Wow! What a great 3 months Lee Ann and I have had! From the installation in late September through today, we have completed official visits with 20 divisions covering all parts of the district. We have met many wonderful people, learned about the many, many service projects you all are doing and hearing about the excitement building about Kiwanis-The Premier Service Organization in Ohio! Thank you for your hospitality and especially thank you for your service to your communities.

As we have visited with you, we have talked about the goals for the year and the ways you can serve others by Reaching Out. Whenever your club meets, make it a place people want to be—make all feel welcome. If you have a visitor, introduce them to others in attendance and learn more about them. Membership retention will increase if our meetings and projects are friendly places of fellowship.

Service is what we are about in Kiwanis. Serving others is something we do often and in so many different ways. From helping children learn to read to building playgrounds. From sending holiday greetings to troops serving overseas at this time of year, to cheering up nursing home residents. By ringing bells for Salvation Army and by making food baskets for those in need, you serve others through Kiwanis projects throughout the year. Keep up the great work serving others!

Through the First Lady’s Project, you are helping heal children not only in Ohio but in the world. With funds going to both the Ohio District Foundation for Pediatric Trauma training and the Kiwanis International Foundation for the Eliminate Project, your reach is local and far away. Thank you for your many donations to the First Lady’s Project. Lee Ann and I greatly appreciate your generous support.

**REACH OUT IN FELLOWSHIP, IN SERVICE AND IN HEALING!**

Thank you for the opportunity you have given to Lee Ann and I to serve the Ohio District. We are enjoying the experience and are glad to represent you. From our home to yours—Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Happy
The 2012-13 Kiwanis year is now two months old and we are seeing many clubs enthusiastically providing service to their communities. The recent events in Sandy Hook, Connecticut and elsewhere have shown us just how much the world needs our Kiwanis service to help heal our communities. Please remember to keep all the victims and their survivors in our prayers as we celebrate the holidays with our families.

**Club Treasurers**
As a long-time Club Treasurer, this is the time of year that we should be thinking about filing our required tax returns. The Internal Revenue Service now requires that all Kiwanis Clubs, no matter how large or small they may be, file a 990 tax return in one format or another. In most cases that would be a 990-N postcard return that is filed electronically. The total number of Ohio Kiwanis Clubs that lost their exemption from Federal Income Tax for failing to file this very simple return last year increased to 16. The process to regain that tax exemption is time consuming and expensive. Please make sure your club is not one of those that face this challenge in 2013. If you are unsure what your club needs to do, please talk to an accountant in your community or give me a call in the district office.

**Club Secretaries**
At our Mid Year Education Day on March 9, 2013, I will be presenting at least one workshop for Club Secretaries. We will have wireless access to the internet available in our classroom for those who might want to bring their own laptop to follow along during the session. If there is something particular that you would like us to review during the Secretary Workshop, please let us know as soon as possible and we will do all that we can to make it happen. Please note that this session will qualify as your CLE Training for the upcoming 2013-14 Kiwanis Year.

**Mid Year Education Day**
Our 2013 Mid Year Education Day will once again take place at The Conference Center at NorthPointe on March 9, 2013. Information and registration forms will be available on our website at www.ohiokiwanis.org by the end of this month. We know you will want to join us when we meet next March. Pay particular interest to the article on this page concerning our Mid Year Education Day. I am sure you will want to attend this premier educational event in the Ohio District. Please mark your calendar for the 2013 Mid Year Education Day on March 9th!

Dave Whiteman
Ohio District Secretary
Plan now to attend the 2013 Mid Year Education Day on March 9th at The Conference Center at NorthPointe.

The 2013 Mid-Year Education Day will kick off bright and early on Saturday, March 9th at the beautiful Conference Center at North Pointe in Lewis Center. North Pointe has proven to be a comfortable and hospitable place to come together to renew, refresh and re-energize for the remainder of our Kiwanis year. This is a time of learning and fellowship for members of all of the clubs of the Great Ohio District of Kiwanis.

Talk to your club members and convince them that this is a valuable way to spend a Saturday. Our International Counselor and Immediate Past International President A. Alan Penn will be the keynote speaker. His presentations are always filled with humor and exciting stories of his world travels to serve the children of the world. He will motivate and inspire us to continue the great work that we do in our neighborhoods, the state, and internationally.

Following the general assembly will be 24 educational forums that will meet the needs of every club member. Such topics as membership and club growth, technology, community service, fund raising, Pediatric Trauma Training, Eliminate, and many more will be presented by people with specific expertise in these areas.

