May is typically Membership Month in the Kiwanis family. However, I would like to suggest that you consider every month the best time to grow your club membership so that you can serve the children and others in need in your communities.

In the most recent issue of Kiwanis magazine there is an article by Laura Neidig of the Nebraska-Iowa District. I would recommend that you take the time to read it. The title is Know Your Audience: It’s Club Marketing 101: Make Meetings Accessible and Fun to Attract New Members. The Kiwanis Next Generation, a 3-2-1 Club in Columbus, Nebraska has designed their meetings to serve the needs of all of their members. My friend, Gov. Steve McNally, advised the club that they may not be doing things the way they have been done in the past, but they are not doing them wrong. Today, in Kiwanis, I don’t believe there is a “wrong way” to plan and implement meetings. The important thing is to find a way to meet the needs of all of your members. During my visits to the Ohio District divisions this past 6 months I have shared the same message to those in attendance. You have to provide a valuable member experience. Cater to the needs of everyone, have fun at meetings, think outside of the traditional Kiwanis meeting box, and provide service that is currently relevant to the needs of the community.

How will you know if you are doing all of this? My recommendation is that you ask your club members what they love about the club, and what they don’t. Take that information and use it to adjust some of your practices so that everyone will enjoy coming to your meetings and they will want to remain members at the end of the Kiwanis year.

In addition to having meetings that are accessible, fun, and meet the needs of all members, we have to strengthen club membership. This will insure our current legacy of service and help us adopt new projects that protect the safety and security of the children in our neighborhoods.

You have been hearing about the Kiwanis International growth initiative for the past year or so. It is called “The Formula: Love it. Share it. Live it.” The KI website states, “When you love something, you want to share it. When something really matters, you want other people to love it with you. You want it to be more than something you “do” –you want it to be part of your life.” The Formula encourages you to take something that you love (namely your Kiwanis experience), tell others why you love Kiwanis, invite someone new to your club to share the club experience with you, and be an example of kindness and service in your daily life. Community members usually know who is a member of the local Kiwanis Club by the kindness they show and the service they provide to others.

May is Kiwanis Membership month. I would like you to consider making May, June, July, August, and September membership growth months, as well. Set a club goal of one new member for each of the remaining months this summer. These months are full of wonderful fundraisers and community service opportunities to invite someone new to share with you. The best way to interest a potential member is to involve them in a project right away. They will be interested in joining if they feel they are needed, understand the cause they are supporting, and feel that their time is valued. You are the key to membership growth. You are the single most important membership strategy that Kiwanis has in the Formula Plan. Tell friends, family and associates why you “love it”. Invite them to “share it” with you and then together “live it” as you serve the needs of your community.

Be a Master Gardener! Help you club grow this spring...and throughout the months ahead!
District Secretary's Notes

04/14/2015 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Dave Whiteman

As this issue of the Buckeye Bulletin is being prepared, district Kiwanians are preparing for our 98th Annual District Convention. This year we will be meeting in Beachwood, Ohio at the Doubletree Cleveland East Beachwood Hotel. The convention committee is working very hard to make sure you have an enjoyable convention experience. Please mark your calendar for August 14-16, 2015 to attend a truly memorable District Convention. You are not going to want to miss the Friday evening "Fun" event where we will celebrate 100 years of Kiwanis Service, but more about that will be coming later!

Club Election Reports

Next month most Kiwanis Clubs will be electing their leaders for the 2015-16 Administrative Year. Once that is accomplished please be sure to report your elected officers to Kiwanis International and the Ohio District. The recommended method is the online election form included in the Secretary menu of the Kiwanis Connect Reporting System. The process is very simple and easy. The great thing about using the online version through Kiwanis Connect is that you avoid the hassle and cost of mailing the forms. If you have any questions regarding the process, please call me in the District Office. Last year we still had a significant number who did not file a report. This makes it very difficult for Kiwanis International and the Ohio District to prepare directories in a timely manner. Please make sure your club is not one of those who does not have information included in the International or District Directories.

2015 District Installation

Please be sure and mark your calendar for the Installation of our 2015-16 District Board. This year, the Installation will take place on Sunday, August 16th at the close of our District Convention at the Doubletree Cleveland East Beachwood Hotel in Beachwood, Ohio. We hope to see you there to support the 2015-16 District Board Members.

The 2014-15 administrative year is now more than half over. Be sure to look elsewhere in this newsletter for information concerning various items of interest. Please don’t hesitate to call us with your questions or concerns.

