

Kiwanis

Nebraska-Iowa District

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Kiwanian Newsletter

February '10 – March '10



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Paul Palazzolo Message

Kiwanis International President for 2009-2010

What do cream pies, goldfish and hot dogs have in common? They can all be elements of a successful effort to increase your club's membership strength! The answer seems peculiar, but I'll explain.

As we highlight **MAY** as **MEMBERSHIP MONTH**, I hope your club is already planning something special that encourages Kiwanians to sponsor new members. Anyone in the club – whether you're a president, past president or recently joined – can take the initiative to get the club involved in a membership campaign.

Here are three elements that have proven to be helpful in a successful membership effort:

1. **Focused time-frame** – Whether it's five weeks or ten weeks, a definite period allows your members to keep the goal in mind with a sense of urgency.
2. **Focused goal** – A challenging and specific target motivates and develops a spirit of teamwork. Constantly publicize and display the goal and the progress at each meeting during the time-frame.
3. **Fun** – This is where the answer to the above question comes in.
 - Club presidents can offer to receive a cream pie in the face from every Kiwanian in the club that sponsors three new members!
 - Until he or she sponsors a new member, a randomly selected Kiwanian cares for the club's goldfish mascot! (You can use as many goldfish mascots as you wish to multiply the fun and the new member results.)
 - Portion the club into teams for membership recruiting purposes. The team sponsoring the most new members enjoys an exceptional meal at a celebration meeting while all others enjoy hot dogs!



There's no peculiar answer to why we need to highlight **MAY** as **MEMBERSHIP MONTH** or why we must strengthen our Kiwanis Club membership. When we have more Kiwanians, we can provide more service, more Terrific Kids programs, more hands to work at our clubs' fundraisers, more help to fulfill our responsibilities of Kiwanis Family sponsorship and more smiles on the faces of children in our communities and around the globe. **For this answer and for these reasons in your community, let's plan now to make May 2010 the most successful KIWANIS MEMBERSHIP MONTH ever!**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul".

Paul Palazzolo

Support Our Foundations with "Passion"

by Governor Ron Petsch

As I have traveled around the District this year attending events and making official Governor's visits, I am thankful to the Divisions that have provided donations to the NE-IA District Foundation on my behalf.



I must admit during the early years of my first involvement in Kiwanis, I was confused by the two Foundations supported by our District, but have since developed a sense of appreciation for what these two groups do to further the objectives of Kiwanis. I hope others take the time to research and understand the good these groups are doing for us.

I learned that both the NE-IA District Kiwanis Foundation and the Kiwanis International Foundation were viable links and sources to providing extra funds to make a difference in the lives of young people. Many people say that the funds collected by these Foundations may not be used locally, but please remember that the name Kiwanis International implies a worldwide organization.

Membership into Kiwanis means a commitment on the part of the member to help serve some of the needs of children throughout the world. Isn't it exciting to know that with a mere \$5 donation with "passion" per year per Foundation, we can contribute to the organization we all love and know that we indeed will make a difference in the life of a child both here at home and around the world? The NE-IA Foundation makes a difference right here in our District. Their goal is to assist clubs that are struggling to fulfill their financial commitment to a worthwhile project.

It would be my hope that all Kiwanis Clubs budget and donate to the Foundations yearly. If you read the articles within this issue of the District KIWANIS Bulletin, you will begin to understand the differences that are being made. Please support our Foundations with "Passion". Give with an

open mind and be thankful that we can provide this gift to those in need. Thanks to all who donate graciously to both Foundations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Petsch".

Annual Gift Campaign

By Jane Erickson

Recently I received an update from a young woman from our district, an exemplary product of our Kiwanis family.



I met Anna Everitt Hargis years ago while she served on our District Key Club Board. I watched her receive one of our district's scholarships, and then followed her through her college career in Circle K.

Now a college graduate, successfully employed, married, and a leader in her church, Anna will be returning to Myanmar on a mission trip this May. We met recently and I sat as a proud Kiwanian listening to stories of her 2009 trip helping children, sharing love, support, and dedication to the world's children. When I asked her about her passion she said she had been well-groomed by her Kiwanis family experiences.

To hear her sharing her experiences in another community and for other children is very satisfying. To know she was the recipient of one of our Kiwanis International Foundation and NE-IA Foundation scholarships is seeing our donations in action.

Supporting the foundations' Annual Gift Campaign helps to fund scholarships and enable Service Leadership Program experiences like Anna's and they in turn help children all over the world.

Please support our world's children by sending your Annual Gift Campaign contributions today. To those who have already donated, Anna and the children she helps send a most heartfelt THANK YOU!

World Wide Service Project Finalists

Following are the three finalists for the next Kiwanis World Wide Service project. The final selection will be announced in June 2010 at the Kiwanis International Convention.

1) Malaria: Malaria No More

The Malaria No More (MNM) and the Canadian Red Cross (CRC) project proposes to end Malaria deaths in Africa by 2015 – a goal endorsed by the global community.



