This is a time to celebrate because this month is the beginning of 100 years of Ohio Kiwanis. As we begin the next 100 years I think of New Year Resolutions and I ask you to reflect on yours. My New Year’s Resolution is to be able to facilitate growth of Ohio Kiwanis, and I challenge you to join me in making it one of yours.

In an effort to promote growth I feel I need to challenge each and every Kiwanian to embrace the goals set for Ohio Kiwanis this year, which are as follows.

1. **Build a minimum of 24 new Clubs and strengthen existing Clubs For a net gain in Ohio membership.**
2. **Increase Ohio Kiwanis Leadership through meaningful and accessible education.**
3. **Encourage and increase partnerships with SLP’S and Kiwanis Divisions.**
4. **Promote the Kiwanis Brand through social media and print media.**
5. **Increase recognition of the accomplishments of Kiwanians, Clubs and Divisions.**
6. **Increase participation in District and Division events through communication and streamlining the event with emphasis on education fellowship and fun.**

If even half of the current membership embrace these goals we will accomplish and exceed them this year, so I ask you to reach out for help in the areas you feel weak. We have many trained individuals ready and willing to increase Ohio Kiwanis membership!

I am happy to report that overall Ohio Kiwanis has grown since November, so we are on the right track. Congratulation to those Clubs that have brought in new members. We still need more of you to step up and invite prospective candidates to your meetings and then ask them to join. As I have stated in the past far too many of us fail to do the ask.

We have already added Clubs to our SLP’S, and congratulations to those who have helped to facilitate those new Clubs. I ask more of you to look at your Division and see where it would benefit from a SLP Club, and get busy to make it happen as the SLP programs are the best thing Kiwanis does!

The service Ohio Kiwanis members perform in their communities is incredible and many communities would experience a huge loss if we weren’t there. Unfortunately if we do not grow it is inevitable that someday those communities will lose their Kiwanis Clubs. As membership dwindles Club members get overwhelmed and close. This has already happened this year in Ohio simply because Clubs have not reached out for the help available to help them grow. Please do not let your Club be one of them!
District Secretaries Notes

Registration for the 2018 Ohio District Mid-Year Education Day is now in full swing. You can register online by going to 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 registering online will receive a $15.00 discount!

990 Tax Return Final Notice
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, 2018. 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

2017-18 Club Insurance Resource Guide
Your club secretary should have received the 2017-18 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.

Webinar Wednesdays - Setting up your Club Facebook Page
Wednesday, January 10, 2018
8:00 PM Eastern Time

Learn how to set up a Facebook Page for your Kiwanis Club.

Go to http://www.digitalkiwanis.org/ohiokiwanis/webinar-wednesday to register.

If you can’t attend live, you can still register so that you can get access to the replay.
Hello Ohio Kiwanis!

This February 16th-18th Ohio District Circle K will be holding its 61st annual district convention at Bowling Green State University. In the whimsical words of Willy Wonka, there will be "little surprises around every corner". As the theme of Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory displays that those who are good receive good in return, it reminds us to strive to fulfill the fellowship, service, and leadership duties as Ohio District of CKI members, and to dedicate our time to serve and assist the community. The district board and I are excited to invite members from throughout Ohio to participate in service and fellowship opportunities whilst electing the next board of officers to lead the district. If you are interested in being a guest at our event, a copy of registration can be found on our website (ohiocki.org) or please feel free to email me requesting a packet, I would be more than happy to send it to you!

We are also selling advertisement space in our program! Do you have a business you’d like to advertise? Are you proud of a member or club’s accomplishments? Have a cool service project you want to tell us about? Consider buying an ad in our program! Remember, a lot of Circle K seniors will be graduating and looking for Kiwanis clubs in their area!

For any of you that are members Kiwanis clubs that sponsor a Circle K, I encourage you to review the "Service Leadership Club Reports" and select "Paid Membership Report" found on the Kiwanis website. I know some clubs have been having some trouble accessing the Membership Update Center. If you see your CKI counterpart not appearing as dues paid, do not fret! This may be an issue on international’s end. Unlisted clubs have been notified of their stance, but I encourage you to reach out to corresponding club presidents as well. If at any point in time you have questions, please do not hesitate to get in contact with me.

I hope you are all having a wonderful new year and thank you so much for all you do for all of the Service Leadership Programs!

