I want to offer my congratulations to Aktion Club Chair Jennifer Weinberg, Lt Governor Gjergj Haxhiu, and their team for one of the best Aktion Club Conventions I have ever attended.

I couldn’t help but reflect while attending the Aktion Club Convention of how Ohio Kiwanians are missing opportunities to connect with our SLP family through attending conventions such as this and other SLP meetings. The sponsorship of SLP’s are the best thing we do, and the life fulfilling experience of interacting with these groups is hard to put into words.

As my year as Governor is winding down I feel compelled to ask each of you to bring in one new member to your Club. I know this sounds very simple, but, in reality, it is something our members seem to struggle with. I find if you just talk to someone about the mission of Kiwanis and your Club’s service most people are interested, but, you have to ASK!

We all have heard Kids Need Kiwanis, but what about Adults Need Kiwanis? Study after study shows that volunteering with an organization like Kiwanis improves mental health and contributes to higher levels of happiness, self-esteem, self-worth and life satisfaction. It also provides an opportunity to face-to-face interaction in a world that is increasingly isolated by technology.

Also, please do not forget the network opportunities for Kiwanis members. In the world we live in today who wouldn’t want the opportunity to join Kiwanis? I look at it as a gift that you are giving someone.
District Secretaries Notes

The Kiwanis Year is winding down, as is my term as your District Secretary. We have less than two months left to accomplish our goals as a district, as well as our goals as Kiwanis clubs! We are so close to finishing this year with positive growth for the first time in about 15 years. Let’s do everything we can to add those new members and to open those new clubs. We have added more new clubs this year than we have in many years, but we have also lost nearly as many clubs due to charter resignation. Let’s finish the year strong!

Through much hard work, Sarah Roush has reduced the number of clubs who have not reported their officers for 2018-19 to nearly 50, but that is not nearly good enough. We must have your incoming officers and their contact information to be able to provide your club with timely information in the New Year and to produce a directory that will be useful to all Ohio Kiwanis members. Please encourage your club leaders to post your new Officers as soon as possible. If they need help posting this information, please have them contact us in the district office at (614) 848-5000.

This weekend we will hold our District Convention and celebrate the 100th Birthday of the Ohio District. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find critical information concerning the parking facilities available for our convention. Please be sure to check it out. I am sure the convention will be an emotional event for me as I close 20 years as your District Secretary. I remember my first District Convention in Cincinnati in August of 1999 as if it was yesterday. Next year I will join most of you in the crowd in enjoying the wonderful educational opportunities that our conferences and convention provide us as members of the greatest service organization in the world! I hope to see many of you this weekend in Toledo.

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.
Hi Kiwanians, I do want to clear up some confusion about our school supply service project at DCON. I had contacted Lt. Governors and they were to see what monetary donations that they could collect in their division. We have received some money so far but not quite enough to cover the cost of the supplies for 500 students in 3 elementary school in Toledo. We did order school supplies to make sure that we would have 500 of each item that we are putting in the bags. We used some money from the First Family Project Funds. As we receive monetary donations we will put the money back in the Funds, so we can give funds to groups that are feeding hungry children. We will still accept monetary donations during the service project. If you did purchase supplies you can bring them and we will find a place where they can be used. We hope to have many of you join us in packing 500 school supply bags during our service project during the session. Check the schedule and stop in and help pack the bags. Peggy Flinta will be there to help. Thank you for all you do for Ohio’s kids.

We are still collecting can goods that will be donated to the Toledo Food Bank. Please bring non-perishable food. There will be a location in the hotel where you can donate your food before the concert on Friday night. There will also be a Food Drive booth as you enter the convention center from the hotel. Thank you again for all you do the help kids and families in Ohio.

2018 District Convention Parking Details

The 2018 District Convention is coming fast! Two weeks from today we will gather in Toledo, Ohio at the Park Inn Toledo and the SeaGate Convention Center to celebrate our 100th Birthday as a district and to do the business of Kiwanis. As we have been announcing all along a large festival, Jeepfest, will be sharing the spotlight with Ohio Kiwanis that weekend. Due to road closures caused by their parade and other activities, the convention committee has prepared special instructions for you to get around the road closings. Check out the following links for additional information:

Click here to download a Special Parking and Transportation Infosheet.
Click here to download the Special Kiwanis Parking Logo that you will need to display in your window to get through some roadblocks mention in the Infosheet.