We can’t help but mention the comfort and hospitality at The Conference Center at North Pointe. It is centrally located in the state so it is a pleasant drive to Lewis Center. There are spacious meeting areas, comfortable lounges for quiet conversations, a generous space for displays, and a convenient location close to shopping. The food is always delicious. The day will include generous morning and afternoon break buffets, as well as a full menu lunch. You and your club members will not want to miss it!

Please talk to your club members about Mid-Year Education Day. Your help is needed to inspire and encourage your members to attend. More details will be available each month in the Buckeye Bulletin. Please check out the articles!

If you need a program in your club, I would be happy to share all the reasons why your members should attend Mid Year Education Day. Contact me at keplingerdiana@yahoo.com or 419-566-5903.

Diana Keplinger
Mid-Year District Chair

Closing the Age Gap

Everyone says "We need to get young people to join", but have troubles actually getting them to join the club. There then appears to be a gap in young people and Kiwanis. But the big gap is in not in their seeming non-interest, it is in making sure your club appeals
to them. The average young person these days who is thinking about joining your club is not looking for the same thing that a young person did 30 years ago.

Today young people value hands-on service opportunities, meetings that are engaging and energetic, and feeling like they are a part of a team. The best way to introduce them to your club would not be to invite them to a meeting, but to invite them to serve at a service project with your club. If you do invite them to a meeting, try a Membership Happy Hour, a few hours of drinks and snacks and conversation where they can meet members of your club in a casual, fun and engaging setting. Young people tend to be full of enthusiasm and ideas which is the way they first feel a part of the team. To help them feel a part of the team, make sure you handle their ideas in a way that shows you care about their input.

Lastly, remember that they are young. Their lives are full of life changes (new jobs, moves, marriage, children, etc), packed work schedules and a busy social life. A club should be more lenient in their expectations of "commitment" to the club. Their commitment might be to be on the board, to chair a project, to be on a committee or just to attend meetings/projects once a quarter. Due to life changes, this age category is the one that has the highest rate of turnover.

Each member no matter how often they attend meetings or how long they are with your club is a valuable part of the team. So, enjoy them while you have them and use their energy and ideas to enhance your service to the children of the world.

Alyson Gerwe
Club Growth Committee
Southwest Region

Steps to Building a New Club

12/20/2012 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Kathleen Moylan

Building a new club can be one of the most rewarding opportunities there is in Kiwanis. First up? Select your new club building team. Seek out individuals with a passion and commitment to Kiwanis and some knowledge of the new club building area. Make sure they are “team players” and will work well together. Get together to discuss your goals and objectives, and set up a timeline to follow. Conduct a site survey of the community you are targeting and use that to create a good prospect list. Utilize the information on the KI website; there are some pretty simple tools that will make your job a lot easier. Finally, invite a member of the New Club Building Team help guide you through the process. Here are the 7 steps:

1. **Form a new-club team.** Request a new-club-building kit, connect with support team members and learn about sponsorship expectations.
2. **Evaluate opportunities.** Conduct a site survey and community analysis, making the case for a new club.
3. **Connect to the community.** Based on your prospect list and community needs, determine the type of club appropriate for your area and what structure your potential members might enjoy.

4. **Invite members.** Use recruiting tips and marketing resources to turn your prospect list into a charter member roster.

5. **Get organized.** Complete the chartering paperwork and plan your organizational meetings using sample meeting agendas.

6. **Educate and train officers.** Conduct new-member orientation, download leadership resources and order officer training materials.

7. **Support and mentor.** Learn how a club counselor can guide a club through the first year and find ready-made fundraisers and service projects that can get your club moving in the right direction.

Please let us know how we can help. Contact me at: kathleenmoylan@bellsouth.net or cell: 828-467-0761.

