Division Star Awards

2019 - 2020

Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International
Sandra “Sandy” Teubner
Harvey Kiwanis Club

Sandy Teubner, a member of the Harvey Kiwanis Club since 2006 (over 13 years), served on the Harvey Kiwanis Club Board of Directors for several years before moving to Vice President, then serviced as President from 2015-2018 (4 years).

Sandy has commitment and is dedicated to Kiwanis service within the community and she is a member whose voluntary service and dedication is an example for everyone to follow. It doesn’t matter what project the Harvey Club undertakes, and without recognition, Sandy is always one of the first to volunteer and accept a leadership role. Sandy was instrumental in securing donations and grants worth $120,000 to purchase playground equipment in 2016 for Harvey’s “Centennial Park”, an epic challenge for a club with 15 members. This project involved many of our members in logistics and donation of service hours.

Sandy helped spearhead the Harlem Ambassadors Basketball fundraiser in Sept. 2016 and she has volunteered with the Kiwanis lunch served at the annual St. Aloisius Health Fair. Funds raised from the lunch go toward the college scholarship awards we give to graduating seniors. She organized “Back To School Days” at the local schools, helped with taking tickets at football games and our annual highway ditch cleaning.

As a Certified Financial Healthcare Professional through Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA) she served on the Board of Directors for ND chapter then moved through the executive chair positions serving as HFMA Board President 2012-2013. She is a Licensed Long-Term Care Administrator and has served on the Harvey Economic Development Board. She has also volunteered teaching Sunday School for several years.

Sandy enjoys farm life at Cando with her husband Bruce and is the Chief Financial Officer at St. Aloisius Medical Center in Harvey.
Jean Bowman
Fergus Falls Noon Kiwanis Club

Jean deserves a Star Award as she cares about this community and the youth that live here. She is an inspiration at Kiwanis and in her personal and professional life. She lives the values of Kiwanis and all they stand for. Jean has initiated and has led many projects through Kiwanis and outside of Kiwanis. She leads with kindness, understanding and happiness.

Jean has served eight years on the board and during that time has become president in the 2011-2012 fiscal years. During her term she led Pitch Hit and Run. She continues to be involved with reading to 2nd graders in Fergus Falls, volunteering with the Lake Alice project where families can come out and enjoy ice skating and other activities on our small lake, Annual Easter Egg Hunt, and volunteering with whatever project needs help. Mrs. Bowman belongs to and attends many boards and participates in community events. She has been on the planning team for Shop Move and Groove – an event that started to get children and adults out moving through the community and participating in physical activities. As a member of band boosters, Jean has participated with fundraising to launch the band into the Inaugural Parade and Philadelphia Independence Day Parade. Jean has become instrumental in organizing and executing the awards banquet for Dollars for Scholars.

Jean is always looking for a way to help young family’s vacation and live in Fergus Falls with her work at Visit Fergus Falls. She has promoted and participated in such activities as Aqua Shataqua, Shop, Move and Groove, youth hockey tournaments, and Santa Train just to name a few.

It is an absolute privilege to know and serve with Jean. She exemplifies what Kiwanis stands for. This community and Fergus Falls Noon Kiwanis are lucky to have her.
Division 3

Dennis Anderson
Kiwanis Club of Friendly Duluth

Dennis Anderson has been a member of the Kiwanis Club of Friendly Duluth for 40 years. Dennis was instrumental in the early stages of the annual Kiwanis televised Auction and has been the auction MC for 52 of the past 53 years. The funds raised from the auction go to the “Youth Fund” which allows the Club to provide grants for various youth organizations throughout the Duluth area.

In addition, Dennis has tirelessly promoted the Scenic Rail Excursion for the Boys and Girls Club of Duluth. Dennis’ dedication and involvement with this project has resulted in the naming of this train as the “Dennis Anderson Youth Train Ride”.

Dennis continues to promote the Kiwanis Club of Friendly Duluth while co-hosting the PBS Almanac North local news hour.
From the first Lyman joined our club, he has provided leadership and a real “can do” attitude. He has led in the areas of service, leadership and fellowship. He volunteers at almost all of our events and has stepped up to fill much needed leadership roles.

Lyman has been active in several leadership roles in our club. He has been Club Membership Chair from 2017-2020; Club President in 2018-2019 and again in 2020-2021. He has been on our Club Board since 2016.

