

# BUCKEYE BULLETIN

Ohio District of Kiwanis International

No.3

December 2014

## Kiwanis Members Have Giving Hearts

*12/11/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Diana Keplinger*

"Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time." During the holiday season Kiwanis members are spreading the spirit of the season by doing so many wonderful things in our communities. We ring the Salvation Army Kettle bell, hold parties for children in need, dress up in the traditional Santa costume to delight children at special events, adopt families through county Children and Family Services and provide food for pantries and homeless shelters. The list is endless. As an example, our Ohio District Kiwanis family donated a van full of toys and art supplies to Nationwide Children's Hospital last Saturday as a result of your kindness and generosity. The Lt. Governors delivered the items to our district board meeting in Newark and Lt. Governor Nelson Kopp from Division 10S was kind enough to deliver them on a cold and rainy day. Thank you so very much for supporting this service project!



At this time of year we find out how many other organizations are also dedicated to serving people in need. Kiwanians, by their nature, have giving hearts and that makes it difficult to decide which organization(s) we will support with our charitable dollars.

During the holidays we are contacted by many charitable organizations that ask for our support to help others in need. I have received requests from Nationwide Children's Hospital, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, Heifer Project International, and Wounded Warriors, to name a few. It is hard for me to pass on any of these charities. I want to help them all. However, I have to make choices, as we all do.

This holiday season, Tom and I have decided to pledge to the "Save A Baby A Day!" project through the Kiwanis International Foundation Eliminate fund. This is a new initiative to help KI reach the \$110 million dollar Eliminate goal. The pledge card reads "What if you woke up every morning knowing you'd saved a life?" That is powerful. I believe we can do it if we save our extra change, take coffee to work instead of stopping for a latte, pack lunches instead of buying them, or set aside charitable dollars in our budget. We can ask our children to donate in our honor as a gift, especially since we never have an idea for them because we have everything that we need to be happy. Tom and I will probably use these ideas and more. I hope you will consider doing the

same thing. The card also says "Make your commitment to save a life every single day." I hope you will join us in this initiative. It can be done anonymously. Please give it some consideration. For more information you can go to Campaign@TheEliminateProject.org or call 1-800-Kiwanis.

The holiday season is a time to reflect on our blessings. It is a time of "renewal and hope, giving, helping and sharing, but most of all, love!" These words are taken from the new Eliminate Christmas card from the Cincinnati Club. For all that you do and all that you are, I say thank you. You are the reason why we are the best service organization in the world!

Tom and I wish you a very happy holiday season filled with fun, fellowship and love.  
Yours in service,

Governor Diana

## District Secretary's Notes

*12/11/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Dave Whiteman*



The 2014-15 Kiwanis year is now two months old and we are seeing many clubs enthusiastically providing service to their communities. Recent events and weather related catastrophes have shown us just how much the world needs our Kiwanis service to help heal our communities.

### **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 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. A number of Ohio Kiwanis Clubs have lost their exemption from Federal Income Tax for failing to file this very simple return. 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 2015. 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 7, 2015, we will be presenting a 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.

### **Mid Year Education Day**

Our 2015 Mid Year Education Day will take place at The Crowne Plaza Columbus North

on March 7th. Information and registration forms will be available on our website at [www.ohiokiwanis.org](http://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 this month 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 2015 Mid Year Education Day on March 7th!

Dave Whiteman  
Ohio District Secretary

## The Formula, New Club Openers

*12/04/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Rich Ulmes*

In last month's newsletter we were introduced to the roll-out of The Formula Program. This month I would like to expand on that introduction and tie in the opening of new clubs.

First, we no longer use the term New Club Builder, but New Club Opener. The premise behind this change is that "opening" a club sounds much easier than "building" a club. When you are open, you're accessible. So let's open new clubs. Much like opening a business, we open clubs to become a vital part of a community.



Another change in terms will be the elimination of the word "recruiting" and replace it with "inviting". Kiwanis is our family and when we ask friends and acquaintances to join us we don't "recruit" them we "invite" them. When someone is invited to be part of something special it makes them feel special, honored or maybe even privileged. So what better way to share our Kiwanis family than to invite a friend to your next meeting or to be part of a new club opening.

