Both Buckeye Chuck and Punxsutawney Phil reportedly DID NOT see their shadows on February 2nd, 2020. End result, according to folklore, we’ll have an early SPRING. Seeing is believing! Most of us may be wondering, “When will our season of WINTER actually arrive?” We most certainly have been spoiled thus far by unusually warmer temperatures than we are accustomed to this time of year. Both First Lady Anne and I couldn’t be happier with our mild winter. Not to jinx ourselves, “All Roads Lead to Kiwanis,” have easily been mastered in record time. Should Mother Nature continue to cooperate, we are projecting 100% completion of our Official Governor’s Visits within the 24 Divisions of our great Ohio District Kiwanis by the end of March. Heartfelt thanks for such memorable Division visits accomplished so far. You have welcomed us with open arms and embraced our First Family Project, Prevention of Kids Head Trauma, in both donations and bike helmet purchases. It’s been an amazing journey so far. Thank you for your tremendous generosity. KIDS NEED KIWANIS!

We have some important events coming up that you should consider attending. They are as follows:

The middle of February, (Valentine’s Weekend,) is the 63rd Annual Ohio District Circle K Convention will be held February 14-16, 2020, The Ohio State University Student Union, 1739 N. High Street, Columbus, 43210

Hotel - Staybridge Suites: OSU, 3121 Olentangy River Road, Columbus, 43202 www.ohioki.org


(MyED) Ohio District Kiwanis Annual Mid-Year Education Day is Saturday, March 21, 2020 at Nationwide Conference Center and Hotel, Lewis Center. 9 AM to 5 PM. On-line registration: www.ohiokiwanis.org, includes Saturday Luncheon & Breakouts. Special thanks to Kelly Brown and Dick Brulotte, 2020 MYED Co-Chairs and Committee for all their combined efforts in putting together a day of Destination Education, Motivation, Service, Fellowship, Food and FUN.

All Ohio District Kiwanis Club Secretaries have received the 2020 Kiwanis International On to Convention Packet. Destination Indianapolis, Indiana, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday, June 17-20, 2020. Registration on-line at https://www.kiwanis.org/Convention/2020. We need your (2) Delegates at the Business Session on Saturday, June 20 to cast your vote for our own Ohio District Kiwanis, KIP Crain, Past Governor, Candidate for Kiwanis International Trustee and passage of the Family Membership Plan. This is an easy drive from Ohio to Indianapolis, Indiana. They don’t get much closer than this. “Thank you,” to Foster McMasters, Ohio District Kiwanis International Convention Chair for all your efforts promoting attendance at this important KI Convention.

As you can see, February and March 2020 are packed with many Ohio District Kiwanis commitments that need to be on your radar well in advance. Please encourage participation to attend and make them successful as the desired end result. Keep doing what you are doing. We are so very proud to serve as Governor and First Lady of our GREAT Ohio District Kiwanis.

Yours in Kiwanis Service,

Tim Cornelius
2019-20 Ohio District Governor
Notes from the Executive Director

District Officer Elections
If you are interested in serving as the 2020-21 Kiwanis District Governor Elect, District Treasurer, or in one of the two available positions on District Finance and Structure Committee, completed and signed Nomination forms are due no later than March 1, 2020 to the District Office. The elections for these positions will take place at our annual District Convention August 7-9, 2020 at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North – Worthington. If you would like a copy of the nomination forms please contact Lanton Lee at executivedirector@ohiokiwanis.org.

If you are interested in serving as Lieutenant Governor for your division please contact your current Lieutenant Governor to find out when your division elections are scheduled or if the elections have already happened how you can get into the rotation for future years.

Mid-Year Education Day
Registrations are coming in everyday now for 2020 Ohio District Mid-Year Education Day on Saturday, March 21. You can register online by going to 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. The early registration of $75.00 deadline is Sunday, February 23, 2020. After that date the registration cost is $85.00 per person. 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!

Another way to get involved in the Mid-Year Education Day is by becoming a Sponsor! MYED sponsors will be listed in the program, on appropriate signage at the conference and get special recognition at the conference sessions. A MYED Sponsorship costs $100.00. You, your club, your division, your company or your organization can become a MYED Sponsor by completing the form located on the Mid-Year Education Day Webpage.

Request for Club Information
Kiwanis International is working on capturing information on district and club projects (property, service projects, fundraisers) that include the Kiwanis name. Please understand that Kiwanis International is NOT seeking this information as part of any licensing efforts. Liability insurance for all of Kiwanis (International, Districts, Clubs) may apply to playgrounds, camps, parks, facilities, etc. that carry the Kiwanis name. Currently, a significant amount of money is spent defending claims for projects that carry the Kiwanis name. These claims will result in substantial increases to insurance dues for districts, clubs, and club members if Kiwanis does not adequately manage our risk.