Kathleen Moylan  
New Club Building Chair

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**First Lady's Project**

12/21/2012 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Lee Ann Wallace

As Craig and I have traveled around our great state, we have been continually impressed and in awe of the great work each of you and your clubs are doing. You are literally living the Kiwanis defining statement; you are changing the world, one child and one community at a time. You are Reaching Out, to be the Hands of Service for Kiwanis in your community, you are Reaching Out to be the Hands of Fellowship in your clubs, and you are Reaching Out to be the Hands of Healing through the First Lady’s project donations.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart, and on behalf of the children of Ohio and the World, for your work and donations to the First Lady’s Project. Those dollars will provide the latest specialized pediatric trauma care education and training to the nurses and physicians in Ohio’s Seven Children’s Hospital Emergency Departments, where Ohio’s children are cared for after experiencing a pediatric trauma event. Ohio’s children will receive the latest evidenced based care because of your generosity and commitment! And we are making progress on our goal to change the world, to ELIMINATE MNT from the face of the earth! Forever! What an amazing opportunity we have, as individuals our impact can sometimes feel small and unnoticed. But together, linking arms with UNICEF, we can, indeed, make an impact that is life changing, that is world changing for the women and children in the very poorest and underserved parts of the world. 50 cents of each dollar donated to the First Lady’s Project will go towards Ohio’s commitment to ELIMINATE this tortuous disease. No mother should have to watch her child die that painful death, when a vaccination series that costs $1.80 could have prevented it.

You are literally being the Hands of Healing for Kiwanis here in Ohio and in the far places of the World! Thank you!
First Lady Lee Ann Wallace

Many Blessings Highlight Ohio Eliminate News

12/12/2012 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Cindy Champer, Dist. Coor.

There is so much good news to report in Ohio and in regards to the Eliminate project. Worldwide, the fundraising total of November 16, 2012, was $20.8 million. In Ohio, we are excited to announce the 20th Model club, that of Dayton! Thanks to Harry Bradbury and his dedicated members who are working to save the lives of 10,417 women and children. Congratulations for your dedication and thanks!

To highlight our success and the future of the project, the second Worldwide Report Day will be held Wednesday, January 16, 2013. Please consider what you and your club can do to make our reporting successful. A personal gift to the project, or a personal gift made on your behalf to the Eliminate project, can save so many lives of those who are poorest and unable to speak for themselves. Remember that $1.80 is all it takes to change a life! Think Valentine's Day, birthday, anniversary, all are great causes for recognition! Club presidents will also soon be receiving recognition packets for those generous members who contributed during 2011-12, The Year of Inspiration; make this a special event in your club!

Finally, this Christmas message, penned by MDC Amy Zimmerman, but so true for our project whatever time of the year - "Somehow not only for Christmas, but all the long year through, The joy that you give to others, is the joy that comes back to you. And the more you spend in blessing the poor and lonely and sad, The more of your heart's possessing returns to make you glad."  Happy New Year to all!

Why Kiwanis Kids?

12/18/2012 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Faith Cook

Does your club sponsor one of the Kiwanis Kids programs? If not, it's not too late. There is still time to do so. Here are 10 reasons for your club to sponsor programs for students ages 6 - 12:

10. Participate in leadership building programs
8. Programs can take place in a variety of locations that provide activities for youth
7. Experience FUN and Adventure
6. K.I. offers a variety of free materials and ideas
5. Cost to your club is minimal compared to the rewards
4. Relative ease to implement and maintain the programs
3. Programs may build the Kiwanis family
2. Be part of a win/win effort for students, schools, volunteers, community, and your club
1. Time is well spent having fun helping students develop into capable, competent, caring leaders.
If you have any questions, please contact Faith Cook the Ohio District Kiwanis Kids Chair.

For those clubs who do sponsor K-Kids Clubs, please check that your sponsorship fee of $150 has been paid to K.I. This fee is due in December!

Faith Cook
Kiwanis Kids District Chair

Do you need a Marketing/PR Consultant for your Club?

12/15/2012 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Faith Levine

Marketing and Public Relations programs are an integral part of a Kiwanis Club and District success. In fact, one of Governor Craig's Distinguished Club criteria is the development of a Club Marketing/PR plan.

Kiwanis International has developed a new International Committee with the express purpose of developing a marketing plan for KI which could also be used by Districts, Divisions and Clubs. Most of you do not have a member or member time to do this on your own. Please let me help you. As a marketing/sales professional throughout my business career, I'd love to serve as your Club's marketing consultant.

Stay tuned for Public Service Announcement (PSA) options across a variety of media options. Please email me at faith.kiwanis@gmail.com with any questions or requests.