Currently our Kiwanis family is working across the state of Ohio on opening several new clubs. So if you are looking to help out and work on a new club opening or know of a community nearby that would benefit from a Kiwanis Club, be sure to contact your Lt. Governor and let them know. Remember, as a Kiwanis member we Love it, Share it and Live it.

Richard Ulmes  
The Formula, Regional Chair

## Make a Greater Impact This Year

*12/09/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Bob Buescher*



The Kiwanis International Foundation gave over \$1.1 million in grants to improve children's lives last year. And there's still time to help even more kids this year when you give to the Kiwanis Children's Fund before

December 31.

Gifts to the Kiwanis Children's Fund go directly back to clubs, districts and Kiwanis youth leadership programs. Three Ohio clubs were among those receiving International Foundation grants in the last year. The Lima Club received a grant to support the

Community Summer Academy for at-risk students. In Powell, a community garden project received a grant. The Delphos Club improved a playground and volleyball courts.

Give now at [www.kiwanis.org/give](http://www.kiwanis.org/give). You could even double or triple your impact with a corporate matching gift; submit a request through your employer and visit [www.kiwanis.org/matchinggift](http://www.kiwanis.org/matchinggift) for details. Mailed gifts should be postmarked by Dec. 31, 2014, and sent to: Kiwanis International Foundation, 3636 Woodview Trace, Indianapolis, IN 46268.

When you show your Kiwanis heart with a personal gift, you also earn credit for your club, division and district in the International Foundation's new recognition programs. Make a greater impact this year by giving to the Kiwanis Children's Fund.

Bob Buescher  
2014-15 District Chair  
Kiwanis International Foundation

## K Kids Contest Information Coming Soon

*12/04/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Jeri Penn*

Banner patches, certificates, trophies or medallions! That's what clubs and members have an opportunity to win when they showcase their accomplishments by entering contests. Read on to find out more.

Individual contest categories include creative writing, speaking and drawing, but this year they'll also include an additional category that's even more fun. Club contest categories will include Club Single Service, Scrapbook and one more creative option. This year's contest info, criteria and themes will be announced soon, so stay tuned!



The Kiwanis Foundation Leadership Award, which honors one outstanding leader from each district, and Distinguished Club and Honor Club recognition, will remain the same.

Read more about contests in the November edition of the Kiwanis International K-Kids Advisor Newsletter or visit the K-Kids club contest page for information and updates.

Jeri Penn  
K Kids Administrator

## Imagine a World Without Tetanus!

*12/07/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: CindyChamper*

**Imagine a world without tetanus?** As we begin working on celebrating the 100th Birthday of Kiwanis International, we are also in that year's final push to indeed do just that - Eliminate tetanus in some of the poorest countries in the world! Overall the Eliminate project has raised \$72.5 million of the \$110 needed - at \$1.80 per time! In Ohio, we are approximately \$10,000 away from meeting our \$2 million - halfway point! Thank you Ohio Kiwanians for being so generous!

**But we still have many more lives to save.** How can you get involved? The first is



20% matching monies for those clubs who wish to become a new Model club. This is approximately one year's fundraising dollars, and it is a FREE gift to you and your club by an anonymous donor. If you are already a Model club, consider re-pledging at the Platinum level of \$1,500 per member, or Diamond at \$2,500 per member.

You might also want to consider the "**Save a Baby a Day**" initiative that suggest just that - pledge \$1.80 per year or \$657 and save one baby every day! Or you can even do this for two years, and save a total of 730 lives!

Awards? There is a new one called the **Centennial (Zeller) Award** which will only be available now and through the first seven months of 2015. This award would save 833 through its cost of \$1,500 and is available as a two year pledge. This award LOOKS AND FEELS DIFFERENT from the normal Zeller's and Hixson's we are accustomed to. It is representative of our organization's 100th birthday. Plan on picking up one for yourself or better yet, honor someone in your club, or a community member who has helped your club - all awards save lives!

