Students Team Up to Fight Hunger), COTA (Children's Organ Transplant Association), and Better World Books. The keynote speaker was Kurt Kuenne, director of the short film *Validation*.

District members attended a series of workshops on the second day that included learning about our service partners, leadership, how to plan service projects and district events, and others that trained us for our respective club and district positions.

Day three started with the first House of Delegates. We heard from the Presidential candidates and then began consideration of Bylaw Amendments. The evening session was CKI Honors Night, where two of our District's members received Circle K International Scholarships, Josie Greve (MSU, Mankato) and Tonya Mayfield (NDSU). The speaker of this session was Brendon Burchard, author of *Life's Golden Ticket* and *The Leadership Guide*.

The final day of the convention started with the second House of Delegates. Elected were Kristen Reed of New York District for International President and Ricardo Torres of Pennsylvania District for International Vice-President. All the members of the Minn-Dak district had an amazing time and are looking forward to bringing home all their newly learned ideas to their home clubs for the upcoming school year.

Next stop: the 2009 CKI Convention in Birmingham, Alabama!

-Written by Courtney Taylor, NDSU-

Sioux Falls Man Honored By Kiwanis For Lifesaving Heroics

Ryan Jorgensen, Sioux Falls, South Dakota was honored with the Robert P. Connelly Award at the District Kiwanis Convention in Moorhead, Minnesota.

See the article posted on the KSFY Website:

<http://www.ksfy.com/news/26821014.html>

Key Club International Trustee.

Last month at the Key Club International Convention, Frances Bruce ran for International Trustee... and got it.

Frances is from Rochester, MN, and served as a Lieutenant Governor for the Minn-Dak district board 2 years in a row. She received the Robert F. Lucas Distinguished Lieutenant Governor award last year for her outstanding work.

The Minn-Dak district is very proud of Frances and wishes her the best this year.

Sign up now for the Key Leader Event at Inspiration Point on Oct.3-5

Key Leader is open to **all students** in grades 9-12. It can be a student council member, 4-H, International exchange students, or a key club member.

The event starts on Friday, Oct. 3 with registration starting at 4PM. The event ends on Sunday by 11:30AM. Registration is online at www.key-leader.org. Key Club members will get a \$25 discount just by being a key club member. There is an additional \$20 discount by add the code "excel" for the first 38 participants that register. Registration will close at 100 participants and a penalty of \$25 will be added to those who register after September 13.

If you have questions, please email cloverjean@cablone.net.

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Key Leader in Schools?

Kiwanis Key Leader can be held in a high school over a weekend. It is a little different than being in a camp however. Kiwanis has had a few of these in the United States and has had success with them.

The event is set up for area schools and must have a guarantee of 60 in advance of booking it. If you are interested in bringing this event to a high school in your area and can guarantee 60 students, email me.

We will bring this event to your high school.

Cloverjean@cableone.net



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