Happy Holidays to All! During the holiday season we often find ourselves reflecting on and living the saying “it is more blessed to give than receive” and we may be more generous with our time, talent, and treasures during this time of year. As Peggy and I have traveled the District we certainly find this to be true of Ohio Kiwanians. We have enjoyed hearing of the many holiday related service projects such as adopting families for Christmas, breakfasts with Santa, ringing the bell for the Salvation Army, and present deliveries by Santa to name a few.

Service is the basis of Kiwanis and what we are all about. We applaud Ohio Kiwanis for its increased service during the holidays and encourage all clubs to continue this service in the new year. If they are not already planned, please use this season of giving to inspire you to plan the impact you can have on your communities in the coming months through additional service projects. Hopefully as the plans are set in place they will include a literacy related project in support of the First Family project resulting in improved literacy in your communities. Thank you all for the generous support you have shown for the First Family project as we have visited your Divisions. As literacy related projects are completed please e-mail us a synopsis of the project and any photos of the project to gobuckspbf@sbcglobal.net.

As we discuss service each club is asked to think about what is your club’s “signature” service project? What are you known for in your community? Kiwanis International is encouraging each club to have a signature project that they are known for and hopefully through that project it will inspire our members to want to share their Kiwanis experience with others and it may inspire others to want to join us.

In closing, thank you all for the service you give to your club and community. Peggy and I wish everyone a happy, healthy, and service oriented holiday season and best wishes for the new year!
Planning for the 2017 Ohio District Mid-Year Education Day is now in full swing. You will be able to register online by the end of December by going to [http://www.ohiokiwanis.org/](http://www.ohiokiwanis.org/) and clicking on the link on the Mid Year Education Day page in the menu on the right side. Other information, as well as links to print off hard copies of the registration forms can also be found on that page. We will have the workshop schedule listed on the website very soon. Please register soon as space is limited and the first 50 “first time” Kiwanis member attendees, who register online only, will receive a $15.00 discount!

**990 Tax Return**

All Kiwanis Clubs (regardless of size) must file a Form 990, Form 990 EZ, or a Form 990-N with the Internal Revenue Service by no later than February 15, 2016. Failure to do so could result in loss of your Blanket Exemption from Federal Income Taxation. For additional information, please click on the following link on the Kiwanis International website: [http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanisone/lead/club-leaders/treasurer/irs-forms](http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanisone/lead/club-leaders/treasurer/irs-forms)

**2016-17 Club Insurance Resource Guide**

Your club secretary should have received the 2016-17 Insurance Resource Guide in a mailing from Kiwanis International. It contains answers and information to most questions about your liability coverage and risk management practices. If you have specific liability insurance questions, you can call Lisa Heindricks at Kiwanis International (1-800-549-2647 ext 112) or our district Risk Manager Jack Hilborn (1-740-369-9641 or hilborn@midohio.net). You can also view all of the material online at [http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanisone/lead/risk-management](http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanisone/lead/risk-management).

The District Office will be closed from December 24 through January 2 for the holidays. Sarah and I wish everyone a joyous holiday and a happy new year.

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**Have news to share?**

The Buckeye Bulletin is always looking to share good news about the terrific service that our clubs are doing. To share your club’s story in the Buckeye Bulletin, please submit an attached photo of your club members in action. A brief description of the project and who will be benefitting from the activity should be included. If this is a signature project or a new project that information should be included as well.

You never know, your project could inspire another club in the district to do something similar in their community. We are also interested in your Service Leadership Program clubs’ activities, since they often do amazing projects with minimal resources available to them.

Send articles to: secretary@ohiokiwanis.org. We will use them as space allows.
As we wrap up the end of 2016 your New Club Opening team is in full gear. Teams are working on opening new clubs in places like Grafton, Buckeye Lake, and Groveport among several others. This year Kiwanis International has asked us to open 11 new clubs in the Ohio District. Our Districts New Club openers will use a tried and true method to be successful in opening the clubs. Below is a description of the method we published over 3 years ago, in a previous edition of the newsletter.