Dave Whiteman
District Secretary

98th Ohio District Kiwanis Convention

04/14/2015 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Dennis Lehman

The 98th Ohio District Kiwanis Convention will be held on August 14-16, 2015 at the Double Tree Hotel in Beachwood, Ohio. This is the time to reacquaint yourselves with fellow Kiwanians, take part in Kiwanis education, attend the Delegate Session to elect our officers, and to celebrate 100 years of Kiwanis service in the Ohio District. Our service started in 1915 when the Cleveland Kiwanis Club (#2 club) was chartered and we will be continuing service at this convention.

There will be a service project for everyone at the convention, “Missions in Motion”. We will be collecting shoes of any condition for this Mission. They will distribute them where needed. They will have a large truck on-site to transport all the shoes. Brand new socks, of any size, will be collected for Cleveland Homeless Shelters. The Ohio District will be helping this Mission and earning funds for the Homeless Shelters and Eliminate at the same time. So, clean out your closets, attics, basements, and garages and recycle those old shoes. More information will follow later.

We will kick-off the Convention with a birthday party Friday night at the hotel. There will be food, beverages, music, trivia, entertainment, fun and fellowship, and of course cake. Everyone is invited to come and join in the fun at our celebration. We will have party props for all.
Saturday will include the Ohio Foundation meeting, educational forums, lunch with our Kiwanis International Counselor, and the Delegate/Business session. The day will be highlighted by the Governor's Banquet that evening as we celebrate our Kiwanis year with Governor Diana Keplinger and retire the current officers. Of course all this includes good food, entertainment, and fellowship.

On Sunday we will offer an Interdenominational honor those Kiwanians who have passed and remember their service. An Installation Brunch will follow where Governor-elect Amy Zimmerman and her officers and committee chairs will be installed for the 2015-16 Kiwanis year. Be sure to attend this function and show Amy and her officers your support.

More information will be available later this year in June. Please save the dates of August 14-16, 2015 and plan to attend our annual Convention and visit Northeastern Ohio. You can share in the success and pride in the accomplishments of the Ohio District.

Dennis Lehman
2015 District Convention Chairman

Fun, Fellowship and Interclub

04/10/2015 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Lee Fenrich

Congratulations! We’ve survived one tough winter. Now, like the TV show “Survivor”, it’s time to get your first new look at the other “tribes”. It’s time to get out and visit your neighboring clubs to see what they’ve been up to while you were hibernating for the past few months. And, if you haven’t burned those Hot Air Balloons to keep warm, it’s time to get them moving around the state again. Any Lt. Gov. who has a balloon in his or her division in August needs to bring it to the District Convention in Beachwood in order for it to be included in the totals for your region. That leaves only four months left to pass them around your area. Ideally, this can be done by attending another club’s meeting with the required number of members. However, attending or helping out another club’s fundraiser or service project works just as well. Whichever way you choose, have fun!

Speaking of fun, you may have noticed that the title of this committee has been changed this year by Gov. Diana. She has added the word “fun” to the name. And it’s no coincidence that it is listed first. When we are having fun everything else falls into place. There is more involvement by the members at meetings, fundraisers and service projects. This, in turn, makes clubs more attractive to potential members which results in increased membership and more service to the community. Everybody wins!

How is your club having fun? Please take a minute and let me know what your club does to make the Kiwanis experience more fun for you. Contact me at leefenrich@cox.net so I can put together a list that we can share among the other clubs.

Finally, as a reminder to all club presidents, please be sure to have your club secretary or interclub chair get your club’s interclub totals to me by the August convention to qualify for banner patches. You’ll need to include the names of the clubs you met with as well as the number of interclubs. Check the District directory for banner patch requirements.

“Fun for all and all for Fun!”

Lee Fenrich
2014-15 District Chair
Fellowship and Interclub

Aktion Club: Where development has no disability.

04/07/2015 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Jennifer DeFrance

Aktion Club in Ohio is 33 clubs strong with the latest new build of Flat Rock Aktion Club in Bellevue. Aktion Club is an organization that provides adults with disabilities an opportunity to develop initiative, leadership skills and to serve their communities. This is an amazing way for Kiwanians to share their love for service and the community with a very special group of individuals.
Effective April 1st, I (Jennifer DeFrance) will be the Ohio District Aktion Club Administrator. I am very excited about this new challenge in the Kiwanis-Family. I look forward to building relationships with the advisors of each club, building new Aktion Clubs throughout Ohio, and developing and executing a great District Convention so that Aktion Club members can thrive.