Malaria kills 3,000 children in Africa every day. But thanks to a new generation of tools, on-the-ground successes and increased political and public support, the world is better prepared to defeat malaria now than at any other time in history.

Investments in Malaria are reaping huge rewards, and have helped reduce Malaria deaths and illnesses by more than 50 percent in several African countries, including Rwanda, Eritrea, Zambia, Botswana and the Islands of Zanzibar between 2000 and 2008.

The project would raise \$60 million over six years for mosquito net distribution, training and technical assistance and awareness.

2) Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus: UNICEF

Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus (MNT) kills one baby every four minutes. MNT can abruptly turn the joy of new life into wrenching tragedy. Its effects are excruciating - tiny newborns suffer repeated, painful convulsions and become hypersensitive to light, sound and touch.



Even a mother's soothing voice and comforting

caress are unbearable for the infant. Few babies survive. Tetanus may claim the mother's life as well.

In impoverished countries, where women have little access to health care, many are forced to give birth in an unsanitary environment. Tetanus spores are found everywhere - in the air, in soil and on contaminated objects.

Bacteria can enter the mother's body through open wounds and pass through a newly cut umbilical cord. Once the baby is infected, a lethal toxin attacks his or her nervous system. Tetanus is highly preventable. Three doses of a vaccine can protect mothers and babies.

This project would raise \$110 million to eliminate a deadly disease and save 129 million mothers and their future babies.

3) Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)

The Global Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases proposal's goal is to ensure that the more than 1 billion children born between 2003



and 2020 journey into adulthood as the first generation to grow and thrive without the burden of NTDs.

Neglected Tropical Diseases are a group of 13 parasitic and bacterial infections that are the most common infections of the 1.4 billion people - including 600 million school-aged children - who live on less than \$1.25 per day.

They include intestinal worms, elephantiasis, and trachoma, the world's leading cause of preventable blindness. Together, NTDs blind, disfigure, stigmatize, and kill, keeping those infected trapped in a cycle of poverty and disease.

There are highly cost-effective, proven interventions for the seven most common NTDs that account for 90 percent of the global NTD disease burden. For approximately 50 cents per person per year, the diseases can be prevented and treated.

Global Network proposes a 10-year, \$150 million investment that will leverage \$1 billion globally.

The last Kiwanis World Wide Service project was the IDD (Iodine Deficiency Disorder) Service Project. In 1990, less than 20% of people worldwide consumed iodized salt. Today approximately 70% of household salt worldwide is iodized.

Kiwanis World Wide Service Project FAQs

Following on the success of the IDD service project, Kiwanis International issued a global call for proposals to be considered to become the organization's second Worldwide Service Project.

Nominated projects had to be child-focused, provide hands-on service, be compelling and relevant, and have both a global and local impact. The projects must also engage all Kiwanis programs, from Kiwanis Kids to Kiwanis.

Deadline for nominations was Oct. 1, 2009. Kiwanis plans to announce its next Worldwide Service Project this summer at its annual convention in Las Vegas during the Opening Session.

Questions and Answers

Q. What is a Worldwide Service Project?

A. Children and communities worldwide have diverse needs: access to health care, clean water, safe shelter, protection from slavery and forced labor, access to education, and so many others.

A Worldwide Service Project is a directed Kiwanis family-wide program to make a positive difference in the world by working on behalf of children in need.

Q. Why another Worldwide Service Project?

A. The numbers of children in need and the level of that need are as great or greater today than they have ever been.

Though many organizations and agencies are working for many solutions, no one entity can resolve that need. Kiwanis, through a Worldwide Service Project, can identify and work to resolve or to significantly improve one area of need, benefiting children worldwide.

Q. Who are the finalists?

A. The Kiwanis International Board of Trustees has selected three Worldwide Service Project finalists:

- Global Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases for their Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) proposal;
- Malaria No More with the support of the Canadian Red Cross for their Malaria proposal;
- Maternal and Neonatal tetanus proposal from UNICEF.

Q. How did Kiwanis select the three finalists?

A. After receiving nearly 200 proposals last fall, a global committee reviewed the proposals and narrowed the list down to four.

After hearing presentations from advocacy organizations about the four causes, the Kiwanis International Board selected the final three proposals.

Q. Will there be opportunity for hands-on service?

A. All three of the final projects include hands-on service opportunities for Kiwanis clubs and members. Kiwanis International required hands-on service to be a component of each proposal.

In addition, the Worldwide Service Project Steering Committee, a global committee appointed by Kiwanis International President Paul Palazzolo, will be meeting with all three finalists to discuss their proposals.

This in-depth discussion will include examining the proposed hands-on service components to ensure that they are in line with the type of service all Kiwanis family members are interested in doing.

To learn more about the hands-on service proposed in each project, visit www.kiwanis.org/wsp to view the final three proposals.

Q. How can my opinion be heard?

A. Kiwanis is soliciting input through its website, www.kiwanis.org/wsp, from members on which project to select as its next Worldwide Service Project. You can vote for your preference at this website location.