After selecting the location for the new club and forming the new club opening team, a site survey is conducted. This is a critical part of the new club organizing process, and much of the success of the new club will be predicated on how well the site survey is done. A new club opening team will conduct the site survey. That team should include, but it not limited to your Lt. Governor, New Club Openers(s), and at least one member of the sponsoring club that will agree to be the Liaison and Club Counselor for the new club.

The next step involves identifying key people and service providers in the community to contact. These community leaders will be your best assets in moving forward in the recruitment process because, as core members, they will be able to address what the needs are in the community, and what projects or initiatives might benefit by organizing a new Kiwanis Club. They will also be your resources for identifying other service minded individuals in that community. Then it is time for the real fun, utilizing referrals from the community leaders the recruitment process begins, teams go out into the community and share their story of Kiwanis and how it benefits children and communities. After recruiting at least 15 members it’s time to organize and celebrate the opening of a new club.

All of the resources needed to be successful can be found on the kiwanisone.org website, just enter “The Formula” into the search bar to take you to information about opening new clubs. For information on or wanting to join our Ohio District Club Opening team please contact me at rulmes@natca.net.

Governor Bill has asked me to serve in an exciting new role this year. I have stepped in to the role of District Partnership Coordinator which is a three-year term for a newly created position that will work closely with Kiwanis International staff and partners. The role is designed to help clubs throughout the Ohio District to access the benefits that come with being a part of the Kiwanis International family. Some of the benefits include free materials, discounted supplies for service projects and direct access to outside organizations.

Kiwanis International works to identify organizations and companies that can help the Kiwanis family maximize its service in local communities around the globe, as well as provide opportunities to enhance the member experience through member benefits. The Partnership Coordinator will work to make sure all clubs are receiving important information about those relationships. A list of our partners and more information on Kiwanis International’s program can be found at http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanis/about-kiwanis/partners.

The District will also be working to identify opportunities locally to create partnerships across the District and within our local communities. Keep an eye out in the Buckeye Bulletin and on our District Facebook Group for ongoing information about the program.

Please don’t hesitate to reach out with questions or suggestions. I can be reached at james.f.kaufman@gmail.com or 419-266-2984.
Dear Ohio Kiwanians,

As your Kiwanis International Foundation District Chair, I want to thank you and your clubs for your support of the Kiwanis Eliminate Program. Through your support of eliminating Maternal/NeoNatal Tetanus, you have saved the lives of mothers and children throughout the world,

I have great news about the improved vision of the Kiwanis International Foundation. This year the Kiwanis International Foundation has changed their name to **Kiwanis Children's Fund**. This name change signifies the prime mission of Kiwanis members, clubs and districts - “To improve the lives of children, one child and one community at a time” Although most of the giving and grant programs such as the Hixon and Club grant awards, remain the same, there will be a significant change in the Presidents Challenge Program. Up until this year, if a Kiwanis District met/exceeded their KIF donation goals, the district received a grant equal to 5% of their giving levels. If we meet/exceed our President's Challenge goals for the current Kiwanis year, we will receive a grant for **15%** of our giving level in KY 2017/2018. This grant can be used by the Ohio District to improve the lives of Ohio children.

If you would like to know more about existing KCF programs or the new Presidents Challenge, I would be happy to speak at any club or division meeting. And of course as you are planning your year-end giving, please consider a gift to the Kiwanis Childrens Fund. Giving online is easy at [www.kiwanis.org/childrensfund](http://www.kiwanis.org/childrensfund).