Cindy Champer  
District Coordinator  
Eliminate MNT

## Community Service

*12/10/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Kevin Whitlatch*

I was recently reading in the local newspaper about the publishers goal of hearing about and publishing select random acts of kindness that are done throughout the community. The overall goal according to the newspaper was set at 1 million of such random acts. My immediate thought was: Kiwanis! I thought about how thousands of planned acts of kindness are performed annually through community service projects alone. I also thought about every individual Kiwanian I know and how each one publicly volunteers their precious time, talent, and resources for others in our worldwide community. As this holiday season approaches, I know Kiwanis clubs within our great Ohio District are performing much needed projects that encompass the Safety and Security aspects that support the goals of our Governor. These projects include Holiday food drives, gifts and presents for children within our communities. We help organizations such as the Salvation Army, Red Cross, community and religious entities with money, shelter, clothing and plenty of physical labor for the needs of the communities we serve. I am very proud to be a Kiwanian, and maybe a little prouder during the holiday season when I hear about and participate in service projects, both large and small, that are Kiwanis planned acts of kindness.



I initially thought one million was a very high number until I realized that within the Kiwanis organization that I know...acts of kindness (random or planned) are what Kiwanis and Kiwanians are all about. Please let me know of your service projects so I can help spread the word of your club's actions and your dedication to serving individuals in your community, division, district, and international community.

Happy Holidays!

Kevin Whitlatch  
Community Service Chair  
kwhitlatch@buckeye-express.com

## Save the Date for Mid-Year 2015

*12/11/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Jamie Kaufman*



The 2015 Mid-Year Education Day will kick off bright and early on Saturday, March 7th at a great new venue, the Crowne Plaza Columbus North. While this is a change in venue from last year, it is the same convenient location that hosted our 2014 District Convention. Located in Northern Columbus, the Crown Plaza North is just off I-71 and convenient to the growing Polaris area.

Mid-Year Education Day is a great opportunity 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. As Mid-Year is such a great opportunity to learn more about Kiwanis and strengthen our clubs, we are offering discount to the first 50 first time Mid-Year attendees. Early registration for all attendees is \$55.00. Please promote this

incentive within your club.

Talk to your club members and convince them that this is a valuable way to spend a Saturday. We will have an inspirational key note, a fellowship luncheon, and 24 educational forums that will meet the needs of every club member. Such topics as membership and club growth, service leadership programs, technology, community service, fund raising, Eliminate, and many more will be presented by people with specific expertise in these areas.

The committee is working hard to prepare another great Mid-Year Education Day for all participants. 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 as well as on [www.OhioKiwanis.org](http://www.OhioKiwanis.org). Please check out the articles!

If you should have any questions about Mid-Year, please feel free to contact me at [james.f.kaufman@gmail.com](mailto:james.f.kaufman@gmail.com) or 419-266-2984.

Jamie Kaufman  
Mid-Year District Chair

## Successful Communication, Successful Projects

*12/11/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Jennifer DeFrance*

The success of your club's projects and programs often comes down to how well the details were communicated to your members. Members of your club may find it difficult to attend meetings regularly, so communication becomes even more important to keep those members "in the know."

How can your club be successful at communication? By producing quality, timely newsletters for your members and other interested parties.

Previous winners of the Newsletter Contest presented a workshop at Mid Year to share some important tips to good newsletters:

Layout - Chose format and stick with it. Always proofread and fact check. Make sure the articles come from other contributors, like the club president, and other sources, like another service agency requesting assistance. Be sure to work in advance and think several issues ahead in a way that services the needs of the club and the events that are coming up on the calendar. Providing information too late will not help the members or result in future readership!

Consistency - When choosing your format, be sure to have key pieces of information in the same place so readers know where to look. You will want to make sure that the bulletin issues are available on the same day of the week, month, or quarter. Once you decide on the timing of the newsletters, you will want to make sure everyone knows when they need to provide information to you and when the newsletter will be published.