Bethany Sara
Governor
Ohio District Circle K
Basara@Bgsu.edu

Hi Kiwanians, I am so excited to let you know that the First Family Project is off to a great start. We have already had $2,400 donated for use on our First Family Project. If your club needs fund to get a Weekend Food Pack started or need help in filling the packs that you are already working on you can apply for a grant through the Ohio Kiwanis Foundation. Let’s use these funds to help Ohio’s hungry children.

Keep in mind that there are over 600,000 children in Ohio who may not have any food to eat other than the breakfast and lunches they receive at school. Let’s make a difference in the lives of these children.

I do want to recognize a few clubs that have been working on the First Family project. Lima Club has served at a soup kitchen several times and prepared a meal for a homeless family. West Park Kiwanis donated turkeys to 10 families for Thanksgiving. Ashville Club also donated turkey for Thanksgiving and is donating food, money, and time filling Weekend Food Packs for students at Teays Valley schools. The Celina Club had a food drive for the C.A.L.L. Weekend Backpack Program. They have committed to donate $150 every three months to that program. The Stow Munroe Falls Club pack food bags known as Bulldog Bags for qualifying students in the city schools in their area.

I’m sure there are other clubs participating, so please email or mail your report, so you can be recognized. I would love to hear about how your club is helping our needy children. Report forms are on the Ohio website, or email me and I will send you some.

Thank you for all you do. Kids Need Kiwanis!

First Family Project
Barbara Litzinger
blitzinger07@gmail.com

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Thank you for all you do. Kids Need Kiwanis!
Join us at MidYear 2018 as we recognize the following:

Ohio Kiwanis Hall of Fame Recipients
Distinguished Clubs & Officers
Distinguished Lt. Governors
Interclub Contest Winners
Newsletter Contest Winners
Website Contest Winners

Eliminate Model Clubs
Distinguished Members
Club Growth
Public Relations Contest Winners
Social Media Contest Winners
Kiwanis Children’s Fund President’s Challenge

Lastly, the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation will also have some recognitions to make at the 9am session, so be sure to arrive in time for those along with coffee and pastries.

How can “YOUR CLUB” support Ohio District’s SLP’s”

Tim Cornelius
Ohio Kiwanis Foundation
ttcorny@att.net

All Kiwanis members know how important Service Leadership Project’s are. But how can YOU and YOUR CLUB help?

Solution – Through Your Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation website, ODKF.ORG
Your Foundation helps you and your clubs support Service Leadership Programs for:

* Key Club  *Circle K  *And Key Leader Programs

The Foundation helps developing Funds through programs like:
Birthday Fund – Donation for Clubs Annual Birthday ($3.00) per Member.
KICK – Kiwanis Investing in Circle K Fund ($100.00) per Club.
KCLD – Key Club Leadership Development Fund.

And you and your club can do this through the comfort of from home, office, or Smart Phone, simply by going to ODKF.ORG The ODKF website allows you to make “secure” donations from your credit card as a “one time” donation, or a repeating “monthly” donation. This can also be done for other Funds including the “First Family Project Fund”.

Let’s encourage our members, and/or for their clubs, to go to the Ohio District Kiwanis website ODKF.ORG and just take a look around. “It’s amazing what you’ll find”.

Thank You for all “You” do for Your Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation.

“Best Wishes for the New Year”
Hello my fellow Kiwanians! I hope that this past holiday season was a good one for you! It is difficult to believe that a third of this administrative year is already gone. Yet, so much has happened in that 1st quarter of the 2017-2018 administrative year.

One major milestone to be proud of is that as a District we have built new clubs and added MANY new members. With so many new faces in the Ohio Kiwanis Family, it is important to remember that the ongoing development and education of new members will help keep them involved.

While there is no “one size fits all” approach to doing this, it is important to examine what you are doing in your club, and ensure that it fits the needs of your members. Do not be afraid to try something new! Many clubs allow their membership committee to offer brief educational facts at meetings. Perhaps offer something about the history of the Ohio District or your club. The International website can be a great resource.

Did you know that the Ohio District came into being on September 26th, 1918 in Cleveland and that the first three clubs in Ohio were in Cleveland, Columbus and Dayton? Or that the first Governor of Ohio was from that Cleveland Club and his name was Richard J. Birch? It is always great to share the rich history of the organization, but don’t forget to keep it fun! Maybe make a game out of it, or add your own bit of pizzazz to keep it entertaining!

