Welcome to Fall

Well the calendar says fall is upon us. What are some of your favorite things about fall. Perhaps you share Peggy’s love of the fall foliage, fresh Ohio apples, or the many fall festivals. Or maybe you share my favorite thing about fall, the return of college football. Either way, I hope we all share the excitement of a new Kiwanis year each fall. This is a chance for us to review and tweak our club’s operations to provide our members the best member engagement possible and our communities and their youth the best service possible.

During this wonderfully fulfilling year as Ohio Kiwanis Governor I have had the pleasure of visiting many clubs throughout our District and I would like to take this article to share some best club practices I observed along the way.

1. Consistent meeting times, locations and agendas, with at least two meetings per month. I use the term meeting loosely as club meetings come in many shapes and sizes, they may be in person or online, they may or may not include a meal, they may be a traditional meeting format or they may be a recurring service project. The point is consistency with a format that is engaging to your members.

2. A consistent monthly Board meeting, with an agenda and appropriate officer and committee reporting.

3. A structured and functioning committee system to cover all the major aspects of club operations and service including, but not limited to, community service, service leadership programs, youth services, meetings and administration, finance and fundraising, etc.

4. Annual assessments of your club and your community to make sure you are meeting the needs of your club members and your community. (Assessment forms are available from Kiwanis International and with officer training materials).

5. Diversity in your club membership and Board composition that matches that of your community.

6. The annual preparation of club budgets for both the administrative and service accounts and their use in managing the club’s finances with monthly reporting to the Board and to the membership as needed.

7. Adequate club representation at Division meetings, Ohio District events such as Mid Year Education Day and District Convention, and Kiwanis International Convention.

8. A consistent ongoing new member recruitment program to bring fresh ideas, and a sufficient pipeline of new Club officers and Board members with adequate timelines and preparation for their development.

9. Sufficient member education covering both Kiwanis related topics and items of local and international interest through club meeting speakers, newsletter articles, social media, etc.

As we begin a new Kiwanis year I ask each club to review your club and if not already doing so utilize these best practices and others you have developed in your own club to help make your club the best it can be.

Congratulations to Division 13 and the residents of the Grafton/Midview area on your opening of the new Kiwanis Club of Midview. It is exciting to think of the added service this club will bring to their community.

In closing Peggy and I would like to thank all Ohio Kiwanians for allowing us to serve the Great Ohio District of Kiwanis International this past year as Governor and First Lady. We have greatly enjoyed the service, fellowship, and friendship we have shared with you and your clubs throughout the year.

Yours in Kiwanis Service,

Bill Flinta

2016-2017 Governor
As this Kiwanis Year comes to a close, the district and yours truly have much to be thankful for. The district has once again enjoyed the luxury of being led very ably by a Governor and District Board who have worked extremely hard to ensure each club has had the opportunity to meet the needs of children and others in its community! We have witnessed this work first-hand throughout the Ohio District. Personally, I was extremely fortunate to have a daughter who chose to give me the chance to live a more normal life through the gift of a kidney! She has given me the opportunity to see my grandchildren grow up and 2017 will always be a special year because of that.

I want to spend the rest of my article writing about an area of deep concern. As I review the Monthly Reports submitted by dedicated Club Secretaries, I know which clubs are in good hands and which clubs need assistance. As I write this article, fully 42% of the clubs in the district are not filing monthly reports of their activities. These reports help the leaders in the district know which clubs are healthy and which may need additional attention. I have heard several long-time Club Secretaries remark that “no one looks at my report, so why should I bother”. This is just not true. The Governor reviews them, your Lieutenant Governor reviews them, and the district office reviews them to monitor what is being done in each community. The Club Election Report is also one that is often neglected. As we approach the new year, 25% of the district clubs have not filed a report yet. At the time the report was due on June 1st, only 1/3 of the clubs in the district had filed an election report. Failing to file that report makes it almost impossible for the Ohio District (and Kiwanis International) to prepare an accurate directory of clubs and officers for the upcoming year.

We realize that many clubs have long-time secretaries who may not be that computer savvy. Kiwanis International has helped clubs solve this issue by setting up the Assistant Secretary position to allow someone to be appointed to help the Club Secretary maintain their online presence through completion of reports, maintaining its membership records, and help with other functions available through the online Portalbuzz website provided to each club in Kiwanis International. If you would like additional information about the Assistant Secretary position, we would be glad to talk to you and answer questions.

Last but not least, we encourage each Club Secretary to attend the CLE for Club Secretaries Session at our District Convention in August each year or through the online Secretary Training available on the Portalbuzz website. If you need help accessing that online training module, call us in the district office at (614) 848-5000 and we would be glad to assist you. Let’s make 2017-18 the best Kiwanis Year ever!

**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.
Club Advised Funds
Provide Fundraising Opportunities

Clubs may invest their funds in the investment pool of the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation as a Club Advised Fund or sub fund. This allows the Club Advised Fund to receive tax deductible donations under the 501(c)(3) IRS provisions of the Foundation. Many individuals and businesses have made donations to support Kiwanis service through this method.