I hope your holiday season is joyous, safe and blessed.
Have you ever had trouble connecting with another individual on an emotional or spiritual level during the holiday season? Does spiritual differences during the holiday season come into play (e.g., disagreements about how to appropriately celebrate various religions, religious displays in public arenas such as schools, city halls, etc.) in your interactions with students, parents, faculty, or your own club members? Has your Kiwanis club ever been involved in some type of conflict during the holiday season? Seeing that Kiwanians are normally a diverse grouping of people that come from various backgrounds, conflicts during the holiday season is not highly unusual.

Although it is not written in our Kiwanis job description, spiritual and religious conflicts can be a reality for some Kiwanis clubs and individuals especially during the holidays. Some Kiwanis clubs will own the fact that they have a signature project that happens to be a Christmas, Hanukkah, or Kwanzaa themed in the community in which they live. These holiday signature projects are usually well received from community members and become part of a community’s tradition. There are other Kiwanis clubs that will go with a more broad reaching holiday themed event that will cater to people of all backgrounds. Ultimately, each Kiwanis club will have to gauge the needs of its community to determine what type of themed event, whether the event is towards a specific holiday or towards a broad theme of the holiday season, will be successful.

For what it is worth, fostering unity by our physical and spiritual actions is important during the holidays. Below are some suggestions made in the book *Hanukkah: The Family Guide to Spiritual Celebration* (2nd Ed.) in order to mitigate the experience of having a “December Dilemma” (http://www.interfaithfamily.com/holidays/hanukkah_and_christmas/Facing_the_December_Dilemma_Guidelines_for_Interfaith_Couples.shtml):

- Education about the principles of religious freedom and religious liberty.
- Conducting intercultural programs that focus on the role religion has played in the development of society.
- Having an interfaith program that provides factual and objective teaching about religion.

Below are other suggestions for fostering unity during the holidays:

- Conduct a food or toy drive to benefit those in the community that are unable to provide presents or food for their families this holiday season.
- Pick holiday songs in which members of the Kiwanis family and non-Kiwanians can go caroling together in the streets, to nursing homes, hospitals, and to any other places needing good cheer.
- Be visible and active in holiday oriented events in the city such as a Winter Ball or Winterfest... and invite people of all faiths to attend.

Remember that Human and Spiritual Values in Kiwanis “cooperate(s) along broad interfaith lines...in creating a greater public consciousness of the importance of religious and spiritual values.” No matter what religious differences we have, the main focus is on helping solve the issue of human need in our communities. Be part of the solution this holiday season.
The annual Key Club District Leadership Conference is scheduled for March 10-12, 2017, at the Embassy Suites in Dublin, Ohio.

You can help defray the cost of the colorful souvenir printed program for the event by purchasing an ad in the program. Your ad purchase will also show your support for Key Club.

The prices are as follows: full page $55, ½ page $40, ¼ page $30. Send your text or design as you wish it to be in the program to Key Club Zone Administrator, Don Parker, on paper or electronically along with payment by January 31, 2017. Include the following information: Name of purchaser, contact information such as address, phone number, and email. Send to

Don Parker  
3477 Farley Dr.  
Hilliard, OH 43026  
Phone: 614-876-5251  
Email: dparker2@columbus.rr.com  
Checks are to be payable to Ohio District Key Club

Community Services
Rick Kidwell  
rkidwell@aol.com

Literacy Projects

The importance of reading literacy is well documented. The ability to read and comprehend is the foundation of all knowledge. A service project focusing on reading literacy will provide a valuable service in the community and a rewarding experience for your club.

Many Ohio District Kiwanis clubs have literacy projects already in place ranging from book distributions to support of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. Those clubs are reminded to submit the Literacy Project reporting form available on the district website.

For clubs considering a literacy project for the first time, the local library would be a great resource. The library staff could likely help identify the local need and provide direction with project development. They might also know of patrons that might be interested in helping with the project, a membership recruiting opportunity.

Also remember the 102 Literacy Projects Idea List, created by Governor Bill and First Lady Peggy, has a wide variety of project ideas many of which could be implemented with involvement of Service Leadership Program members. If your club has not yet reviewed the idea list, it is included in the 2016-17 directory and is also available to download on the district website.