While you are at it, don’t forget to remind your new members to be on the lookout for their Kiwanis magazines. The December issue was by far one of the best in terms of membership recruitment ideas. There are some clubs that will ask trivia questions about the most current magazine at a meeting and offer prizes to the members that can answer the questions (examples include: what was the theme of the issue?, what was the feature article?, what was on the cover?, etc.). This helps your members utilize yet another resource they have at their fingertips.

Still other clubs send out emails to the membership. These emails can contain information about the upcoming meeting, or service projects. Whatever you do in your club, continue to seek out new ways to educate your members. If you are struggling with ideas, please do not hesitate to contact me. As we continue to grow our clubs and our District, we owe it to these new members to keep them educated and involved. Without involved members, both current and new, we will not continue to make the huge impact in our communities. We CAN grow our clubs and educate our members. The future of Kiwanis depends on you and me working together to make it happen.

You can learn about the history of Kiwanis International at http://www.kiwanis.org/about/history

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.
Has membership been an issue in your club? Would you like to learn how to recruit more effectively? How can you inspire others in your club to grow your roster? Do you need help building a corporate recruitment strategy?

Your 2018 Ohio District Kiwanis MidYear Education Day will help you with these and other challenges that your club may be facing so that together we can

GROW OHIO KIWANIS!

1st 50 first time attendees get a $15 discount!

Opening Session with Ohio Kiwanis District Foundation 9a
Educational Forums 10:15a-12p & 2:15p-3:30p
Lunch, Awards, Keynote Speaker 12p-2p
Service Fair & Ice Cream Social 3:30p-5p

Registration opens 12.15.17 @ ohiokiwanis.org
In preparing this article for the Buckeye Bulletin, what better way to end 2017 and begin 2018 than to THANK everyone in Ohio Kiwanis who has been part of this journey to save lives. Since we began in 2010, the Ohio goal of raising $4.2 million has been in place to Eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus - so that those particularly in third world countries, could experience the same safety and security that those of us in the US and Canada do when having our children.

So here is a smattering of what Ohio Kiwanians have done - APPLAUSE FOR ALL, and also for all those who are not individually mentioned but worked tirelessly to raise club funds.

*The Ohio District was THE VERY FIRST District in all of the Kiwanis world to raise $1 million for the cause! And they were followed very closely by our FIRST MODEL CLUB of Warren!

*Ted and Lynn Coons of the Columbus club dove into this project head first, because the need to save lives was so great. And they did this by being Major Donors personally and then leading their club to Platinum level of giving.

*Amy Zimmerman and the Cincinnati club were not to be left behind. Their 100/100/100 plan - 100th anniversary, 100 members and $100,000 for Eliminate - a goal that was EXCEEDED, now at the $200K/Diamond Level.

*Past Gov. Diana Keplinger and the Mt. Gilead Kiwanis started an annual golf outing to fund their Eliminate Model club pledge. And now that it has been met, the golf outing continues to serve other club and community financial needs.

*Grove City Kiwanis dug deep into their financial reserves to save the lives of women and children through a Gold club pledge; and I-Next Kiwanis gave deep personal donations but also had smaller sales of items like wood roses and batteries to supplement their Model club pledge.

*For their Model club pledge, Coldwater Kiwanis held an Art show and Auction, including the raffling of a major leaguers bag and Walk the “Miracle” Mile.

*Ottawa Kiwanis annually holds 2 health fairs, plus a chicken barbeque, and a dinner "Taste of Putnam County", all of which are helping to pay for their Bronze club pledge.

*Just in October, the current board of Lt. Governors and District leadership were challenged to pledge through a new MNT Fundraising page, “Ohio Champs for MNT”. Our first five participants have been Governor-elect Faith Levine, Lt. Govs. Jan Schneider and John Coffield, and past Lt. Governors Lynn Hanna Stoycheff and Dick Brulotte.

Ohio, YOU ROCK!!! KIWANIS NEED KIWANIS!
The Berea Kiwanis Club held its 63rd annual Pancake and Sausage Festival on Sunday, December 3 in the Berea-Midpark High School cafeteria. This is the club’s yearly signature project. Over 1100 Kiwanians, family, friends, and other community members enjoyed all-you-can-eat pancakes and sausage. Many of the club’s 127 members worked a myriad of job functions to make the breakfast successful. There were crafts for the children. Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus were in attendance and the children were able to have a keepsake photo taken with them.

The profit from the breakfast is used to fund many of the club’s community projects, including supporting four area food banks. Money is also used to support the club’s Service Leadership Programs with K-Kids, Builder’s Club, Key Club, and Circle K.