Q. When will the board make its decision?

A. The Kiwanis International Board will meet in April to make its selection.

Q. When will Kiwanis announce its decision?

A. In June, Kiwanis will announce the next Worldwide Service Project at the Kiwanis International Convention in Las Vegas during Opening Session.

(Continued on page 6)

Kiwanis World Wide Service Project FAQs (continued)

Q. How many proposals did Kiwanis receive?

A. Between the months of June and October of 2009, Kiwanis received nearly 200 Worldwide Service Project proposals.

Q. Was Kiwanis' first Worldwide Service Project (Iodine Deficiency Disorders) successful?

A. The Iodine Deficiency Disorders Worldwide Service Project was immensely successful.

Kiwanians and its Service Leadership Programs raised more than US\$100 million, which today is at work in more than 89 nations. The number of households estimated to be consuming iodized salt has jumped from 20 percent in 1990 to more than 70 percent, and the effort has been heralded as one of the most successful health initiatives in the world.

Q. Why not just keep contributing to IDD until it is eradicated?

A. Iodine Deficiency Disorders is virtually eradicated as a health issue. Though 100 percent of the world's children are not yet protected, programs are in place that will, in time, protect all children from IDD.

Q. Won't this reduce the benefit we provide to our own community and its children?

A. There are children in need in every community in every country in the world.

Kiwanis and its Service Leadership Programs will continue to work in their community, but it is our hope, too, that Kiwanians can come together as a global organization of passionate and committed citizens to tackle one issue that harms or hinders children everywhere, perhaps even in your own back yard.

Every child deserves a helping hand, whether he or she lives in your community or halfway around the world. Benefiting one child benefits every child.

Q. How does Kiwanis benefit?

A. Kiwanians who participate benefit by being part of a life-changing service project. We fulfill our mission - to develop and teach leadership and positively to change a child's life - and we work in unison to make the world a better place for children.

We embrace cultural and country differences and we demonstrate, through action, the passion, commitment and caring of Kiwanis members.

Additionally, Kiwanis will be seen as a world-leading organization, committed to children, to providing a helping hand and to helping change the world - for children and all of us.

Q. How much money will we raise?

A. Kiwanis has selected three finalists, and each with different fundraising goals. Until a project is selected, we won't know exactly what resources may be needed.

Q. Is money the solution for a Worldwide Service Project?

A. While money is part of the solution, it is unlikely to be the only need. Kiwanis is a service organization and as such, service will be a part of the solution as well. There may be opportunities for hands-on service, advocacy or other types of support.

Q. Who will be involved?

A. All of the Kiwanis family will have a role in the next Worldwide Service Project. We will need the help and commitment of all - Kiwanis, Circle K International, Key Club, Builders Club, K-Kids, Aktion Club, everyone.

The more hands, the more help and good we can provide, the more change we can make happen, the more children we can help.

Q. What if my club/district doesn't want to be part of this project?

A. Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers committed to making the world a better place for children. It is our hope that your club/district sees the need in your home community, but that it sees, too, that the need there is inextricably tied to needs elsewhere.

The plight of a child, regardless of where he or she lives, affects every other child, and if we want to make the world a better place to live, we must work hard, not only at home, but beyond.

K-Kids Making a Difference

by Carrie Kreisler, Managing Editor

Bellevue Leader

On Friday morning, 39 fourth-, fifth- and sixth-graders from the Wake Robin Elementary School boarded a bus and headed to the Open Door Mission east of downtown Omaha. They were joined by three teacher sponsors and five Bellevue-Offutt Kiwanis Club members.



The visit to the Open Door Mission was an opportunity for the young people to learn about the realities of homeless people in Omaha and to have fun helping them. Their goal was to make 800 sandwiches by 11 o'clock.

When they arrived at the facility, the regular Friday assembly-line style lunch making began. At one table, a handful of students made sandwiches.

They bagged them and sent them to the next table, where trail mix was added to a plastic shopping bag. Next came the potato chips and finally some donut holes. Then 25 bagged lunches were placed in bigger, clear trash bags.

The Wake Robin K-Kids, all in their matching blue club T-shirts, were joined by students from Dodge Elementary and Creighton Prep High School.

Every Friday, volunteers at the Open Door Mission make 800 lunches for the hungry and homeless. They load two vans with the plastic bags and 10 to 15 people set out on the delivery routes.

Besides the regular routes, the deliverers fulfill requests made by people who call in saying they don't have any food, said Connie Sawadogo, a volunteer assistant. They go to apartments, houses, parks and streets downtown to drop off lunches. For some people, what is in those bags is all the food they will have for the weekend.

Jane Erickson, a member of the Bellevue-Offutt Kiwanis Club and K-Kids sponsor, said one of the kids wanted to know if the homeless are adults only. She regretted to tell them that there are chil-

dren, too.

Throughout the hustle and bustle of the morning, the excitement mounted as the K-Kids received regular updates on the number of sandwiches made.

"We had 600 bags completed in less than an hour," Erickson said. Then, in what seemed like moments later, word came. A total of 919 lunches had been packed.