Other club projects and events that Lyman has worked on include:

- Lenten Fish Fry
- Mini Golf Tournament
- Prospector Bowl
- Community Clean up
- Dictionary Project
- Cornerstone Mission
- Meals on Wheels
- Black Hills Mining Museum Board
- Deadwood Historic Preservation Board

Lyman has been the club’s go to guy during the recent pandemic. When it comes to virtual meetings during the COVID outbreak, Lyman stepped up to make sure we could continue to meet in the virtual environment. Since we have restarted face-to-face meetings, he always arrives early to open the facility and continues to Zoom the meetings to those who are not yet ready to return. His willingness to serve others and lead has affected our club very positively and his efforts are greatly appreciated by all of us.
On behalf of all members in our Madison Kiwanis Club, I would like to nominate long-standing member, Chuck Robbins, to receive the Star Achievement Award from District 5. Chuck has been a member of our club since 1966, and since that time, he has shown steadfast loyalty, service and dedication to our club and its mission.

Chuck has been involved with several club projects, including: past Kiwanis Club organizer of the “Adopt-A-Highway” clean-up efforts in cleaning area ditches, helping serve with Kiwanis Club during our turn at the “Gathering Meal”, a fellowship meal put on every week at the Methodist Church, and last but not least, our Pancake Day. For the past several years he has taken the initiative and extra time to take it upon himself to personally contact many businesses in Madison in gathering pre-sales of Pancake Day tickets. The past several years he has sold over $3,000.00 in pre-sales of tickets, which helps to make our major fund-raising event even more successful! He has also consistently worked during this fund raiser every year by flipping pancakes as well as assisting anyone wherever he is needed.

Chuck is actively involved in the Madison area with encouraging the community to raise money for a Veteran’s Memorial Park, which is being planned to honor all Veterans. After returning from Texas for the winter, he is a faithful attendee and participates in our meetings.

I’m sure I am missing other wonderful ways Chuck has helped our club over 50 plus years, but I proud to nominate Chuck for this award he so richly deserves.
Sharon Taylor  
Mankato Kiwanis Club

Sharon is the face of Mankato Kiwanis. She goes out of her way to welcome new club members as well as visit with guests and perspective members. Sharon’s warm smile and friendly approach is perfect for attracting new members. Sharon also has the ability to retain club members by keeping them engaged in meaningful ways.

Sharon attends all regular meetings, board meetings as well as serving on several current and past committees. The Board of Directors agree that Sharon is the glue that holds the board together with her knowledge of all past and present members.

Sharon is currently the Club Secretary, she is past Club President, Thunder of Drums Committee member and Sharon was the Lieutenant Governor for 2018-2019.

Aside from Kiwanis, Sharon is also very active. Sharon serves on a variety of non-profit board committees such as The Salvation Army Board, SMILES Center for Independent Living and she was the driving force behind the annual Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast as well as the Division Conference last spring.

Sharon is a great candidate for this award because of her commitment to the mission of Kiwanis. Sharon has been a dedicated member for over 32 years.
Lowell Kutches
Kiwanis Club of Coon Rapids

Lowell has been a member for nine years and held the office of President from 2011-2018. He is a member of Faith Lutheran Church, Coon Rapids. He has served on the Council, served a presidential term, is an active member of Frogs (Faith Retired Old Guys) that does projects for the church as well as he was chair of the committee for St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in South Minneapolis, our mission church. The Global Mission committee went to Costa Rica several times of which he did two trips with the team.

He has been an active participant in the Bikes-4Kids organization. Coon Rapids Kiwanis started B4K many years ago in 2011. This began with Coon Rapids Kiwanis fixing 10-15 bikes each year to give to the Anoka City Christmas Committee and continues now with more than 100 bikes given to the Christmas Committee each year. Each person is given a helmet and lock with each bike. B4K is now an incorporated organization with all the rights of a 501-C3 organization.

Lowell has been a dedicated and loyal member of Kiwanis. He immediately stepped into the position of President and is always willing to chair the meeting whenever our current President is absent. He willingly attends regional, division and district meetings. He serves as alternate treasurer, volunteers with Global Health Ministries which is also a project of Faith Lutheran and FROGS. He has helped paint interior and exterior of that building. He is also willing to step in on special projects like the annual fishing clinic put on by the County DNR where he teaches kids about fishing and gives out fishing poles.