How to Strengthen Membership

Do you love your club? Do you want it to continue to help children and others in need in your community? If you strengthen your membership, you will have more hands and more hearts to continue the great work that Kiwanis provides in your neighborhood.

How can you strengthen membership? I am glad that you asked. I have a few ideas for you.

The Ohio District has an awesome team of volunteers who are available to help you grow your club, open a new club, or strengthen the membership that you already have. It is called the Formula Team. It consists of several Kiwanis members who plan to help you with maintenance and growth. Brad Kunze, 1218odk@gmail.com, is the Chair of the Formula Team. Diana Keplinger, dk.kiwani@gmail.com, is Vice Chair of Coaching. We are available to you at any time to provide support and assistance with your club, whether that be building the membership of an existing club or opening a new club in your division. Contact us at any time.

In addition to these folks, you have a Regional Chair near you. Here is the list of people that you need to contact if you believe your club needs support or you have an idea for a new club nearby. They are:

- Rick Kidwell rkidwell@aol.com Divisions 1N, 1S, 12
- Jack Hilborn hilborn@midohio.net Divisions 2,3,11S, 10W
- Larry Good larrygoodz@yahoo.com Divisions 9, 10S, 10E, 18
- Randy Beard randy@generationsinsgrp.com Divisions 11N, 16, 17, 26
- Lee Fenrich leefenrich@cox.net Divisions 13, 14, 15, 22, 24

If you noticed that Divisions 4,5,6, 7 & 8 are not listed, we are looking for a Kiwanis leader to be a Regional Chair in this area of our district. If you love Kiwanis, want to share your love with others, and want to work on the district level as part of the Formula Team, please contact Brad.

2018 is going to be a great year for Ohio District Kiwanis!
Unexpected Inspiration:

Sometimes, Kiwanis makes an impact on young lives without being aware. Young Caden Bertke, a fourth grade student at Granville Intermediate School was attending the Granville Kiwanis Club meeting with his family. His five-year old brother Maddox was receiving an Amtryke from the Kiwanis Club and it was a big day for the family.

After the presentation, the family and the Kiwanis Club settled in for the remainder of the meeting. A member of the Kiwanis club shared a request from a local foster care center for donations of teddy bears for the agency’s Christmas party. Caden listened intently and took the request to heart. He has friends that are in foster care and is aware of some of the trauma they went through including leaving their families and all their belongings at a moment’s notice. Caden talked to a friend of his, Brogan Burgett about the request for teddy bears and that is when the boys decided to assist with the Kiwanis Club donations.

His mother was surprised by this request and called the Kiwanis Club for clarification about the program (she had been distracted by Maddox during the meeting). Bemused by Caden’s request, she gave him permission to post signs and ask for donations for their “little project”. She thought they would collect 5 or 10 bears and it would be a very sweet gift.

After a few weeks efforts on behalf of the boys, the boys had amassed 48 teddy bears and were able to purchase additional bears from donations.

Caden and Brogan are pictured with their teddy bear collection before sending them off for the holiday party. Their one request was that the giant bear be given to “someone who had to leave their family and stuff in the middle of the night”.

Kiwanis partner IHOP® Restaurants will host IHOP National Pancake Day on Feb. 27, 2018, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., with some locations offering free Buttermilk short stacks until 10 p.m. Kiwanis club members are encouraged to volunteer to put purpose behind pancakes and help raise money for Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals.

“Every year, we ask our Kiwanis club members to support our partners – IHOP and CMN hospitals – on IHOP National Pancake Day,” said 2017-18 Kiwanis International President Jim Rochford. “IHOP serves free pancakes and seeks donations to support the work at CMN hospitals and other local charities. We ask our Kiwanis club members to tell the CMNH story and accept donations for the hospitals.”

Volunteers can sign up for a two-hour shift at their local IHOP and know that they are helping kids. Kids like Zion can receive cutting edge treatment that will alter their lives, all because of support from communities across North America. Funds raised in cities with CMN hospitals stay in those cities to help kids in those communities. Even if your city is not home to CMN hospital, donations stay in your city or town to help local children’s charities. And the volunteer opportunity is an opportunity to help kids everywhere get the care they need.

For more information, visit http://www.ihoppancakeday.com/, CMN or the Kiwanis web site. Deadline to register is Feb. 20.

“ Last year, IHOP served 6.6 million free pancakes, which is a stack that measures 19 miles high “