Content – consider including the following:

- Meeting date, time and location
- Quick reference – important dates/deadlines – calendar of events
- Articles that are informative

Timeliness of articles – allow lead time

Updates – progress on important initiatives / programs

Recognition – of individuals and of Club accomplishments

- Mix of Division and District news / information
- Humor – need to be careful not to offend
- White space – use plenty of it
- Use of photos and artwork – careful not to overdo – must be relevant - cropping
- Officers and trustees listing
- Filler information

Access / Distribution – Electronic distribution is preferred now. If your club has a website or other social media, post the newsletter on those sites. Include community leaders in your distribution to make them aware of the great things Kiwanis is doing. Use the newsletter as a tool to recruit members.

The Ohio District is again sponsoring a club newsletter contest during this business year. Newsletters submitted will be judged for excellence based on the following four criteria:

## 1. Overall Appearance

## 2. Pleasing design

- Proper masthead with club name, location and Kiwanis logos used
- Use of photos, preferably color images, and/or logos
- Positive tone/content

## 3. Inclusion of Essential Content

- Club address, phone number and/or web address
- Officers' names
- Meeting location and time, speaker names and topics
- Calendar of club events and projects

## 4. Kiwanis News

- Article about recent or future club project with photo
- Division news or council meetings announced or discussed
- Ohio District Kiwanis news (e.g., Mid-Year Education Day promotion)
- Kiwanis International news
- Reports by committee chairs

5. Frequency and Distribution Method - Points will be awarded based on frequency and scope of distribution. For example, distribution to all club members by e-mail is better than making copies available only at meetings.

6. Bonus points will be awarded for use of members' names in articles, a president or secretary's column, evidence that club meetings include fun.

Submitting newsletters electronically is the easiest way to participate in the newsletter contest. Just add [info@ohiokiwaniis.org](mailto:info@ohiokiwaniis.org) to your newsletter distribution list. If you need to furnish printed copies, send any four consecutive issues to Ohio District Kiwanis, 6161 Busch Blvd, Suite 220, Columbus, OH 43229-2554 The deadline for receiving your four consecutive issues is September 30, 2015.

Questions about the contest? Send a message to the District Public Relations Committee at [info@ohiokiwaniis.org](mailto:info@ohiokiwaniis.org).

Jennifer DeFrance  
2014-15 District Chair  
Public Awareness Committee

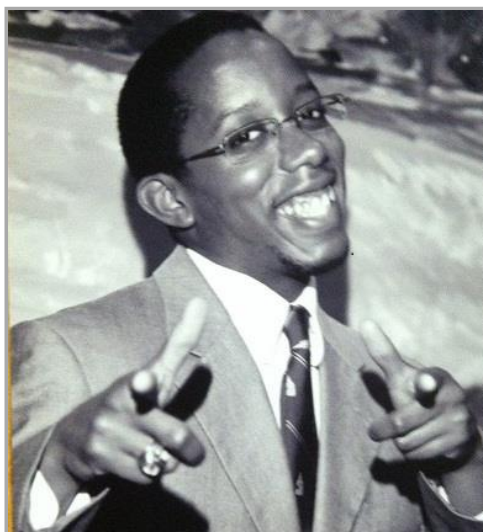
## **The Impact of Selflessness**

*12/09/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Hasani Wheat*

As Kiwanis enters another holiday stretch of good news and cheer, it is important to remember that we are servants to our communities. Providing service to our communities causes us to be selfless in our actions. Recently, I was reminded of why I serve my community. As I was researching various ways in which my Kiwanis club can serve the community, I stumbled on a short article and web link about youth sleeping in boxes and being homeless for a night. Youth from various churches came together to raise awareness about homelessness by being outside in the elements, sleeping in boxes and fundraising for organizations that advocate for helping the homeless.

Although this project was only for a night, the story did generate media attention as well





as needed funds for an important cause. Perhaps more importantly, this project showed that these individuals cared for their fellow human beings and chose to act in a selfless manner. During the holiday season, we are constantly reminded of what we have that we take for granted at times. Such as a house, a car, a job, a Family. Sometimes, when we go about our daily lives, we may forget about those who are in less fortunate positions. That is why it is so important in our role as Kiwanians to take the lead in serving the community in various ways and be selfless while we are at it.