The children scurried around the room, elated at their accomplishment. "This is too fun!" Erickson said, reacting to the K-Kids' excitement.

After the tables were cleaned, Erickson asked a group of girls what they had learned doing the service project. "There are a lot of homeless people," said Brooke Riley.

Because the students completed their task early, Sawadogo led them on a tour. The children stood quiet and attentive as Sawadogo told them some of the shelter's statistics. Employees and volunteers serve 2,000 meals a day.

"Anyone in Omaha can come here and eat for free," Sawadogo said. There are three cooks on staff; the rest are volunteers. And an average of 1,000 volunteers a month help at the Mission.

"Three hundred men sleep here at night," Sawadogo said. And another 300 stay in the Lydia House, reserved for families, women and children.

Sawadogo took the students to the Timberlake Outreach Center, a store in which the people can get clothing and anything else they need for free once a month. The center serves 7,000 people each month, Sawadogo said.

She said there is a huge need for blankets, space heaters and diapers. Especially with the current harsh winter, hats, coats, scarves and mittens are always needed.

2/15/10
Dear Kiwanis International Foundation,
Thank you for giving us K-kids. We enjoy helping people and serving our community. We have learned that we can help in many different ways. We also went to the Open Door Mission and packed sack lunches for the homeless people. We think people should join K-kids because it is a great opportunity to help and learn about our community and what we can do to make a difference. Thanks again,
Sincerely,
The Wake Robin K-Kids



International President's Visit

Saturday, May 22, 2010

Please plan to attend the visit of our International President (Paul Palazzolo) and his family on Saturday, May 22, 2010. This is a family event with a full day of activities.

Agenda (Tentative)

- 9:00am Join Paul and his family at the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha. Admission fees, hours, directions, and additional information about the zoo can be found at www.omahazoo.com.
- Noon Kiwanis picnic (the location is being decided). We will provide location and directions to the picnic via mail with your meal tickets by May 17.
- 2:00pm Pack food for Kids Against Hunger with Paul and his family at the Omaha Food Bank. We hope that many of you will volunteer for this worthwhile ser-

vice project. The address for the Omaha Food Bank is 6824 J Street, Omaha, NE 68117.

6:00pm Presidential reception, dinner and Growth Workshop at the Mid-America Center at One Arena Way in Council Bluffs. Dress for this event will be "Business" attire.

Registration (Two Options)

- Online at www.ne-ia.kiwanisone.org and pay with credit card - or -
- Mail the registration form on next page and pay with a check.

Registration Cost

- 9:00am Henry Doorly Zoo (Pay normal admission price at Zoo)
- Noon Picnic (location to be decided; \$8 for Adults, \$5 for children 12 and under)
- 6:00pm Presidential reception and dinner (\$25/person)

Registration Deadlines Register online or mail the attached form by May 17, 2010. After May 17, 2010, register at the event. No refunds after May 15, 2010.

The NE-IA Kiwanis District has been offered the following overnight accommodations in Council Bluffs for May 21 & 22. Following are the discounted hotel rates for the President's visit:

Hotel	Address	Cutoff	Room	Rate(s)	Telephone
Country Inn & Suites	17 Arena Way	April 21	DD/K	\$99.99	712-322-8282
Holiday Inn Express	2211 South 32nd St	May 9	QQ/K	\$94.95	712-352-1300
Microtel Suites	2141 South 35th St	May 9	Single	\$70.00	712-256-2900
			Double	\$75.00	
			Suite	\$85.00	

Call the hotels directly for reservations. Tell them you are with the Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanis District and ask for Kiwanis Conference rates. Prices do not include taxes.

2010 President's Visit

May 22, 2010

Club Member Name

Partner or guest, if attending

Mailing address

City, State, ZIP

Phone Number

E-Mail address

Club Name

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Total</u>
Picnic (location to be determined-Adult ticket) _____		\$8.00/person	\$ _____
Picnic (Children 12 and under ticket) _____		\$5.00/person	\$ _____
Presidential Reception and Dinner at Mid-America Center in Council Bluffs _____		\$25.00/person	\$ _____
Total Enclosed:			\$ _____

Number of adults _____ and children (12 and under) _____ that will help pack food for the Kids Against Hunger at the Omaha Food Bank at 2:00pm.

Mail this form or register online up to Monday, May 17, 2010. After May 17, please plan to register at the event. No refund requests accepted after Saturday, May 15, 2010.

For mail-in registrations, please make checks payable to "NE-IA Kiwanis District" and send registration form with check to NE-IA Kiwanis District, 501 Raider Drive, Williamsburg, Iowa 52361. If you have any questions, please call Frank Murphy at 319-331-9926.



Henry Doorly Zoo



Omaha Food Bank

To Like or Not Like... To Grant or Not Grant

by Warren H. Spencer, President
NE-IA Kiwanis District Foundation

About a hundred years ago, I went to my first Mid-year Conference and I swore I'd never go to another. It was BORRRRING!