Upcoming Events:

District Convention – The Ohio Aktion Convention will be at Recreation Unlimited on August 28-29th. The main convention activities will occur on Saturday, August 29th. Attendees have the option of coming to Recreation Unlimited on Friday night for fun activities and an overnight experience. Information will be distributed to the clubs.


Eliminate Week 2015 – Aktion Clubs are encouraged to participate in Eliminate Week with Kiwanis-Family members on May 4-8, 2015. Consider raising money to donate to the Eliminate Project with your Aktion Club. Aktion Club participants can receive a 2015 Eliminate Week patch by completing an online form on www.aktionclub.org.

Feel free to contact me about Aktion Club with any questions or suggestions.

Yours in Service,
Jennifer DeFrance
Ohio District Aktion Club Administrator
jldefrance@gmail.com

Don’t Miss the 58th Annual Ohio Kiwanis Golf Outing

04/02/2015 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Bill Flinta

The Ohio Kiwanis Foundation and its golf committee are actively planning this summer’s 58th Annual Ohio Kiwanis Golf Outing. There are several exciting changes being introduced at this year’s event. Some of these changes include prizes by age group for all senior teams, all non-senior teams as well as prizes for all female teams and a putting contest. Also important to note this year is we will all play together on one day which is Wednesday July 15. You will now be able to pay via Pay Pal at www.odkf.org. Registration and sponsorship forms are available at www.odkf.org under the events tab.

The event continues to be sponsored by the Ohio Kiwanis Foundation making a portion of the registration fee and all sponsorship donations tax deductible, and the net proceeds will be available to help support Foundation projects. The event will be held at Tam O’Shanter Golf Course in Canton, Ohio again this year. Tam O’Shanter is located at 5055 Hills & Dales Road NW, Canton, very near I-77. As always this event is open to the entire Kiwanis family and all friends of Kiwanis.

The format of play will be a scramble. There will be games of skill on the course with prizes at the end of each day. In certain categories there will be separate skill prizes for men, women and seniors. Mulligans will be available for all golfers. We will play on both the Hills and Dales courses.

The price of this year’s event is $85.00 and includes lunch, golf, cart, prizes, and a great dinner. To continue to make this event a success and help raise funds for the many projects and grants supported by the Ohio Kiwanis Foundation, sponsorships will again be sold. Sponsorship levels are as follows; a hole sponsorship for $175.00, a preferred sponsorship for $250.00, a birdie sponsorship for $300.00, an eagle sponsorship for $400.00, and a double eagle sponsorship for $500.00. The hole sponsorship will get a professional sponsor sign for both days on one hole with special recognition in the dinner program each day. The preferred hole sponsorship will get two hole sponsor signs, one on each course, with special recognition in the dinner program each day. The par sponsor will receive all the benefits of the preferred sponsor plus golf and dinner for one person. The birdie sponsor will receive all the benefits of the par sponsor plus golf and dinner for two. The eagle sponsor will receive all the benefits of the par sponsor plus golf and dinner for three. The double eagle sponsor will receive all the benefits of the par sponsor plus golf and dinner for four. We are in need of strong
Please mark your calendars and arrange your teams now to take advantage of the great fun, food and fellowship that takes place at this event every year. Tee times are assigned on a first come first serve basis so register early. No cancellations can be accepted after July 10, 2015. If anyone needs help with lodging arrangements please contact us by June 3. Please encourage your club to send one or more foursomes to this great District event. If you have any questions regarding the tournament please contact either Dave Kuhn (330) 730-6254 or Bill Flinta (330) 801-6225. Thanks for supporting this event. We look forward to seeing everyone in July.

Filling Voids in the Lives of Others through Service

04/10/2015 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Hasani Wheat

As Circle K International’s Service Week picks up momentum and with Kiwanis One Day on the horizon, the whole K-family will be very busy over the next couple of days. With the excitement of being able to help others and the opportunity to get our hands dirty, there is also an emotional component that goes along with serving our children and communities. Although we may only work on a particular project for a couple of hours for a single day, the impact that Kiwanians can have just for those few hours can last for a lifetime. Whether the project is building a playground for a community that does not have one, cleaning up debris from beaches and parks after a long thaw from the winter season, babysitting young children for parents, or packing medical equipment to be sent to foreign countries in which medical equipment is low, service performed by Kiwanians matters to people. In fact, our service, even for that one day or one week, may be a difference-maker in the life of a person or for a business.