Please do not dismiss this information! The convention committee has worked very hard to minimize your parking difficulties during this very busy weekend.
Membership - you’ve heard that word consistently in this column and as we navigate the final quarter of this membership year, it’s important more than ever. We’ve completed 4 new clubs and have several more new clubs in the process of completion. **New clubs alone cannot address our district-wide membership shortfalls.**

But what does that mean to your Club? How does stagnant or decreasing membership impact your Club? These are questions your Club leadership needs to be regularly answering. Consider the great work you’re doing in your community. Do you always have enough hands to get the work done? Do you always have enough people show up to staff your fundraisers? Do you regularly have a leadership succession in place in your Club and Division? Is it easy or difficult to fill your project and event schedules?

For most Clubs in the Ohio District, there are likely several no’s to those questions. That’s why membership is important to you. The good work you’re doing in your community won’t continue without a continuous effort to build your club’s membership.

What can you do about it? To start with, ensure your Club has an active Membership Committee. Ensure the Membership Chairman is reported to Kiwanis International so that critical resources can be directed to them. The Formula Team has a leadership structure in place willing to help any Club build their membership. Reach out to one of our Regional Team Leaders listed below, or any of our Vice-Chairs or myself. We have resources that can help your Club manage its membership strengthening efforts.

Now is a critical time in our district-wide effort to reverse the decades-old decreasing membership trend in the Ohio District. I’m confident that if our clubs include a brief membership discussion at each meeting, and implement a few of the ideas available to strengthen our clubs, we can be successful **this year. We need each Club to work to be better than net 0 in September**; I look forward to reporting on your successes.

You can contact the Formula Regional Team Leader in your area to find out how we can help your Club improve.

Region 1 - Divisions 1N, 1S, 12: Rick Kidwell, 419-424-1323, rkidwell@aol.com
Region 2 - Divisions 2, 3, 11S, 10W: Jack Hilborn, 740-369-9641, hilborn@midohio.net
Region 3 - Divisions 4, 5, 6, 7, 8: Bill Pees, 937-361-8694, williampees61985@gmail.com
Region 4 - Divisions 9, 10S, 10E, 18: Larry Good, 614-329-0620, larrygoodz@yahoo.com
Region 5 - Divisions 11N, 16, 17, 26: Randy Beard, 330-509-1527, randy@generationsinsgrp.com
Region 6 - Divisions 13, 14, 15, 22, 24: Lee Fenrich, 440-235-9379, leefenrich@cox.net

We have the Formula to be successful. Now it’s up to you. Questions? You are encouraged to contact any of the Formula leadership team to discuss membership issues with your Club.

Yours in Kiwanis service,

Brad Kunze, District Formula and Membership Chair, [1218odk@gmail.com](mailto:1218odk@gmail.com)

Dr. Dennis Lehman, District Formula Vice Chair, New Club Opening, [drdennisel@windstream.net](mailto:drdennisel@windstream.net)
Diana Keplinger, District Formula Vice Chair, Coaching, [dk.kiwanis@gmail.com](mailto:dk.kiwanis@gmail.com)
Bill Snellgrove, District Formula Vice Chair, Training, [governor_bill@columbus.rr.com](mailto:governor_bill@columbus.rr.com)
Rich Ulmes, District Formula Vice Chair, Logistics, [rulmes@natca.net](mailto:rulmes@natca.net)
Hello Ohio Kiwanis,

Hope you all are doing well. It has been a busy summer for Ohio Key Club. In June, we held our board trainer at the Dublin Embassy Suites. Lieutenant Governors and the Executives learned the ins and outs of their roles as Ohio District Board Members. The trainer was immediately followed by our summer board meeting, where we officially appointed eight new LTGs and two new Executive Board Members (Betsy Myers, our Webmaster, and Noah Lowery, our Historian). We also approved the date and location for District Leadership Conference (DLC) 2019. The event will be held at the Dublin Embassy Suites in Dublin, Ohio from March 8th-10th. Save the date! Kiwanians are always welcome.