Things change, though, and I've grown to enjoy Midyears. Folks of like mind gather to exchange Kiwanis ideas, argue Kiwanis beliefs and relive Kiwanis moments. This year things were a little different, though, at least for me.

You see, as president of the NE-IA Kiwanis District Foundation (NIF), I just can't help asking delegates for affirmations and ideas. This year was no different; yet it was very different.

On Friday, our executive committee reviewed a grant request from a club. Long story short, the grant was denied. The difficult part then is to advise the author of the outcome. As it happens, she was available, and took the news relatively well. Then, she lit up my life.

We began to visit about things foundation, and she shared a couple of rumors circulating among Mid-year attendees. One was that if the foundation doesn't like you, they won't give you money. The second was that NIF has no interest in supporting relief efforts for stricken areas and people.

In this instance, that means Haiti. Now, I'm not easily shocked. I've been around too long for that. But her words had an immediate and lasting impact on me. After a lot of time and thought, let me explain.

Let's take the second rumor first. NIF is in the relief business. We relieve financial burdens on clubs attempting to complete projects beyond their financial abilities. We relieve - albeit indirectly - the anguish of children in crisis through our sponsored backpack program and those in danger through our project to thwart inappropriate behavior foisted on kids. We relieve depression and physical inactivity by funding playgrounds and specialized experiences for youth across the District.

However, we cannot accept cash or checks with stipulations that the funds go to a particular cause. We have an embargo in our bylaws which prohibits pass-throughs. NIF simply is not structured to take

in money and redistribute it to agencies dealing directly with disasters. Such came to light when some Kiwanians wanted to send relief funds to NIF (many seeking 501 (c) (3) IRS tax protection) designated for Haiti earthquake assistance. We (I) suggested making such donations to Kiwanis International. They have the tools and the contacts to channel assistance which we simply do not have.

Next, we treat every request for grants equally. We weigh the impact which funding will have on the community, and how many people will be touched by the way the money is spent. We note whether this is an ongoing program or project, and consider its worth when viewed from the total Kiwanis perspective.

It's an analytical approach aimed at leveling the playing field. After all, a burning issue for one person is less fiery for another. And, we measure request acceptability against our own bylaws, and available resources. Can we support a particular project, and stay within our mandates without impoverishing our coffers?

Granted, we do ask for your financial support, both individually and as clubs, and we jealously protect those monies. But there is a method at work here. We invest your donations with an eye toward growing the NE-IA Foundation. And, we give your money back to you through grants to fund a myriad of local projects.

In 2007-2008, NIF funded programs and/or projects supported by three Kearney (NE) clubs; Marian (IA) Metro; Downtown Des Moines; Altoona; Lincoln; Norfolk (NE); Fremont (NE) and Woodbine (IA). Grants totaled \$56,175.

In 2008-2009, money went to Bellevue/Offutt (NE); North Omaha; Seward (NE); Norfolk; Lincoln Cornhusker; Dobytown (NE); Pierce (NE); Downtown Des Moines; Florence (NE); Hastings (NE); and Omaha. Total: \$57,250.

So, at NIF we do our best to provide assistance where appropriate and within existing constraints. And, we don't exclude anyone from accessing funds designated for community projects throughout the district.

Got a project you can't afford? Access the NIF Web page on the NE-IA website and submit a grant request. We look forward to hearing from you.

Southeast Nebraska Kiwanis Clubs Respond to Hungry Children

One day in 2004, two Lincoln, Nebraska women saw a need and took action.



Diane Pasco, community volunteer, and Nancy Ganser at the Clinton Public School of Lincoln contacted Scott Young, Executive Director of the Lincoln Food Bank. The ladies suggested that food be made available to school children who did not have sufficient food for weekend meals at their homes.

Mr. Young agreed to work toward a solution to the problem they described, but only if they would assist with the development of a weekend food program that included Clinton School, the Food Bank and other organizations that could become active partners. Funding and hands-on volunteers would be required!

Capital City Kiwanis already had programs of support at Clinton School because of reading to children and conducting pancake feeds as fund raisers for the school. Kiwanis members agreed to provide new funding for backpack food at a cost of \$150 per child in need. Other community organizations and individuals also rose to the funding challenge.

School backpacks were gathered for a means of covert transportation for the children. The Food Bank would prepare a bag of food to be inserted by volunteer Kiwanians into the backpack and combine it with a fresh fruit product.

Even with the disguise of a backpack, it was not long until more needy children were aware of the food distribution and began "hanging around" the distribution point in case some student was absent or there might be an extra.

After two years of a successful pilot trial providing 50 backpacks each week, it became evident that the weekend hunger challenge existed at every elementary school in Lincoln.

During this same period of time, Kiwanis Clubs, including Capital City, Cornhusker, Golden K, Lin-

coln Center, Northeast, Southeast, Southpointe and Sunrise of Lincoln, were carrying out a unified community needs analysis, hoping to bring a better understanding of the needs of children in Lincoln. The results of this analysis resulted in a more coordinated approach by Kiwanis Clubs in serving the needs of the community.

