Top reasons it is a great time to be a Kiwanian by Governor Amy

SMILES The smiles that light up an entire room when a child in your local community receives their first bike ever from a local Kiwanian. It is the gift of mobility, independence...the gift to be a kid and to play just like all the other kids.

FRIENDSHIPS The friendships established in your local town and all over the world, all with a common purpose to improve the world one child and one community at a time. These are the friends that will be there to celebrate with you when you are at the top of your game or to motivate you to continue when you need a hand to lift you up.

SERVICE LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS Our K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, CKI, and Aktion Club members carry so much energy and enthusiasm with them in everything that they do! The impact they have on their world is incredible because they are actively engaged in giving back daily in big and small ways.

REACHING FOR THE STARS No matter what you are currently achieving, there will be those Kiwanians that invite you to expand your thinking to something way greater than you ever thought possible, to spread your wings and accomplish greater service to the children of the world.

MENTORING Now more than ever, the youth in our community need strong role models and mentors to show them the good the world has to offer. To give them hope for the future and to foster relationships that will enable them to be successful in life.

GREAT CONVENTION District Convention is coming up Aug 12-14 and this is a wonderful time for EVERY MEMBER to come and be inspired, to exchange ideas, to celebrate accomplishments, to manage the business and to meet new friends!

Love it! Share it! Live it!

Yours in service,

Amy L Zimmerman
Ohio Kiwanis Governor
District Secretary’s Notes:
As this issue of the Buckeye Bulletin is being completed, we are preparing for our 99th Annual District Convention. This year we will be meeting at the Great Wolf Lodge in Mason, Ohio. Additional information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter, as well as on the District Convention page of our district website at www.ohiokiwanis.org. Online registration is also available at that site. Due to the increased demand, our room block is basically filled. If you have not made a room reservation yet, please call the hotel immediately to see if they can get you in.

Report of Club Elections
The deadline for return of the Club Elections Report to Kiwanis International and the Ohio District was June 1st. Once again all clubs were asked to report their 2016-17 club officer’s online using KiwanisOne. As of July 15th, only 106 of 228 clubs have filed their report online. This is slightly above last year at this time, but it is still under 50%. If your club has not filed the report yet, please do so immediately. If you have the same officers remaining in place next year, please file the report and tell us that is the case. This information is critical as it is used to publish the International and District Directories. In addition, the information is used to build a database that will be used for future mailings to your club. Thanks for your prompt attention to this request.

CLE Makeup Session Planned
For those 2016-17 Presidents who were unable to attend Club Leadership Education (CLE) in their local areas, a makeup session is being planned for Friday afternoon, August 12th in Mason at the convention hotel. This makeup session will be held beginning at 1:30 PM on Friday afternoon. Please call the district office to reserve a spot at this session.

CLE for Club Secretaries
At this year’s District Convention a 1-hour module for Club Secretaries will be given on Saturday morning and Sarah Roush will be leading it. This session will be tailored strictly to you. If you are a Club Secretary, I would encourage you to attend this very important training session.

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.

Kiwanis 101: According to our by-laws Clubs complete their elections by June 1st. This gives incoming officers time to take Leadership Education Classes, select committee chairs, do club assessments, and community surveys. This also provides time to evaluate club service project impact and to plan for the upcoming term. It also provides contact information to division, district and International officers to reach out to incoming officers with valuable information regarding service initiatives and resources.
Have you been to a convention lately?
Ohio District Convention

I must admit, when I mention Ohio District Kiwanis Convention and hear people say “I’m not interested in Kiwanis politics,” it makes my eyes twitch uncontrollably. Yes, we do take time to elect new leadership, modify our bylaws, and pass resolutions, but...that is just a small part of what we do at DCON. We also take time to learn how to make our clubs and members stronger; we learn about new service opportunities; and we celebrate the great service we’ve provided to our communities over the past year. Friday Fun Night will feature a Kiwanis Karnival, complete with games, prizes, music, and some great food. During the Governor’s banquet on Saturday, Amy will talk about the impact we’ve made in our “Service A-Z” as Kiwanians, especially the lives we’ve made better through the Amtrykes Project. We will close the even Sunday morning by installing our newly elected leadership. Throughout the weekend, the underlying theme will be “Fun for All.” We will feature an array of entertainment, that is sure to bring a smile to Kiwanians and guests of all ages. And I would be remiss if I didn’t mention the water park; included with all booked hotel rooms. So, if you haven’t been to a convention lately (or perhaps never at all), this is the year to come see what it is all about. We promise you good food, fun and fellowship.