On July 4th, around thirty Key Clubbers from across Ohio traveled to Chicago, Illinois for the 2018 International Convention. We had the privilege of traveling with roughly a dozen of our Circle K brothers and sister who also had their convention in Chicago. At ICON, we met Key Clubbers from around the world and deepened our Key Club knowledge through various workshops. Two former LTGs, myself and Mason Olds of Fremont Ross High School, received the Robert F. Lucas Outstanding Lieutenant Governor Award. We also elected eleven International Trustees as well as a new International President and International Vice President. The new International President is Emily Rice, a former International Trustee of the Minnesota-Dakotas District. The new International Vice President is Hannah Nivar, also a former International Trustee of the New Jersey District. We were lucky enough to have Hannah as our International Trustee last year. Congratulations Hannah! After the convention, we spent one day touring the beautiful city of Chicago. From Navy Pier to the Willis Tower to the Bean, we had a great time. We are all looking forward to ICON 2019 in Baltimore, Maryland from July 3rd-8th!

Two weeks after ICON, I had the opportunity to attend LeadCon in Indianapolis, Indiana. This is the only event the whole year where the entire International Council (the International Board & the Governors) is together. Overall, we had a very productive meeting. I had the opportunity to meet with our 2018-2019 International Trustee, Braeden Dorchester of New York, and our 2018-2019 Sister Governors, Marissa Peters of Montana and Hassana Al-Saba of Jamaica. We all are looking forward to working together this year.

As a District Board, we have finalized our committee assignments and are now working hard to plan for a successful year. Our main focus right now is Fall Rally, one of two annual district-wide gatherings for Ohio Key Clubbers (the other being DLC). Students have the opportunity to meet Key Clubbers from across Ohio, learn more about the organization, hear from amazing speakers, and overall, have a great time. This year, the event will take place on Sunday, November 4th from 10am-3pm at the Ohio Union in Columbus, Ohio. The cost for all K-Family members to attend is only $15. The deadline to register is Saturday, October 27th. Late registration is available for $25. Registration information will soon be sent out to all Key Clubs and posted on our website. Stay tuned!

If you are part of a Kiwanis Club that sponsors a Key Club, then we highly recommend that you encourage your Key Clubbers to attend Fall Rally and DLC. These events are what make Key Club so much more than just a community service organization. The perfect opportunity for Key Clubbers to make new friends and grow as leaders, you will not regret sending them.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the Kiwanis District Convention in a few weeks. Until then, if there is anything I can do for you, please reach out.

Noah Malik
Governor
Ohio District Key Club
noahsatish@gmail.com
ELIMINATE PROJECT MOVING FORWARD
—BUT YOUR HELP IS STILL NEEDED!

The Eliminate Project, both Internationally and at home here in Ohio, continues to make strides in helping save the lives of women and children. As of the International convention in June 2018, Maternal and Neonatal tetanus has been eliminated in 24 countries - yet there are still 15 countries left to go. Some of these, like Afghanistan, Kenya and Yemen, will be difficult to achieve due to their remoteness, country violence and more than 1.6 million children who also suffer from malnutrition.

Yet, vaccinations are being targeted this year for another 2.9 million women, and there is a new project known as Uniject, a groundbreaking injection device. And that is in addition to the vaccines which usually are carted in on ice.

At International convention, a special fundraising event was held to raise $200,000; and that goal was met and surpassed on the way to $400,000. Thanks Kiwanians!

Closer to home, the Ohio District still stands at about $300,000 owed in gifts and pledges. So to help our members, you have at least three simple ways to participate:

*Buy a $5 quilt raffle ticket, available from Cindy Champer and several other members of the team. The quilt was generously donated by Joanne Whiteman, and the winner will be drawn at district convention. You DO NOT need to be present to win!

*We still have gently used merchandise at the Eliminate booth. Come by, spend some $, even donate gently used items, all sold for donations to the Eliminate project.

*Finally, we still have our fundraising page through the Kiwanis Children’s Fund. We are known as: OHIO CHAMPS FOR MNT. You can donate securely as follows - https://secure.qgiv.com/event/team/807885.

Every $1.80 saves the life of a woman and her unborn children! Please continue to help us help those less fortunate.