Many needs were presented by those providing human services including a presentation by Scott Young describing the weekend hunger experienced by school children. The assessment task force determined that weekend food for hungry children would be recommended to all Kiwanis Clubs as a high priority service.

This recommendation was adopted by Divisions 21 and 22 of the NE-IA District, and then embraced by Kiwanis Clubs as a community project worthy of their support.

This year, 1,598 eligible children were issued a weekend food backpack with food and coupons sufficient to supply the needs of their family. Last year, 2,683 backpacks were distributed supplying 324,850 pounds of food to our children.

The contributions of area Kiwanis members included 1,300 volunteer hours and \$62,291 in funding. Kiwanis clubs are partners in this effort with other community organizations including local churches. We now serve 41 schools, including Beatrice, Fairbury, Hickman, Milford, Seward and Waverly of southeast Nebraska, all supported in part by Kiwanis Clubs of their community.

To Kiwanians all over the world, we would ask, "Are there children in your community hungry this weekend? If so, how can you as Kiwanians be of help?"

Bellevue Girl Wins Award for T-shirt Design

by Sue Story Truax, Omaha World-Herald

Brooke Riley won first place in the Kiwanis NEIA District art contest and third place in the Kiwanis International contest.

Her artwork featured students visiting a patient at a hospital, to illustrate how K-Kids can make a difference. Brooke is now a sixth-grader and a three-year member of K-Kids at Wake Robin Elementary in the Bellevue Public Schools.

Wake Robin's advisers from the Bellevue-Offutt

Kiwanis Club are Dennis Cleaver, Jane Erickson and Lucy Grey. Cleaver and Erickson have been with K-Kids at Wake Robin for 10 years each; Grey is in her second year.

“Shannon Stover, Kelly Gengel and Julie Daugherty-Braun are Wake Robin’s K-Kids faculty sponsors. Stover, a fifth-grade teacher, has been with K-Kids 10 years. Gengel, a second-grade teacher, has been an adviser for eight years. Daugherty-Braun, a first-grade teacher, is in her first year with K-Kids.



KI Foundation Disaster Relief

When an avalanche crushed a city, a bomb demolished a town, an earthquake shook a nation, or a flood wiped out several states, Kiwanis International Foundation gathered its resources, accepted contributions, and provided funds for the individuals, businesses, communities, cities, and states that needed our immediate assistance.

The Kiwanis International Foundation Board of Trustees established a revolving account so that the Kiwanis International Foundation could offer immediate financial support to victims of unexpected disasters.

Assisting victims of disaster worldwide has included the following:

- Flooding in Indiana
- Hurricanes in Texas and Louisiana
- Flooding in Ecuador
- Wildfires in California
- Tornados in Kansas
- Hurricane Henrietta in Mexico
- Earthquake in Peru
- Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in United States
- Hurricane Stan in El Salvador and Mexico
- Earthquake in Pakistan
- Tsunami in Asia-Pacific Region
- 911 Victims Children’s Fund
- Earthquake in Haiti

Aktion Club Members Helping Haiti

by John Keenan, Omaha World-Herald



Members of Omaha Aktion Club, a service organization for adults with disabilities, assembled health kits for Haiti one afternoon at Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church.

About 12 members of the club, which was established by Mosaic and Kiwanis Club of Omaha, met to assemble kits that included hand towels, wash clothes, toothbrushes, bars of soap, nail clippers, Band-Aids and combs.

Club president Stephanie Baird said it was important to help the people of Haiti.

Club member Ron Urick was putting together a care package at one of the tables, folding the various items into a green hand towel.

I think it’ll be nice for the people down there who lost everything,” he said.

Steve Rock, club vice president, said it was important to get involved.

“Haiti lost a lot of things,” he said. “It’s important for us to get out there and reach out to those people and give them things that they can use.”

The care packages will be sent to Lutheran World Relief for distribution, said Brittney Ryba of Mosaic, an organization that serves people with intellectual disabilities.

“The Aktion Club is to provide an opportunity to adults living with disabilities to give something back to the community,” said Jim Farrell, past president of Kiwanis.

85-Year-Old Makes a Splash

by Steve Beideck of Omaha World-Herald



The 50-meter outdoor pool at the Jewish Community Center isn't a fountain of youth, but Barton "Bucky" Greenberg discovered a little magic sharing that water with kids 70 to 75 years his junior.

Greenberg says training with kids at the JCC helped him break a world record in the 100-meter breaststroke for the 85-89 age group.

"There are a good number of young swimmers who go to the 'J' early in the morning to practice," Greenberg said. "They'd be in the pool, and I'd just swim with them."

Greenberg said the assistance he received from those Swim Omaha athletes and coaches helped him set a world record in the 85-89 age group at the United States Masters Swimming long course championships in Indianapolis.

The 1:53.27 posted by the 85-year-old Greenberg in the 100-meter breaststroke topped the previous world record of 1:53.70 set in 2000 by Hiromu Yoshimoto of Japan.

Greenberg also won two other gold medals, setting an American record in the 50 breaststroke with a time of 50.57, and the 200 breaststroke in 4:37.86.