Another important thing to keep in mind as you consider a literacy project is adult literacy. Poor reading skills may be the major barrier keeping an individual from meaningful employment. Local social service agencies could provide your club with insight as to how to help address that need. Your club may be able to provide resources and/or mentors for an adult literacy program.

The options for literacy projects are many and diverse but the important thing to remember is that any project regardless of its scope, will likely have a significant impact on those involved. So, begin planning for the implementation of a new project or perhaps the expansion or enhancement of an existing one.
ELIMINATE PROGRESS IN OHIO = 2016 ENDING POSITIVE, SAVING MORE LIVES!

Around the Ohio District of Kiwanis, the Eliminate year is ending on a very positive note - thanks in no small part to the efforts of generous Kiwanis members in at least two areas. Take note of these great efforts:

*At the District board meeting of October 29, four Kiwanians stepped up and pledged to "Save a Baby a Day" for a year. Those four fundraising efforts will save and protect the lives of 1,670 women and children who will no longer need to worry about the scourge of maternal and neonatal tetanus taking lives.

*On November 23, members of the Lima Kiwanis got this great news: "It is pleasing to announce that our club has met its goal of raising $33,000 for Project Eliminate. Therefore, 18,333 women have received or will receive the three vaccinations that will immunize them against tetanus, which in turn will protect any unborn children against this dreaded disease. Many thanks to Bev Beery for chairing this endeavor. Also, to our members who made donations including providing goodies for the bake sales. Every donation helped in reaching this achievement." (Bob Day)

So much good news, so much to be thankful for in and around Ohio! So the question becomes how will you support or continue to support our fundraising efforts for Eliminate? Ohio was the very first district to reach $1 million, and yet we still have pledges out there that need to be met. If your club still has a pledge to meet, you have until 2020 to continue paying on it. A pledge alone does not save lives, but your efforts do. Find simple ways to fundraise and continue these efforts after the Eliminate effort is completed. For example, the bake sales, car washes, selling of flowers or candles, or even a golf outing or spaghetti dinner can begin now and help your club continue to meet this and other financial objectives of the future. And Zellers are still available to help your club recognize its outstanding members and officers.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, Ohio Kiwanians for all you have done to save lives. You are certainly a leader in the hearts and minds of women whose lives, and those of their children, you have saved through Eliminate.

Aktion Club of Licking County Charter Party Celebration.

On December 12, the Newark Kiwanis Club hosted a charter party for the newly formed Aktion Club of Licking County. The Aktion Club, sponsored by the Kiwanis Clubs of Newark, Granville and Heath-Moundbuilders, enjoyed a luncheon buffet and a concert by the Newark High School Swing Choir at the Doubletree Inn in Newark.

Over 100 members and guests celebrated this special event. Pictured below are members of the newly chartered club and representatives from the sponsoring Kiwanis Clubs and Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities.
Hello Ohio Kiwanis!

Ohio Circle K is so excited to be holding our 60th District Convention this year! We will be looking back on the journey of Ohio Circle K on February 18-19th at Capital University. We will be hosting three rounds of workshops, a Governor’s Sock Hop, and we will be electing next year’s board of officers! On behalf of Ohio Circle K, I would like to invite anyone to get involved with us this year. We will be sharing anecdotes and fun facts about Ohio CKI throughout the convention weekend, so if you have any fun stories from Circle K in the past 60 years, please email them to me at allybeeches@gmail.com. We also welcome any guests who would like to attend part of our fun-filled weekend, or you can even have an advertisement in our program! The guest registration form and advertisement order form, along with all other convention materials, can be found at http://ohiocki.org/district-events/district-convention-dcon/

We are looking forward to celebrating this new decade of Circle K and looking back on the decades that came before us. Remember to submit any fun stories or interesting facts about Ohio Circle K to be shared throughout the weekend!