Identification of projects allows Kiwanis International and District Risk Managers to take actions regarding additional insured certificates and indemnification agreements to limit both Kiwanis’ liability (Districts and their clubs) and litigation defense costs. Additionally, Kiwanis can use the information received to create a map showing all the good that Kiwanis has done throughout the country. Kiwanis believes this map would be of interest and useful to Kiwanis members when they travel.

Kiwanis International has asked each of the districts to help collect this information. The Ohio District is asking all clubs to take a few minutes and submit information about any service projects, fundraisers, property (buildings, parks, camps, benches, etc.) that include the Kiwanis name. Please submit your club’s information at https://forms.gle/wwiSUasHEGaVEZjq8.

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: info@ohiokiwanis.org. We will use them as space allows.
2020 Kiwanis Midyear Key Note Speaker

Sue Petrisin is passionate about her family, the Spartans and Kiwanis International.

No stranger to community service, Sue has been a member of the Kiwanis International family since her junior year in high school. Her journey from serving as the first female governor of the Michigan District of Key Club, governor of the Michigan District of Circle K (CKI), and the first female governor of the Michigan District of Kiwanis, ultimately led her to serve as the first female president of any global service organization, Kiwanis International, 2015-2016. She has seen firsthand the service and fundraising impact of Kiwanis members around the globe.

Sue’s 35-year career with Michigan State University (MSU) is global as well. Sue has worked in dining services, facilities management, life safety, fire protection, construction, and training and development. Now, Sue spends her days, nights and weekends, managing the “world’s greatest mascot”, Sparty.

Sue is committed to serving the community and working tirelessly for Kiwanis international. She serves on several committees at the district and international level, and coaches new Kiwanis Clubs and leaders in the Kiwanis family. She is the advisor to the MSU CKI club.

Sue holds a master’s degree in human resources and labor relations from Michigan State University and has studied at the University of Oxford in Oxford, England. She has 4 brothers, 2 sisters, 10 nephews and 6 nieces, many whom have traveled with Sue to Kiwanis functions around the world. Her Mom, Elaine, is known for the cookies she bakes for Kiwanis events.

In 1987, Kiwanis International opened its doors to women. In 2015, Sue Petrisin was elected to serve as the first female president of Kiwanis International in its 100-year history. Throughout history, membership in humanity has had its triumphs and challenges. Come hear Sue share her Kiwanis family membership experiences that drive her passion for helping others.

Candidates Sought for Election/Reelection to the 2020-21 ODKF Board

The Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation is managed by a Board of Directors consisting of twelve elected members, two appointees of the presiding Governor of Ohio Kiwanis, a representative of the Ohio Kiwanis Past Treasurers Committee, a representative from Circle K and a representative from Key Club.

At the Annual ODKF Meeting at this year’s DCON, our membership will be voting on candidates to fill four positions on the ODKF Board. Elected Board members serve a term of 4 years. First term members have the option of running for an additional 4-year term. Candidates elected at this year’s Annual Meeting will begin serving their 4-year term as of October 1, 2020.

Candidates for election or re-election to the Board of Directors shall have the endorsement of their club and division which needs to be documented on a form to be sent with a letter of intent to the Nominating Committee Chair by April 30th. Stipulations call for no more than two Board members from any single division and candidates are not to conduct any type of campaign for the position including the production of brochures and holding receptions. Candidates meeting this criterion will provide biographical information to be published by the Ohio District with the DCON information package.

For more information and a copy of the candidate’s form, please contact ODKF Nominating Committee Chair, Dick Brulotte by email – rbrulotte.odki@gmail.com.
Membership Report for February 2020

The membership metrics to date in the Ohio District are: 287 new member adds, net numbers are +98. These numbers are current as of January 25th. We need to continue to build these numbers with the eight months we have left in the Administrative year.

Your Membership Team and the District has two goals this year:

⇒ - Strengthening existing clubs whether large or small.
⇒ - Open new clubs because we cannot see a community that has no Kiwanis Club and not want to bring Kiwanis to that community. End of the Kiwanis year dump in membership and clubs relinquishing their charters. Strictly relying on growth in existing clubs is not sufficient enough to result in a net increase in Membership.

The number of club coaches in the District is not enough to meet the needs of the clubs that could use assistance. So, we are looking for more people to take on that coaching role and help strengthen the clubs which need that help. At the end of this article are some people trained in club coaching and strengthening.