Greenberg said he asked Swim Omaha coach Docker Hartfield to help him train for the national meet. Hartfield, who also coaches the Ralston-Omaha Gross swimming team, said he was happy to lend a hand.

"Working with Bucky and talking to him in years past, he always seemed to want to keep going

faster," Hartfield said.

"So I told him, 'If you're going to swim long course, why don't you train long course?'" Hartfield said. "The kids were accommodating, and he was as enthusiastic about training and preparing for his race as a high school or college swimmer."

Greenberg said Hartfield had him complete four sets of 50-meter swims, each one a little faster. "That put me in better condition to compete than I otherwise would have been," Greenberg said.

Before Greenberg left for Indianapolis, the Swim Omaha kids signed a big card wishing him luck at the national meet. The message in the card also encouraged him to take a shot at a world record.

Greenberg wrote a thank-you note and made enough copies for every kid, and he also wore a Swim Omaha cap in Indianapolis.

Swimming has always been a big part of Greenberg's life because of a family history of heart disease. He was on the freshman team at Iowa State in the early 1940s before serving in the Air Force during World War II.

Following a stint at an Air Force base in Iowa City, Greenberg returned to Nebraska and competed for the Husker swimming team from 1946 to '48. He got involved in masters swimming in the late 1970s.

He set age group records in the 50 and 100 butterfly short course (25-meter) format in the mid-1990s. After setting his first long course world record, Greenberg said he's not planning to stop competing anytime soon.

Bucky lives in Omaha and is a member of the Omaha Dundee Kiwanis Club in Division 20.



NE-IA Circle K Gathers for District Convention

by Lenora Hanna



Midland Lutheran hosted the District Convention (DCON) for Circle K on February 26-28. There were 32 CKI members from six clubs in attendance. Christopher Martz, who is the CKI Director at KI, and 20 Kiwanians also attended DCON.

CKI members participated in three service projects on Saturday morning, including volunteering at Jefferson House and Care Corp, as well as at a Special Olympics basketball tournament at the Fremont Family YMCA. The afternoon brought workshops and caucuses for District Board positions.

Steve Siemens, past Kiwanis International President, was the keynote speaker at the Awards Banquet Saturday evening; 14 club and individual awards were handed out. 2009-10 CKI Governor Nick Schreck received Life Membership in the NE-IA Kiwanis Foundation, a gift from NE-IA CKI District Administrator Lenora Hanna and her husband, Milford.

Throughout the convention, the members and Kiwanians had the opportunity to collect money to send a student to Camp OK in June. Successful in reaching the \$350 goal, Governor Nick received a pie in the face at the dance following the banquet. Steve Siemens had the honor to pie Nick.

Sunday morning at the House of Delegates, the following Board members were elected for the 2010-11 year beginning April 1. Governor - Nick Schreck, Midland Lutheran College; Secretary/Treasurer - Andee Christensen, Nebraska Wesleyan University; Area 1 Lt. Governor - Cooper

Domgard, Nebraska Wesleyan University; Area 2 Lt. Governor - Lynette Kistler, Midland Lutheran College; Area 3 Lt. Governor - Sergio Orozco, Wayne State College.

Words of Wisdom

- If you have a positive attitude, you will have a positive life. [Sister Charmaine, Cedar Rapids club secretary who died February 27, 2010](#)
- We judge ourselves by what we feel capable of doing, while others judge us by what we have already done. [Henry Wadsworth Longfellow](#)
- If you don't make mistakes, you're not working on hard enough problems. And that's a big mistake. [Frank Wilczek](#)
- The bird of paradise alights only upon the hand that does not grasp. [John Berry](#)
- To be mature means to face, and not evade, every fresh crisis that comes. [Fritz Kunkel](#)
- The customer doesn't expect everything will go right all the time; the big test is what you do when things go wrong. [Sir Colin Marshall](#)
- The true mystery of the world is the visible, not the invisible. [Oscar Wilde](#)
- If A is a success in life, then A equals x plus y plus z. Work is x; y is play; and z is keeping your mouth shut. [Albert Einstein](#)
- No one can make you feel inferior without your consent. [Eleanor Roosevelt](#)
- If you want to see the true measure of a man, watch how he treats his inferiors, not his equals. [J. K. Rowling](#)
- Don't count the days, make the days count. [Muhammad Ali](#)
- Life becomes harder for us when we live for others, but it also becomes richer and happier. [Albert Schweitzer](#)
- Before you embark on a journey of revenge, dig two graves. [Confucius](#)
- If I had asked people what they wanted, they would have said faster horses. [Henry Ford](#)
- A sense of humor is part of the art of leadership, of getting along with people, of getting things done. [Dwight D. Eisenhower](#)

Webinar Learning via Kiwanis International
by Frank Murphy, District Secretary

No time to travel to a training session? No problem. Webinars are workshops delivered over the web. They are a way of meeting you where you are, with the information you need. Watch, learn and enhance your knowledge of Kiwanis, your club and your ability to serve.