Thank you and have a wonderful holiday season!

Allyson Beechy
Ohio District Circle K Governor

Just a reminder....

Please encourage new (and current) members to visit and explore the Ohio District Kiwanis website; www.OhioKiwanis.org. Members can learn about upcoming events, special offer to Kiwanis members and to sign up to receive this monthly e-zine. There is a lot of information available to everyone.

Members can also explore our Kiwanis Family Resources at www.KiwanisOne.org By logging onto PortalBuzz, members can take tutorials on Membership Development, Youth Protection Guidelines, or even education on being a board member or SLP advisor. So many opportunities to learn!

Also, please note that the Ohio District Kiwanis Office has moved. Our new address is 941 Chatham Lane, Suite 326, Columbus, Ohio 43221. All correspondence for Ohio Kiwanis, Key Club, Circle K or Aktion Clubs should be sent to this address.
Mid Year Education Day
Jennifer Lewis
Lewis.792@osu.edu

“Mid-Year Needs You” as much as “Kids Need Kiwanis!”

Mid-Year Education Day is all about you – and it’s the Best investment for your time!

Join us for Mid-Year Education Day on Saturday, March 4, 2017 at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North Hotel, 6500 Doubletree Avenue, Columbus, OH 43229 conveniently located right off I-71.

Mid-Year Education Day is just that – One Day, Focused on Education, to help you, your club and our Kiwanis Family. In addition to new sessions and topics, we are dedicating specific sessions to our Action Club members.

The one-day education event is designed to be fun and interactive. We have packed it with a full, diverse program. You get to personalize your program, selecting each session to attend during three break-out sessions with topics ranging from club management for Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers; investment, budget, insurance and foundations; service projects for children and literacy; fundraising with practical tips; marketing, branding and media tools from the District and Kiwanis International. Once you arrive, you are welcomed with a morning breakfast and general assembly with coffee and snacks to honor our 2015-16 award recipients. Come see if your club won!!! You then break into two sessions. The lunch session will be led by Governor Bill Flinta with a Surprise Guest sharing an inspirational program about the importance of literacy and helping children. Our International Trustee will be supporting our program! We will have a surprise entertainment and time to peruse the exhibitor booths representing our Ohio District and Kiwanis International Committees, Service Projects, SLP programs, non-profit organizations and invited commercial groups with services and opportunities for new service projects, marketing, promotion, investment and visibility.

During the day, various informational displays will be available in the hallways. In fact, your club may also rent a booth to fundraise (the cost is $25 to rent a booth, download and complete the Exhibitor Request Form from the OhioKiwanis.org website when you register.

The Education Day is designed to promote fellowship and education to help you succeed as Kiwanians in service and as a club! This venue is perfect for ideas exchange and the workshops promote direct dialogue with experts and discussion with other members to learn more tips for success. We aim to provide you with practical tools to help you AND your club!

MidYear Education Day is different than Convention. We are focused on Education, Practical tools and Hands-on activities that you can only get in person. Learn more about resources and activities in the Ohio District Kiwanis and Kiwanis International organization. The Midyear format promotes member interaction and is meant to expand beyond webinar and online resources available. Thus, new members and veteran members are encouraged to attend to enhance the discussion and support their clubs!

Great news - this year we have lowered the fee to attend! The early-bird registration (by Feb 7) is only $50, which includes breakfast, lunch, all-day coffee bar and the ice cream social. There is also a $15 discount for first-time attendees who register on line at www.ohiokiwanis.org (limited to the first 50) and SLP members including Aktion Club members can register for $30. There is a block of hotel rooms reserved for the event for those interested. The rate is $99/room. There are limited number of rooms at this rate so please reserve them early and refer to the Kiwanis Midyear Education Day event.

If you have any questions, comment or feedback – please contact me at lewis.792@osu.edu or phone 740-485-2040. Volunteers always welcome!