We are working with or know of some clubs that need help, but clubs need to Contact us so we can provide that support and assistance. The Effort to strengthen a club must come from the club itself so it is a Joint effort.

One of the techniques that has worked in growing membership in existing clubs is hosting an “Open House”. To properly conduct one takes two months to prepare. There is a procedure on Kiwanis/ACE Tools that does work. There are three clubs I know of in the past year who have used this idea, and the increase in new members has ranged from 3 to 8. This will also energize or your club, gain more exposure in your community, plus generate more members.

If you have questions about coaching, strengthening, or other Membership issues pleased contact three people below:

Bill Pees: williampees61985@gmail.com 937-361-8694
Ron Lyness: ronlyness@roadrunner.com 269-325-8411
Bill Snellgrove: governor_bill@columbus.rr.com 614-361-9069

Attention all Clubs!

As a nonprofit Kiwanis Clubs must file annual income information with the Attorney General’s Office, Charitable Registration Section by February 15.

Most Ohio charities, or charities soliciting in Ohio, are required by law to register with the Ohio Attorney General’s Office within six months of creation. When you log on, the system will prompt you to provide basic information about your organization and its activities. Based on your answers, the system will ask for information needed to meet the filing requirements. You’ll also need to submit: • A copy of the IRS Determination Letter granting tax-exempt status. (Available from the IRS in Cincinnati) • Copies of the articles, charter, constitution, or creating documents. (Available at the Ohio Secretary of State or Kiwanis International).

Once the required documents are filed follow the directions for completing the information needed to file. Our organization is not subject to income tax, but must pay a fee based upon criteria established by the State of Ohio. Additional information may be obtained at: the Ohio Attorney General website https://charitableregistration.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Charities/Research-Charities.aspx
2020 Midyear Workshop Offerings

Session 1

How to Host an Open House: May is Membership Month. There is still time to check into KI’s template and tips for hosting a successful open house, then build an event that best fits your community.

Grassroots PR and Social Media: Social Media such as Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, YouTube, and Pinterest can be used to better engage your audience. Learn the strengths and weaknesses and discuss measuring effectiveness of social media platforms.

LGBTQ AND YOU: Creating Safe and Positive Environments for LGBTQ Youth in SLPs: From the roots of the LGBTQ movement to evolving gender norms to the current state of LGBTQ youth in Ohio, this fun and interactive workshop will help SLP advisors and club members create safe, welcoming, and inclusive spaces for all students and provide resources for advisors of students who identify as LGBTQ.

Serving at a Higher Level and Signature Projects: Have you wondered why a signature project is so important for your club? Are you curious about what the International board does? Have you wanted to spend 45 minutes with an International Trustee? If you can answer “yes” to any of these questions, then this is the workshop for you!

First Time Secretary Tips: Especially designed for those new to the job. While every club operates somewhat differently, the secretary must understand how KI and the District interface with their club.

Recognizing and Reducing Risks: Find out more about what KI insurance covers and what it doesn’t. Make certain your service projects and fundraisers take risk into consideration and secure additional coverage when recommended.

Session 2

Bring the FUN! ideas for great K-Kids Clubs: Keep the interest and enthusiasm for your club high with new ideas and fresh approaches for service and fun. Also, stop by to learn how to get a club started!

Meet the Candidates and Learn about Amendments [Repeated in afternoon]: Meet and hear from candidates running for KI Vice President before you vote at ICON in June. Learn about amendments- including Family Membership Amendment.

Building a Legacy for your Club by Partnering with ODKF (establishing club funds): Provide more help for your community by establishing a 501(c)(3) fund with assistance from ODKF. Learn about traditional funds and the new mini fund option

Ready. Set. Grow! This workshop is intended to give you five easy ways to grow Kiwanis. So easy, you might be able to do it from your seat in this workshop!

First Family Project: "Prevention of Head Trauma" Developing a Helmet Safety Project in Your Community: Prevention of Kids Head Trauma involves wearing helmets while bicycling, roller blading, skateboarding, and backyard activities. Join us as we educate and promote the use of helmets to prevent head trauma to kids of every age.

Getting More Accomplished through Partnerships and Collaborations: Taking advantage of KI and District established partnerships helps clubs increase their impact. Also, consider how collaborating with others could help you meet community needs.

Session 3

From Good to Great: Ideas for great Key Clubs: Keep the interest and enthusiasm for your club high with new ideas and fresh approaches for service and fun. Also, stop by to learn how to get a club started.

Meet the Candidates and Learn about Amendments [Repeted in afternoon]: Meet and hear from candidates running for KI Vice President before you vote at ICON in June. Learn about amendments- including Family Membership Amendment.