This year we will be featuring a new service project for the Kiwanis Club of Cincinnati called “Books on the Bus.” This is a program to provide age-appropriate books for primary school students allowing them to read on their bus ride to and from school. At DCON, we will be collecting books for developing readers Kindergarten through Fourth Grade. We will need to supply the books for the busses, and hopefully, resupply them when a student falls in love with a book and takes it home. The Kiwanis Club of Cincinnati will also be featuring their “Adopt A Class” project which is another great project you can take back to your local community.

Convention will be held August 12-14 at Great Wolf Lodge in Mason, Ohio. The Resort is adjacent to King’s Island, The beach Waterpark, and many other local attractions. Rooms are $109 per night (plus taxes and fees) and include 4 passes to the indoor waterpark, so bring the family! Come early to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Cincinnati Kiwanis with the Centennial Riverboat Cruise Thursday evening. Registration information for convention is available on the Ohio Kiwanis website. You can reserve your room by contacting Great Wolf Lodge at 1-866-954-9653 or www.greatwolf.com. Use the discount code 1608KIWA to get our great room rate. Hope to see you all there!

We would also like to feature YOUR photographs of club activities over the past year. If you have any photographs you would like to share, please email them to odk2016photos@gmail.com.
DCON is waiting for You!

For the 99th time, members from across the great Ohio District will come together to join many friends together and make new friends while preparing to better serve the children of the world.

Governor-Elect Bill and the Education Committee have put together 18 sessions for the breakout sessions to learn and share ideas and take things back to your clubs and divisions. The First Family Project for the coming year will be introduced with a session on Literacy. There will be a focus on the SLP’s including K-Kids, Builder’s Club, Terrific Kids, B.U.G., and Key Leader, Key Club, and Circle K. Risk Management, youth protection, technology, and marketing will be covered. Our International Trustee will be involved in a couple of sessions bringing in perspective from Kiwanis International. Our Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation will also have a couple of sessions on raising funds through social media and writing grant applications. And, as always there will be specific training for club secretaries and treasurers. If you are a club president for 2016-17 and were not able to attend a Club Leadership Education (CLE) Day in your area, there will be a make up session on Friday afternoon.

Come see us in Cincinnati

Hello Ohio Kiwanis!

I wanted to take a moment to thank you all not only on behalf of Circle K, but all SLPs, for your outstanding support of our programs. In the past month, I was able to represent Ohio at CKIx in Toronto and attend the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation golf outing thanks to the help and support of many wonderful Kiwanians. I love meeting you all, and my favorite events and projects are always the ones I get to spend with other branches of our amazing K family.

I was able to attend a few of the Kiwanis sessions in Toronto, and even met up with some familiar Ohio Kiwanis faces! I’m so glad we were able to share the Toronto experience with Kiwanis, and loved seeing Ohio so enthusiastically represented in both of our branches. I also met a lot of new Kiwanis faces at the golf outing this past week! While I may not be too great of a golfer, I had a wonderful couple of days spending some quality time with Kiwanis. I look forward to seeing my new friends, and continuing to meet more of you, at future Kiwanis events!

In the coming weeks, I am also looking forward to attending Aktion Club Convention and Kiwanis District Convention. I think keeping up interactions among the branches is very important for our organizations. Recently, Governor-Elect Bill Flinta was telling me a few of his ideas for his focus on literacy this coming year. Circle K happens to have a service partnership with Better World Books, an organization that works to increase global literacy by helping local libraries and service organizations run book drives and literacy programs. Literacy is a project fit for the whole family, including the whole K family! I think it would be exciting if Circle K also focused on literacy this year, not only to work with our service partner, but to work with the rest of the K family as well. A big focus at Kiwanis International Convention was that Kids Need Kiwanis. This is a project that will not only benefit deserving children in Ohio, but will allow kids to join us in service as well.