When Kiwanians perform service in our community, we get to know people who are associated with various endeavors and businesses. Kiwanians also get to know why people are so emotionally attached to that endeavor or business. Take this example for instance: Your Kiwanis club brings in a speaker from a non-profit that focuses on providing services for homeless men. You learn that the speaker himself was homeless for a short period of time and because of the generosity of individuals like that of Kiwanians and other like-minded people, the speaker was able to not only get back on his feet but to give back to those that have become homeless. The speaker is now able to pay it forward and speak to groups like Kiwanis about why it is important to continue to serve the people in the community.

Undoubtedly, the impact of service helps fill a void in the lives of others. As we embark on serving our communities, reflect on these pointers before, during, and after a service project:

- Get to Know the People You Are Performing Service For- Service is a good way to bond with people that may have a different background or story than you have. There is a possibility that you can become passionate about a particular type of service project after meeting someone that you are performing service with.
- Educate Your Club about Why a Particular Service Project Matters- in order for a club to understand the full scope of a project that it participates in, educate your fellow Kiwanis Club or Division members by inviting a speaker to talk prior to performing the service project.
- Know What the Greatest Needs are in Your Community- If your club has not utilized the Kiwanis Community Analysis Guide, it may be beneficial for the club to do so. The Guide helps with retooling clubs with strategies in order to better engage with its community and its needs but also to better understand the mindsets of the people that live within those communities. If you have not already, you can download the Community Analysis Guide at http://www.ohiokiwanis.org/Files/Districts/50/Documents/Guide%20to%20Community%20Analysis%2

For 100 years, Kiwanis has been helping fill the void in the lives of others through its service and its leadership. Although there have been many changes that occurred within those 100 years, one unwavering constant is that Kiwanians are making a difference in their communities and in the lives of everyone we seek to help.

Hasani Wheat
Human and Spiritual Values Chair
New Club Opening

04/14/2015 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Kathleen Moylan

It is April, and we are halfway through our Kiwanis year, and we not yet opened a new club so we have a lot of catching up to do now that the snow is melted.

I would like to acknowledge Lt. Governor Brian Moore and Lt. Governor-Elect Karen Hagerman as well as Governor Diana Keplinger and Regional Club Opener Rich Ulmes. We are well on our way to opening a new club in the Shelby area.

There are a lot more possibilities on the horizon, and I hope to be sharing more good news in the next article.

Instead, I would like to share a quote by Robert F. Kennedy that was sent to me today by International Trustee, Dennis Oliver. In his email, Dennis said it sounded like a lot of good Kiwanians, and I truly believe it identifies those members committed to bringing new clubs to communities.

"Few will have the greatness to bend history, but each of us can work to change a small portion of the events, and then the total - all of these acts - will be written in the history of this generation. It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped.

Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest of walls of oppression and resistance."

Will you change history by committing an "act to improve the lot of others?" What will be your Kiwanis legacy?

Kathleen Moylan
District Chair
New Club Opening

Preliminary CLE Schedule Announced

04/02/2015 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Dennis Lehman

We are pleased to announce that the preliminary schedule for our 2015 Certified Leadership Education sessions is now available. We still have a couple sites to be finalized to complete the schedule, but this is what we have to date.

Click here to open a PDF copy of the 2015 CLE Schedule.

Please note that we do not have online registration available this year. Once your President Elect has decided which session best fits his/her needs, please email their name and location choice to the district office at secretary@ohiokiwanis.org. This will allow us to judge our space needs at each location. We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming session.

Dennis Lehman
Ohio District Master Trainer

How to be a Model club - AGAIN!

04/04/2015 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Cindy Champer

Spring is busting out all over the Ohio Kiwanis land, and that includes the Eliminate project. Please say congratulations to our newest Model club of Zanesville!

The 2014-15 Kiwanis year and into the 2015-16 year, Kiwanians around the world will continue to fund-raise to save the lives of women and children. Who will be next?
Kiwanis International still has a donor who wants to make the program successful and is donating 20% in funding for all model clubs. That means that if you are not a model club and are thinking about it, you can get 20% in FREE, DONATED funds on behalf of your club. For example, if your total needed to be a Model club is $25,000 and you have raised $5,000 so far, you would receive 20% of the remaining balance or $4,000, that you DO NOT have to repay! And in the example above, the remaining $16,000 balance will still have the same five year window to be paid off. THE EVEN BETTER NEWS is that if you are currently a Model club, but would like to achieve the next level (Gold, Platinum or Diamond, for example), the clock restarts. Simply take your present membership x the giving level (e.g. $1,500 per member), subtract what you have already donated and then you will still get another 20% off that balance. Again, you have five years to pay - like refinancing your car, only easier! And better - you are saving more lives by doing this! This kind of action is LOVE IN ACTION! Please help Ohio achieve its overall goal of $4.2 million by remembering that every dollar (and more) counts! The women and children are counting on you!