Your New Kiwanis Website: Kiwanis International has made available a free website with easy to use templates and a modern look. Clubs can easily develop and update a site that can assist in recruiting new members and communicating about the work of your Kiwanis Club.

CREATE Your Lasting Kiwanis Legacy in 2020: Kiwanians give unselfishly of their time, effort, and financial support to Ohio’s Kids and Communities. Giving is a personal matter – each according to his or her ability, interest, and inclination. Participation in ODKF’s Legacy Fund guaranties YOU a lasting legacy through the continued support of children by the programs/initiatives of the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation.

Ready or Not: The Next Generation of Leaders: There is a growing stigma around the millennial and the Gen Z generations. Although Millennials will dominate the workforce over the next decade, will they be attracted to the club you have now? Learn what is important to each generation, their needs and interests. Evaluate how well your club delivers on these expectations.

Boosting with Brand Ambassadorship: Become a Brand Ambassador for Kiwanis at large scale events to attract new members and re-energize current ones. Discuss what works and what doesn't and develop "outside the box" methods to make your next event a success!
Imagine that we had enough Kiwanians that had the training to act as a "club coach" so that each of the 215 Kiwanis clubs in the Ohio district had access to a coach to help maintain a strong membership base. That would include the 58 clubs in Ohio that are currently below charter strength. Every club, from the smallest to the clubs with the largest rosters would easily meet the membership goals set each year.

Realistically, we can’t possibly get 215 Kiwanians trained as club coaches. But on the other hand, it isn’t really necessary. While working with a club coach from outside the club may bring a fresh perspective to the club’s membership issues, there are several steps a club could use to have a significant impact on those issues without a club coach. By using the tools in the Kiwanis International publication Achieving Club Excellence, subtitled “Tools for Success,” this publication gives step-by-step instructions for several activities clubs can undertake to make a significant impact on any membership issue a club may be experiencing.

The Member Satisfaction Survey and the Community Needs Assessment are tools that a club coach have the club implement as he/she begins to formally work with the club. The publication also has step-by-step procedures for identifying Community Partners and hosting an Open House.

While these tools can be implemented without working with a club coach, there is another unfortunate truth. The Ohio District needs more Kiwanians to step forward and become club coaches. We have 58 clubs in the district that are below charter strength, and several others that are facing serious membership issues. Many clubs are facing declining membership numbers, while several others are confronting the fact that their membership is aging out. While some divisions have several Kiwanians that have been trained as club coaches, there are several divisions that have only one or two to deal with the clubs in their division that want to work on their membership issues.

There is a solution to this situation. We need Kiwanis members to step up and become club coaches. You will be trained and provided all the resources you need to help successfully coach a club. Not only will you be able to help guide a club which is struggling, but, you will become a valued resource for your own club. If you are interested, please contact me at ronlyness@roadrunner.com.
Help Wanted

Your Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation is in need of an individual or firm to help staff with our donor management program. We are looking for help with our data base management, communication system, website-based record keeping, and our planned giving program.

If you have expertise with donor management and an interest in helping your Ohio Kiwanis Foundation please contact Alan Penn, ODKF executive director at director@odkf.org

Help Wanted

Your Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation is in need of an individual to help staff with our public relations program. We are looking for help with our web site management which includes our email communication system, website-based data collection, QR placement, and our online marketing program. We are also looking for assistance in updating our brochures, annual report document, placement of our QR code, refreshing our banners and table top display system.

If you have expertise with website management, Public Relations, and online marketing and an interest in helping your Ohio Kiwanis Foundation please contact Alan Penn, ODKF executive director at director@odkf.org

First Family Project: Prevention of Kids Head Trauma, Update for MYED

First Lady Anne and committee are setting up a “First Family Project” display table with Information and Bike Helmets. Information will include data regarding head trauma, ordering information and details on how to measure for appropriate helmet size.

Helmets sizes of (S) Small, (M) Medium and (L) Large will be available at $15.00 each. Limit to (4) Helmets per sale.

**Remember this avoids Freight charges for less than 2-case orders. Orders for future delivery will also be taken.**

Helmet orders can be placed on the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation website odkf.org.

In October the Oregon/East Toledo Kiwanis Club attended the Eastern Community YMCA’s Annual Fall Festival. This was a community event, hosting games and activities for children with over 250 families in attendance. Kiwanis members were able to donate 48 bicycle helmets to children. Each child was able to be fitted for a helmet, receive information about the importance of bike safety and test ride a bike with their helmet on. A great time was held by all!