Kids do need Kiwanis. I’m 21 years old and I need Kiwanis! Without Kiwanis, I wouldn’t have found my love for serving my community, so I encourage you to reach out to your local Circle K Clubs, Aktion Clubs, Key Clubs, Builders Clubs, and K-Kids when planning your next project. Get the whole family involved!

Yours in service
Your Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation has just completed the 59th Annual Don Williams Memorial Golf Outing. This was a great event with lots of fellowship and fun for all that participated. Plans are already under way for next year for a very special celebration of the 60th. Thanks to all the volunteers and all the golfers that made this event so successful. See you at the 60th.

Your Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation exists to support your clubs in projects serving their communities and children. Every Kiwanian is a member of this Foundation and the support of Foundation programs and initiatives by clubs, plus individual members is crucial to the growth of your Foundation. Your Foundation is a premier organization and it needs membership support. Get to know your Foundation, its many programs and all the opportunities available. There is continued growth of both assets and an expansion of services offered, here Kiwanis Family supports Kiwanis Family as your Foundation works in partnership with the clubs and divisions of our district.

All Committees continue to be active and this is providing the nuts and bolts of the operation of your Foundation. Strong commitment and a passion to make the Foundation the very best is can be is the key to promote your Foundation, as well as increase the interest in the programs that in turn provide generous support for your Foundation.

Liaisons have also been busy making contacts and visits, but most important they are the eyes and ears in the field and bring back to the Board of Directors much needed feedback. I have asked Liaisons, as well as all members of the Foundation Board be on the lookout for Kiwanis members that have potential value to serve on this Your Foundation. The need for strong leadership is important to the continued success of your Foundation. One can also serve on one of your Foundation committees as a non-board member, don't let a perceived lack of training or position stop you from contributing to your Foundation. Everyone's energy and resources are needed to carry out the work of your Foundation.

I invite every member to attend the Annual Meeting of the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation at DCON on August 13th. Come, learn more about your Foundation and feel free to chat with Staff and Board Members.

Bill Flinta  
Governor-Elect  
Gobuckspbf@sbcglobal.net

District Installation  
August 14, 2016

Please join your fellow Kiwanians at the conclusion of this year’s Ohio Kiwanis District Convention on Sunday morning August 14 at 10:00am at the Great Wolf Lodge in Cincinnati for our 2016-2017 District Installation. This is a great time to come out to meet and support next year’s leadership team including Lt. Governors, District Committee Chairs, and District Officers. Art Riley, our 2016-2017 Kiwanis International Board Counselor, will also be in attendance for this event.

This celebration, which includes brunch, is a ticketed event, and you can register for this along with your other convention activities. Registration information for this and all District Convention events can be found on the Ohio Kiwanis District Website at www.ohiokiwanis.org under the menu then District Convention tabs. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the District office at 614-848-5000. Please join us in Cincinnati for a wonderful Convention and Installation weekend!
The Formula: A Membership Initiative For All

While the focus this month is strengthening our clubs, I first need to share some really good news. The first week of July we formed the new Polaris Area Club. Congratulations to Immediate Past Governor Diana Keplinger, 10E LtG Jen Lewis, Kathleen Moylan, Jim Janosik and the whole team for spreading Kiwanis service to a new area. And, Kathleen’s SW team may have the new Springboro Club chartered by the time you read this. A great team effort by all!!

An important part of strengthening our clubs is to add new members consistently. Why? We lose 12-15% of our members each year through business relocations, retirement and moving, death, etc. To increase our service, we must replace those lost and add to it. That is why we have a new member add contest between divisions – the Tour d’ A - Z. A quick update on the “Tour” which goes through September 30th:

While Div’n 11S team made no headway, they currently still hold 1st place. Div’n 10E with a strong month seized 2nd place while Div’n 26 achieved ¼ of their annual goal in one month to grab 3rd for the moment. Other great monthly efforts came from Div’n 1N, 1S, 4, 12, 13, 14, 20 and 24. There are 3 months left to add new members to existing clubs and complete the race. All divisions who meet their goal are winners. Bring in new members and help your club and division be a winner.