You may ask, "How can I be more selfless in order to better serve my community?" Some suggestions:

1. Try to put yourself in the shoes of the less fortunate. The youth mentioned at the beginning of this article did just that when they decided to give up their luxuries in order to bring awareness about homelessness. Another organization that comes to mind is called Walk a Mile in Her Shoes which educates individuals and communities about the causes of sexualized violence and how to stop this type of violence.
2. Making weekly or monthly visits to nursing homes, shut-ins, or rehab centers. A Kiwanis club could make these visits a Kiwanis family event especially during the holiday season where opportunities, such as caroling, can happen.
3. Organizing a walk. A peaceful walk or march can make quite the statement for a cause and leave an impression on those who are able to witness the walk. An example of a peaceful walk is that of our very own Eliminate Project; there have been walks all across the world to raise awareness about Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus. There have also been 5k races, 10k races, and other distances where the focus has been to raise awareness about Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus.

There are many more ways in which to be selfless in our communities. We must remember to look not only to our own interests, but also to the interests of others. Determine a cause in which your Kiwanis club can support and give the gift of selflessness during the holiday season and beyond.

Hasani Wheat  
Human and Spiritual Values Chair

## Club News

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### **Kiwanis Club of Columbus Centennial Celebration**

*12/12/2014 - Club: Columbus - Submitted by: Scott Lindsey*

Save the date! Kiwanis Club of Columbus, the fifth



oldest club in Kiwanis International, will celebrate its Centennial on May 7, 2016 with a party at the Ohio Statehouse. All Kiwanians will be welcome with more details to follow.

### **K-Kids of Unity Elementary School in Lima Help With**

## Santa Shop

12/10/2014 - Club: Lima - Submitted by: Robert Day



Unity Elementary School in Lima has a Santa Shop for students who cannot go to the store to shop for presents for family and friends. The purpose is to teach the students to think of others and not themselves. Students are provided money from their families and are able to choose from a variety of reasonably priced gifts. Members of the recently chartered K-Kids Club helped students shop and choose gifts within their "budgets". After the gifts are selected the K-Kids helped with the payment and bagging of the gifts.

## Westlake Kiwanis Provide Gifts for Less Fortunate Children

12/10/2014 - Club: Westlake - Submitted by: Victor Rutkoski

The Westlake Kiwanis Club purchased over \$500 worth of presents for 10 needy children in the Westlake Community. They spent an evening wrapping toys to deliver to these children. The club made it a K-Family Project by teaming with members of the Key Club and Aktion Club. Shown is Kiwanian Maria Thomas directing Aktion Club members Meghan Drops and Jennifer Carlson, and Key Club members Maahi Mistry and Sarah Randar. When leaving the the room Meghan Drops said "that was really a lot of fun."



## Kiwanis Adapt Toys Just In Time For Christmas

12/10/2014 - Club: Westlake - Submitted by: Victor Rutkoski

The Westlake Kiwanis Club held a work shop in conjunction with Replay For Kids instead of a regular meeting. The workshop was led by Edie Dale from RePlay For KIDs who taught the Kiwanians how to adapt toys so they can be used by children with disabilities. The Kiwanians disassembled the toys and soldered wires to connect a jackplug to so that the toys could be operated by a touch of the head or blowing into them. These workshops are a great time for club member bonding.



## Kiwanis Provide Thanksgiving Baskets

*11/23/2014 - Club: Westlake - Submitted by: Victor Rutkoski*

The Westlake Kiwanis spent Friday packing food baskets for Thanksgiving and Saturday handing out Thanksgiving Baskets/Bags to 100 less fortunate residents of Westlake OH. They also used \$500 of club funds toward the purchase of the food for the baskets. The day was rainy and chilly but the smiles on the recipients faces warmed every one's hearts.



## **Key Club of Lima Senior Prepares for Dance Marathon**

*11/21/2014 - Club: Lima - Submitted by: Robert Day*



The Key Club of Lima Senior High School traveled to Bowling Green State University on November 21 to meet with students at that school in preparation for the dance marathon next spring which will benefit the Children's Miracle Network. Last spring the Key Club raised \$4,000. Next spring the goal is \$6,000. Several Key Club members from the last school year are also in the picture as they are now students at Bowling Green.