Cindy Champer
District Coordinator
The Eliminate Project

**Club News**

**Westerville Kiwanis Celebrates 100 Years of Kiwanis Service with America’s Favorite Pastime**

04/14/2015 - Club: Westerville - Submitted by: James Minter

Westerville Kiwanis invites all Ohio clubs to join us Wednesday, May 20th for an evening of FUN and fellowship as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of Kiwanis International at the Columbus Clippers - Buffalo baseball game. Governor Diana Keplinger will be in attendance with her husband Tom and will be throwing out the “first pitch.” Also attending that evening will be past KI President Alan Penn and First Lady Jeri.

Tickets are $7 for adults, $4 for children 12 and under as well as seniors 60 plus.

Children 12 and under can pick up FREE Huntington Kids Club Cards at all Central Ohio Huntington Bank locations which are good for FREE admission on Wednesday night games. Please promote within your individual clubs, Circle K, Key Club, Builders Club and K-kids and then make plans to join us on Wednesday, May 20th at 6pm for K-Family Night at Huntington Park with the Columbus Clippers.

We presently have 150 seats reserved for the event and can secure more seats if necessary. If you could please appoint one person within your club to assist with getting a final count by Monday, April 20th and collect checks/money orders (written out to Columbus Clippers Baseball) and send to the address below by April 24th that would be greatly appreciated!

Buckeye Media Services

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**K-Kids Collect for Local Animal Shelters**

04/09/2015 - Club: Lima - Submitted by: Robert Day

The students and staff at Independence Elementary School in Lima helped collect over 60 boxes/bags of treats for the K-Kids Cause for Paws, Pet Treat Drive. The donations were divided between the Allen County Human Society and Angels for Animals.

Service learning projects such as Cause for Paws, Pet Treat Drive promotes positive academic learning and social skill learning while addressing the needs in the community.
Builders Club of South Science Technology Magnet Collects Food

03/26/2015 - Club: Lima - Submitted by: Robert Day

The Builders Club of South Science Technology Magnet K-8 in Lima collected 175 cans/boxes of food which were donated to the West Ohio Food Bank. In recognition of their achievement members of the club played kick-ball against the faculty and staff of the school. Unfortunately they lost, but all had a good time.

2nd Annual Baby Shower sponsored by YCPO Committee

03/21/2015 - Club: Kirtland - Submitted by: Bill Pastor

The Young Children Priority One (YCPO) Committee of the Kirtland Kiwanis Club held its 2ND Annual Baby Shower as the program for the Club’s March 19th meeting. This year, all the baby gifts that were donated by our members were given to Birthrite (an organization for children and families in Lake County that are sent to Birthrite by Forbes House, Project Hope, WomenSafe, and others, for baby and small children’s clothing, food, etc.).

Linda Connelly of Birthrite gave an inspirational talk to the club and guest. The Kirtland Kiwanis Club extends a very special “thank you” to all who donated, organized, cooked, or helped in any way. A good time was had by all and all for a good cause.

Connelly Award presented to Michelle Radke

03/19/2015 - Club: Berea - Submitted by: Cindy Champer, KIF Trustee

Michelle Radke and her family, pictured here, receive the Connelly Medal of Honor at Mid Year for her late husband Peter. Peter saved a young girl from drowning but then drowned himself. The Connelly award is a presentation given by the Kiwanis International Foundation to honor such selfless acts as this.

New Madison Kiwanis Headlines with 16 Hixsons for Eliminate

03/19/2015 - Club: New Madison - Submitted by: Cindy Champer

Sixteen members of the New Madison Kiwanis, most of them shown here at Mid Year Education Day, were honored with Hixson awards that allowed their club to pay off their Model club pledge more quickly. The club of 22 members paid off their pledge in 2 years rather than the normal five. Blessings on them and all the lives of mothers and children they have saved!

Cindy Champer
District Coordinator
The Eliminate Project