If you have not received or seen a detailed copy of the monthly report or want to know more about the Tour d’ A – Z, ask your LtG or division club counselors for a copy.

Also, some may have heard that the Family Membership pilot was cancelled by the KI board. The answer is “yes & no”. After extended discussions with KI leaders and board by our district leaders, KI has agreed to 1) allow us to continue to add family members between now and SEPT 2017 and 2) After that date, all family members will be grandfathered in as long as they belong to that club.

Want to learn more about strengthening your club? There will be more information at district convention. We hope to see you there.
Veteran Not Forgotten
(Article reprinted with permission from the The Barberton Herald, Rich Muller, Herald Staff Writer)

Retired Army Staff Sgt. Jackie Christian said he was ready to give up when he got out of the service.

Christian, of Cuyahoga Falls, served in Vietnam and Iraq, where he was wounded in 2004 by an IED. He suffered traumatic brain injury and lost an eye.

“I thought everybody had forgotten about us; he said.

We was not forgotten. With the help of Wounded Warriors and an Ohio District Kiwanis project, Christian’s mobility has been restored through the donation of an AmTryke by the Barberton and Magic City Kiwanis clubs.

AmTrykes are therapeutic tricycles for people with disabilities which are customized to meet the needs of a handicapped person. They can be pedal powered like a recumbent bicycle or by hand.

Christian received his AmTryke April 16 at the Lake Anna YMCA. He said he wished his late wife could have been there and she would be happy to see someone looking after him.

“I’m going to ride to the park, all over,” Christian said. “I’ll tell everybody, hey, this is me, I’m back, I’m not dead.”

Magic City Kiwanis President, Doug Gormley said he learned about the project in November which began a series of phone calls to coordinate with the Barberton Kiwanis and to identify a person to receive the mobility device.

“We’re very happy to be involved in this project,” Gormley said. “I think it’s terrific.”

Ohio District Kiwanis Governor Amy Zimmerman helped present the AmTryke to Christian (see above photo). The mobility devices have been given to children as young as 2.

“Emotionally it’s wonderful to be part of giving independence and mobility to someone with disabilities.”
Hello Kiwanians!

I hope that you all had a great Fourth of July holiday and are enjoying these final months of summer! I know that us Key Clubbers aren’t too eager to return to school, but are very excited to get back to our home clubs and continue to serve in our communities this school year.

This past week, Key Club International hosted their annual International Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. This convention is a great way for members and officers to connect with like-minded teenagers from all across the globe, as well as elect our new International Board. Ohio District Key Club members and officers tackled The World of Coke Museum, the Georgia Aquarium, the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library, and Six Flags over Georgia while on our tour. I know I had a blast and I heard amazing feedback from the attendees as well.

The district board had their first “official” board meeting at the end of June, where we voted on a lot of major issues – including the location and date of our 68th annual District Leadership Conference (which will be held at the Embassy Suites in Dublin, Ohio, March 11-13th). We would love to have you consider sponsoring your local Key Clubs so that they may attend and have a great time learning and connecting with the Ohio District – this also helps you communicate with these club members and start to build relationships. Committees also met at the board meeting, and plans and goals were established. There are so many talented students serving on the board this year, and they have goals that are going to take the Ohio District by storm.

One of the main goals of our Kiwanis Family committee this year, is to establish a strong connection between Key Clubs and Kiwanis Clubs throughout the state. As always, invite Key Clubbers to your events, send their club officers your meeting agendas and invite them to join, and most importantly – bring pizza with you when you visit them at their meetings and they will be sure to start talking to you. All too often Key Clubbers are afraid to correspond with their Kiwanis Clubs, and I think that some of that feeling of apprehension is shared with Kiwanians talking with Key Clubbers. But after being in Atlanta with over 1,200 students who are wanting to change the world, I believe that those boundaries can be broken over the common ground of service.

Thank you all on behalf of Ohio District Key Club for your continued support and I hope to see some of you at the Kiwanis District Convention next month!

-Yours in Friendship and Service