Funds are invested in compliance with an Investment Policy established by the Foundation Board and managed by an adviser at Raymond James and Associates.

The total of funds now invested through the Foundation is $471,820 from 25 clubs.

The Foundation makes all required state and federal reports for the Club Advised Funds. Grants from these funds are made with advice from the clubs to charitable organizations or scholarships

Foundation board members are available to talk to your club or board about this possibility to enhance service to your community.

For information about how your club can benefit from this program, contact Alan Penn, Executive Director at director@odkf.org.

Ohio Kiwanis Clubs using the Club Advised Fund option to have a local club Foundation. Barberton, Belden Village, Bellevue, Berwick, Bloom Carroll, Canton, Dayton Breakfast, Delphos, Eastlake, Elyria, Kent, Medina, Fremont, Medina Breakfast, Middleburg Heights, Norwalk, Ravenna, Rocky River, SE Cleveland, Warren, West Geauga, West Park, Westerville, Wooster, Delaware County
Fall! Leaves turn and it’s a good time to start a Builders Club.

The middle school aged students are wonderful and have creative ideas for projects and fund raisers and are willing to work hard to make them happen.

If you wish to sponsor a Builders Club got to Kiwanisone.org and scroll down the menu to chartering a club. The menu will take you to Builders Club and you will also find Advisor Education. If you need help or have questions contact me at Musiclady46@frontier.com

 Builders Club Chair
 Nancy McNeal
 musiclady46@frontier.com

Youth Protection Week Was Sept. 10 - 16

The youth protection training program is available online at Kiwanis International. [http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanisone/lead/risk-management/youth-protection-guidelines#.WMnzkn_NWQc]

Youth Protection training for your Kiwanis Club.

The training program from Kiwanis International is fairly self explanatory and easy to use. If you have members not present they can take the training on line at Kiwanis One. This is an option for the whole club, but presenting it as a program ensures most members hear it, think about it, and perhaps have some discussion.

Youth protection is about protecting the youth AND protecting adults and making sure they are not in a place for any false accusations. Most training is common sense, and suggests you are never alone with youth, but travel and participate in 3’s at a minimum, and that all communications be treated as public for all to see. Even emails, should ideally be copies to at least one other person to meet best practices.

Youth protection is the responsibility of us all that work with or sponsor youth programs. Best practices protect youth, us as adults, and the organization.

In this day and age it is unfortunately a necessity that we all must remain conscious of.

Social Media Resources Available to Members and Clubs

Social media is fast becoming a preferred way of communicating with friends and promoting businesses and organizations. If your club is just starting to get involved with Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other social media venues, Kiwanis International has a resource for you!

The Kiwanis International website has a whole section dedicated to just using social media, visit [http://www.kiwanis.org/clubs/member-resources/social-media] to obtain everything from Guidelines for Social Media to artwork that can be used on your site. (see left)

By utilizing a consistent message of who we are and what Kiwanis does as an organization, you are helping to spread the message that Kiwanis is a valuable part of your community and individuals who want to make a difference should consider joining us!

Other topics include creating and maintaining a club website, creating and utilizing u-tube videos and Kiwanis Brand Campaign. The materials are easy to understand and utilize to the benefit of our organization.
2016-17 Ohio District Distinguished K-Kids

2016-17 Ohio District Honor K-Kids Clubs:
Unity K-Kids, Freedom Elementary School, and Walter Kidder Elementary School

Help us show how your K-Kids are helping others!

Send a short summary of your K-Kids service project with photo to me at lewis.792@osu.edu with “Ohio K-Kids Project” in the subject. Each entry gives your club a chance to a $100 Target gift card. We will share with Ohio K-Kids! Also, http://kiwaniskids.org/en/KKids/Lead/Contests.aspx

DUE DECEMBER 15, 2017 - Club Recruitment - Best Poster; Identifying Service Needs - Best Essay; Developing a Passion for Service - Best Speech; Club Promotion - Best Video

DUE MAY 1, 2018 - Annual Achievement Award; Kiwanis Children's Fund Leadership Award; Distinguished Club Officers; Distinguished Advisors; Best Scrapbook

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter to see winning submissions and receive more updates. https://www.facebook.com/KiwanisKids https://twitter.com/KiwanisKids

Renewal process has begun
All sponsoring Kiwanis club secretaries should have received an email with instructions on how to update information for their K-Kids and Builders Clubs. All active K-Kids will receive a member kit in September. Please visit kkids.org/renewal for more information.

Coming soon: Monthly reporting process for advisors
Kiwanis International is creating a monthly reporting process to begin tracking club activities for K-Kids. Both the Kiwanis and faculty advisor will have permission to complete their club's monthly report, and they will access it by logging into the Kiwanis Online Reporting System. Help keep the club's contact information updated. Establish a record of the club's activities saved for current and future advisors. Be able to email completed reports to the leaders of their school or community organization and sponsoring Kiwanis club to share the work their club has done.