Faith Levine
Marketing & Public Relations Chair

IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

12/18/2012 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Betty Jackson Koontz

We have heard this before, but the truth is, it is absolutely true. I love this time of the year. You find people are friendlier, you encounter more people with a smile. People have a good feeling during this time. We come into the season with the spirit of giving and we should. This is the time that we celebrate the greatest gift of all. We have the spirit of giving and it feels good. Again I am reminded that this spirit has a greater burden now, due to the increased number of children in need. There is a club that shares by allowing the children in their area to make a personal call to Santa. What child would not like to pick up the phone and give Santa their wish? There is another club that will collect toys for the children of the YMCA. Yet others will provide baskets for the needy families in their areas. I know clubs will be adopting families and providing what is sure to make this time special for them. There may be parties for children with Santa as the special guest.
There are many ways to make this time joyful for our different communities. I remember a club that adopted a homeless family. They asked them for a wish list and they got more than they bargained for. They received a six page wish list, which included a Chevy van for the Dad. Needless to say they were not able to fulfill that wish, but you know as a Kiwanian if it had been possible they would have. I am sure we are doing much more than these listed projects. I know and I am sure Kiwanians know that these acts of kindness and caring bring great joy to those that we serve. There is nothing like the smile of a child and the gratitude of a parent when you have given their child a little bit of happiness. There is nothing like the smile of a senior when you surprise them with something special. It is our way of saying to them that we think you are special.

We as Kiwanians are there for those in need, it is what we are all about. As happy as the recipients are, there is nothing like the feeling that we have when we have made someone’s day better, especially at this time of the year. I would venture to say we get more out of it than they know.

The Merriest Christmas always involves giving. I can not go on without remembering the children in Connecticut. I am sure you have prayed and many of us have even shed tears for them and their families. It is indeed heart breaking. We can continue to lift them up to the LORD, for only HE can truly help to get through this.

MERRY CHRISTMAS OHIO KIWANIS FAMILY

Betty Jackson Koontz
2012-12 District Chair
Human & Spiritual Values Committee

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**Club News**

**Vienna Kiwanis 50th Celebration Tour Announced**

*12/14/2012 - Club: Cleveland - Submitted by: Dave Whiteman*

Fellow Ohio Kiwanis Members,

Many of you may not be aware of this fact, but the Kiwanis Club of Cleveland sponsored the Kiwanis Club of Vienna, Austria in February of 1963 thus opening Kiwanis in Europe. To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Kiwanis in Vienna and Europe, a special tour package has been put together by the Kiwanis Club of Cleveland through Mondial Travel in Vienna. This trip is being made available to interested Kiwanis members throughout the Ohio District.

[Click here](#) to view details of the tour package.

Please note that prices are quoted in Euro dollars. Right now the conversion rate is
approximately 1 Euro = $1.30 American. If you have questions about the tour or are interested in taking advantage of this wonderful package to celebrate with our Kiwanis members in Vienna, please contact Dwight Jordan by phone at (440) 526-7948 or by email at pjordan19@aol.com. There is also a website that has been developed with additional information about the Vienna Celebration. The link to that website is as follows: http://www.vienna2013.org/home.html

Dave Whiteman
Ohio District Secretary

Service With A Smile

12/13/2012 - Club: Berea - Submitted by: Sam Brown

On October 17th, 2012 the Builders Club from Roehm Middle School visited the Aristocrat Nursing facility ICF/MR unit. This unit provides care and services for handicapped and mentally retarded residents from 12 months to 35 years of age.

Under the supervision of Kiwanian Bridget Butizer the children hosted a Halloween themed party. The Builders members helped the residents color, cut out, and fabricate seasonal decorations. The Builders Club youngsters also sang songs for and read stories to the residents.

Both the club members and the residents thoroughly enjoyed themselves, as was evidenced by all the smiling faces. The kids who participated exemplified the best ideals of the Berea Kiwanis Club.

Sam Brown

Southwest Relay for Life Chili Cook Off

12/05/2012 - Club: Berea - Submitted by: Robin Gagnow

On October 27 the Berea Kiwanis took part in the first Southwest Relay for Life Chili Cook Off and Treat or Treat program at the Brook Park Community Center. A number of members made chili and cookies/bars for the event. Baldwin Wallace University CKI assisted by passing out candy to the numerous trick or treaters. The event included a chili challenge for the Southwest Relay Teams and a costume contest for the children and for the adults. The money that was raised will go into the individual's team’s relay accounts (2013 Berea Kiwanis Relay for Life Team. Everyone that attended had a great time at the event. The 2013 Southwest Relay for Life event will be June 1, 2013 at the Brook Park Community Center Parking Lot.

By Robin Gagnow

K-Kids of Independence Elementary School, Lima,
The K-Kids Club of Independence Elementary School, Lima, Ohio, collected 915 rolls of toilet paper from students in the school which were donated to Samaritan House, a local women's and children's shelter.