Cindy Champer
Ohio MNT Chair
cindychamper@aol.com

Message from Governor-Elect, Faith Levine

Please join me as we celebrate the installation of the 2018-19 Ohio District Officers, Lt. Governors and District Chairs. We will continue the successes of Governor Dan and his leadership team by “Growing Great Clubs” – 12 new clubs, 8100 Ohio District Kiwanians and reducing the number of below charter strength clubs.

This celebration will start on Saturday September 22 at 5:30pm at the Doubletree Hilton, 175 Hutchinson Rd, Columbus OH (near the I270/N. High St exit). Dinner reservations are $40 per person and hotel rooms are available for $109/night. (This room/block rate is available through August 31)

Dinner reservation/meal selection response forms will be available online at www.ohiokiwanis.org by August 15. For any questions until then please contact me at faith.kiwanis2015@gmail.com or the event chair Jean Forbes at jeanforbes805@gmail.com.
On July 28, 2018, the Ohio Aktion Club members had their annual convention in Rocky River at Lutheran West High School. The day started out with members taking rides on the The Thriller Car, a converted amusement park ride from the Euclid Beach Park, around the parking lot. The Thriller Car whipped around the parking lot as members threw their hands in the air and let out screams of delight. The opening session keynote speaker was Camille Licate, a motivational speaker who is passionate about inspiring and empowering kids and adults to take steps for a brighter future, particularly in the area of the environment.

Aktion Club members participated in workshops including officer training, fundraising, running fun and effective meetings, and learning more about Camille Licate’s Kids for Positive Change. In addition to learning, members participated in several service projects. Throughout the year, clubs collected pop tabs to be donated to the Cleveland Ronald McDonald House. Clubs also contributed to the Kiwanis First Family Project of Feeding Ohio’s Children. The food was donated to the Lutheran West food bank. During the convention, members made dog toys out of t-shirt strips to be donated to animal shelters.

In the afternoon, members enjoyed Alligator Eric’s Animal Show. Alligator Eric presented many different exotic animals and gave members the opportunity to hold or pet them. Some Aktion Club members enthusiastically ran to the front to get the chance to participate. A tarantula rested on a shoulder, a hedgehog was held while it wrapped itself in a ball, an iguana and snakes were held, and the grand finale was Butter the python. A number of members needed to hold Butter at once because it was so heavy! Every attendee had the opportunity to pet Butter. For many, these exotic animals were a once in a lifetime treat.

Later that afternoon, members participated in a mini Olympics and the speech contest. Meanwhile judges reviewed poster, t-shirt, and scrapbook contest submissions. Medallions, donated by the Westlake Aktion Club, were presented to the Olympics winners. The following first place winners of contests were awarded. Congratulations to them and all contest participants.

- Speech: Kim McClain, Licking County
- Scrapbook: Aktion Club of Greenville (Darke County DD)
- Poster: Kim Burgess, Licking County
- T-shirt: Kim McClain, Licking County

The All Ohio E-Medina Club presented the Tom E. Crawford Award for Service. There were many great submissions this year. The winner was Licking County for their food drive that supported the “Feeding Ohio’s Children” initiative. The food drive was a month long collection that benefited the Licking County Food Pantry Network. The club promoted the food drive through posters and newspaper articles as well as through Kiwanis efforts. Additionally the club was recognized by the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities for their effort to “Give Back and Help Others” and was displayed on 4 electronic billboards during the March DD Awareness Month.

I was to extend my thanks on behalf of the Ohio Aktion Clubs to Division 14 Lt. Governor Gjergj Haxhiu for coordinating and planning many important aspects of this convention including securing the presenters from the community and the location. A special thanks to the Lutheran West High School for donating the school and providing student excellent volunteers led by their Vice Principal Josh Hubeler. Additionally, thank you to the Westlake Aktion Club and Kiwanis Club and Division 14 Kiwanis Club members, particularly Vic Rutkoski, for their time and support. Thanks also to the workshop presenters from throughout Ohio who have continuously supported Aktion Club and its conventions. All of these great volunteers have made this event a great day to honor our Aktion Club members. Thanks to the Aktion Club advisors and caregivers who provide guidance and care to the Aktion Club members throughout the year and enable members to attend and grow in their leadership and love for service.