NEW: The IDEA Toolkit
The IDEA Toolkit was created for K-Kids and Builders Clubs to help guide advisors to help students to find their passion for service and take the lead in service projects that make a lasting impact in their school and/or community. As clubs get up and running, members will be excited to choose their focus for their first service project. Step 1 of the IDEA Toolkit: Identify the Need. In this step, members will investigate their school and community needs to identify how their club can help. Look for this in your member kit or Visit kkids.org/IDEA.
Key Leader
Brian and Kelly Shaffer
ohiokeyleader@gmail.com

Key Leader returns to Ohio during the weekend of November 10-12, 2017

Growth, integrity, respect, community, excellence. What do these words have in common? They are the five tenets of servant leadership as described in the Key Leader curriculum and taught to high school students. Through this experiential leadership camp, students learn to recognize the qualities of a key leader in themselves and gain the confidence to go back into the world and be the change.

* Students learn to lead with integrity by probing their own values and practicing various ways to lead with those ideas at the forefront of their minds.
* Students grow in mind as they engage in active discussion about communication and personality styles.
* Students give and receive respect to others through examination of the moral compass and even showing gratitude.
* Students build communities with those around them at Key Leader and take that experience back to their own homes to build more communities which are united in common goals. They even take part in low-ropes/team building to put some of these ideas into action.
* Students examine the finer points of achieving excellence through goal setting, planning for the future and pushing to be their best selves.

Who wouldn’t want to have a part in this process? Getting involved is easy. Want to give this incredible life-changing experience to a student? Speak to local high-school-aged students and offer to provide sponsorship for them to attend a Key Leader weekend. Want to get involved yourself? Contact Site Coordinator Brian Yacucci (byacucci@cinci.rr.com or 513-310-7235) to inquire about how to become a chaperone or assist at the event. You might also provide a full or partial scholarship for a deserving student. That is done by making a donation to the Ohio District Foundation Key Leader Fund. No matter your commitment level, there is a fitting option for everyone. Registration is only $250 per student/$225 per Key Club member. This includes everything a student needs for the weekend: food, lodging, curriculum materials, t-shirt and more.

Registration is open at https://kiwaniskeyleader.regfox.com/recreation-unlimited. Please use this link to take you/your students directly to the registration form. It is also accessible through www.key-leader.org. All students must register online. Register early to guarantee your student a spot.

Please contact Kelly or Brian Shaffer at ohiokeyleader@gmail.com or 330-405-6638 if you have questions or need assistance with student recruitment or any other Key Leader items.
THE ELIMINATE PROJECT IN OHIO - LOOKING TO THE FINISH LINE

The Eliminate project, designed to save hundreds of thousands of lives in third world countries from maternal neonatal tetanus, continues to move along - with both GOOD NEWS and also some mixed news.

On the good news side, both Ethiopia and Haiti have been validated to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus. That means that only 16 countries still remain to be validated - but these countries include such as Yemen and South Sudan, where fighting and unrest remain crucial issues to be solved.

Overall financially, the Eliminate project set out to raise $110 million. To date, $71.2 million has been raised in cash gifts, and that rate is slowly but surely moving along. In Ohio, our $2.6 million in gifts and pledges is also moving along, with $400,000 still to be raised ON OR BEFORE 2020.

Many hands will make light work if everyone participates. For example, Divisional Lt. Governors are asked to determine just where their clubs are in meeting their goals. Incoming Lt. Governors will be provided with new information on this as the new year starts. And clubs and/or individuals whose pledges are outstanding are urged to continue paying on them.

An example of this is the Model club pledge. If you are a pledged Model club but have not yet fully met your pledge - but you are also at the five year mark - PLEASE CONTINUE to raise funds as best possible. You have until September 30, 2020 to complete this pledge - and EVERY $1.80 will help the save the lives of a woman and all her unborn children.

The Ohio District needs to remember that we have done well so far; after all, we were the FIRST district to raise $1 million for this campaign! But we still have miles to go before we sleep, and new fundraising efforts are underway.

Please consider the old Chicago mantra your new speak - Instead of “vote early and often”, please donate early and often! Thanks again for all the lives you have saved.

It’s Time for District Awards….

Ok, in all honesty, you’re not going to win a “Major Award” like a leg lamp, but, your club can receive some nice recognition for your hard work.

District contests can be found in the back of the 2016-2017 Ohio District Kiwanis Directory and on the District website—www.ohiokiwanis.org.

Contest information can be specifically found at http://ohiokiwanis.org/Page/968 (District Awards). Kiwanis International will have links to apply for Distinguished Club and Distinguished Member through the Secretary Dashboard.

Ohio has contests for Interclubbing, Social Media, Website, Newsletter and Public Relations. Clubs are also encouraged to complete the form for “Today’s Readers—Tomorrow’s Leaders” project participation. http://ohiokiwanis.org/Page/31539 (Today’s Readers—Tomorrow’s Leaders link on the Ohio District Kiwanis website).

Deadlines are fast approaching so don’t miss this opportunity to celebrate your many accomplishments!