You can view the webinars live at their scheduled time or catch them later on your own schedule. It's convenient **and free**.

Search the [schedule](#) (see Mar-Apr list below) for this season's hot topics and select those that are relevant to your position or your club. Registration via www.kiwanis.org is simple, and using webinar technology is as easy as emailing.

If you miss a webinar session, not to worry, the webinar library is available 24/7 for your convenience. Search the [library](#). If you still don't see the subject you'd like to learn about, [suggest a topic](#) for future webinars.

Following is the webinar scheduled for Mar and Apr 2010. To see the full list of webinars, go to: www.kiwanis.org.

Tuesday, March 9, 2010, 3 p.m. EST and Wednesday, March 17, 2010, 8 p.m. EST Utilizing Club Satellites to Sponsor SLP Clubs
Expand your membership by creating club satellites to support current or create new programs for youth and adults with disabilities.

Wednesday, March 10, 2010, 8 p.m. EST and Tuesday, March 16, 2010, 3 p.m. EST Club Membership Chair II - Retaining Members in Your Club
Learn how to engage new members and how to keep them involved with your club. In addition, learn some tools to keep current members active and rejuvenate others.

Thursday, March 18, 2010, 8 p.m. EST Kiwanis Service Leadership Programs 101
You may have a Key Club or a BUG program, but do you know Kiwanis has opportunities for your entire community? Come learn all the basics about Service Leadership Programs.

Tuesday, March 23, 2010, 3 p.m. EST and Wednesday, March 31, 2010, 8 p.m. EST Basic PR & Marketing for Your Club
Learn marketing basics to help your club stand out in your community, attract new members, potential sponsors, and secure your place as a community stakeholder.

Wednesday, March 24, 2010, 8 p.m. EST and Tuesday, March 30, 2010, 3 p.m. EST Facebook 101
This webinar will introduce you to basics of the social networking website Facebook. Learn how to set up a profile, find people you know and use the site to benefit your Kiwanis Club.

Thursday, April 15, 2010, 8 p.m. EST Expand your Kiwanis Family through Service Leadership Programs
This is a great program for a Kiwanis club that does not sponsor a Kiwanis family program. Learn the basics and how these valuable programs can benefit not only your community but each Kiwanis member's life.

Library of Past Webinars - Following is a list of some of the Webinars that are available for replay from the Webinar [library](#).

- Planning Your Club's Success
- Effective Board Meetings
- Social Networking
- How to create a club brochure
- Succession planning
- Club Liability Insurance
- High Impact Service - Community Analysis
- Effective SLP Sponsorship
- Quarterly membership campaign
- 10 habits of a successful club
- Bridging the Gap - How to understand and work with youth
- New membership initiatives
- Servant Leadership - Helping your club and club members become better
- How to motivate the 80% of the 80/20 myth
- Kiwanis One Day
- Understanding the KI Dues Cycle

Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanis
 501 Raider Drive
 Williamsburg, IA 52361

Calendar of Events for NE-IA Kiwanis District 2009-2010 Fiscal Year

- Mar 26-28 Key Club District Convention at West Des Moines Marriott, Des Moines, IA
- Apr 3 Kiwanis One Day
- Apr 8-11 Circle K GATC (Governor and Administrative Training Conference)
- Apr 14-18 Governor's Trip to Washington, D.C.
- Apr 23-24 Lt. Governor-Elect training at Nebraska City
- May Membership Month (Plan something special that encourages Kiwanians to sponsor new members)
- May Key Club GATC (Governor and Administrative Training Conference), Indianapolis, IN
- May 22 Kiwanis Family Day Outing and International President Paul Palazzolo visit, Mid-America Center, Council Bluffs, IA
- By Jun 1 Complete election of 2011-12 Lt. Governors
- By Jun 1 Complete election of 2010-11 Club Officers
- Jun 24-27 Kiwanis International Convention, Las Vegas
- Jul 7-11 Key Club International Convention at Cannon Center for Performing Arts, Memphis, TN
- Aug 4-7 Circle K International Convention on the campus of Washington University in St. Louis
- Aug 13-15 NE-IA District Convention at the Holiday Inn Conference Center, Omaha, NE

Kiwanian Schedule

- Apr-May Theme: Service to Youth; Articles due by Apr 15, 2010
- Jun-Jul Theme: Fundraising; Articles due by Jun 5, 2010
- Aug-Sep Theme: Election of Officers; Articles due by Aug 20, 2010
- Oct-Nov Theme: Community Service; Articles due by Oct 5, 2010



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ADDRESS CHANGES

Mailing lists for the *Kiwanian* are maintained by the NE-IA District Office. If you have moved, or are about to move, please submit a change of address to your club secretary promptly and ask him/her to notify us, as well as Kiwanis International.

This will assure continuity of delivery and save the district hundreds of dollars in fees charged by the Postal Service for incorrect addresses each year. **Thanks!**



Kiwanis Newsletters and Leadership Directory are placed on the NE-IA Kiwanis District website (www.ne-ia.kiwanisone.org).