Cheryl and I want to thank you for the warm Kiwanis welcome we have received around the district. The fellowship you have, and service you do in your communities, is truly special. Service is your club’s legacy – I encourage you to continue building that legacy! We are the only ones who can do it for our own clubs. I am passionate about service, and that is why I am passionate about membership – it is the only way we can continue our service.

Please know that your service as Kiwanians is recognized and does make a difference in the lives of the children in your community and in the world. REMEMBER: YOU ARE THE KEY – TO YOUR CLUB’S SERVICE, TO YOUR CLUB’S SLP, TO YOUR CLUB’S GROWTH & TO YOUR CLUB’S SUCCESS.

There is much going on the next four months for our members. We have had five growth summits so far and there are three more scheduled – Delaware (Feb. 21st), Waverly (Feb. 29th) and Cambridge (Mar. 8th). On March 10th, there are great forums on membership, SLP, service, and a terrific keynote speaker plus a lot of fun at Mid Year Education Day.

And June 28th – July 1st, we have the Kiwanis International Convention in New Orleans. We need a large group there to support the International President, our own Alan Penn, and first Lady Jeri. We are planning a thank-you reception for Alan and Jeri on Thursday the 28th at a venue close to the district hotel. More information to follow soon. We look forward to seeing you there.

We truly appreciate your generous support of Project Backpack (the First Lady’s project) and the international service project to Eliminate Maternal/Neo-natal Tetanus (MNT). I hope that each of you will continue to be supportive of these special projects. They will truly help the children of Ohio and the world.

The district is here to serve you, so my offer to help on one of your club’s projects still stands. Contact me, and we will try to join you in service. Thank you for giving Cheryl and I this opportunity to serve you.
District Secretary's Notes

02/16/2012 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Dave Whiteman

Registration for the 2012 Ohio District Mid Year Education Day is ahead of schedule. As of February 16th, we have over 250 individuals registered to attend and capacity is approximately 375. If you have not registered yet, please do so immediately. You can register online by going to http://www.ohiokiwanis.org/ and clicking on the link at the top of our home page. If you intend to register, I suggest you do it now to avoid being shut out. Other information, including the tentative workshop schedule and hard copies of the registration forms can be found on the Mid Year Education Day page accessed from the menu on the left side of our home page.

Club Secretaries

At our Mid Year Education Day on March 10, 2012, I will be presenting two workshops to review the mechanics of using KiwanisOne to maintain your member database or to file your necessary reports. 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 in 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.

Dave Whiteman

District Secretary

The Top Ten Reasons Why You Should Attend Mid Year Education Day

02/15/2012 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Diana Keplinger

Over the years, fans of the late night talk show host, David Letterman, know that he will have a Top Ten List every week. He reveals the list on his show and then radio stations around the country repeat the list over and over. Most of the time the list pokes fun at people and situations, but once in a while it is serious. Here is my version of the Top Ten List for the Ohio District Kiwanis Mid-Year Education Day. The list is composed of the Ten Top reasons you should plan to attend.

10. Enjoy the comfort and hospitality of the Conference Center at North Pointe in Lewis Center. The accommodations at North Pointe are perfect for a winter conference. The rooms are all on one floor, easy to find, and spacious enough for all of our forums. There is plenty of parking and in close proximity to the conference center. The food is incredible. You will have morning and afternoon buffets and a full menu lunch.
9. Visit educational displays, the Kiwanis Family Store, attend a book signing and play Corn Hole for a Cause with Circle K. The Kiwanis Family Store will be open all day. Our keynote speaker, Daniel Dorr, will be at the exhibits to meet you and sign copies of his book *Kissing Kilimanjaro: Leaving It All on Top of Africa*. You can play Corn Hole with Circle K members to benefit one of their many service projects. You can learn about Eliminate, I-Next, Flying Horse Farms, On to Convention, YCPO, Builders Club and many more exciting Kiwanis projects.

8. Hear great inspirational messages from keynote and forum presenters. Many experienced Kiwanis members and some special guests will be presenting an exciting array of workshops to fit any of your Kiwanis needs. You will leave with new ideas and materials to share with your club members.

7. Spend time with old and new friends from around the District. Meeting new friends, reuniting with old ones, networking, laughing and socializing are all built into the day. Don’t miss an opportunity to spend this special day with dedicated Kiwanis members.

6. Learn all about the Eliminate Project. Find out all about this amazing new project that saves the lives of infants and their mothers. Eliminate will be presented in many different formats throughout the day.

5. Acquire a wealth of information about how to grow your club so that you can provide more service to your community. Several forums will give you a variety of ways to grow your club. Members of clubs that have had consistent growth over the past few years will share their success tips.

4. Smile a lot while learning how to provide valuable experiences for your members and keep them smiling at club meetings. Happy club members will stay in your club. Learn how to change your meetings into an enjoyable way for your members to feel needed, wanted and appreciated.

3. Get fresh new ideas about fundraising and service projects that you can use. Many forums are designed to meet this need. Sometimes we need to make some changes in order to interest our current members and be interesting to potential members.

2. Find out why Kiwanis is the best service organization in the world! What sets Kiwanis apart from all the other service clubs? Why, it is our Service Leadership Programs, or SLPs. Find out what they are and how you can sponsor one or one more in your community.

1. You are the Key. Unlock the possibilities. Each and every member of Kiwanis is a key to the over-all success of the organization. Come to Mid Year Education Day on March 10th to learn new and exciting ways that you can make a difference in your community, the Ohio District, and in the far corners of the world.

I have had some fun with the Top Ten List. Most of all I wanted to personally invite you to spend the day with some wonderful Kiwanis members. They are all dedicated to “save the world one child and one community at a time”, and they will all be together at North Pointe Conference Center in Lewis Center on March 10th. Registration begins at 8, the Opening Session is at 9, and forums fill the day with great new ideas and inspirational messages. Register today. You will be glad that you did!
May is membership month and now is the time to start planning your club’s spring membership drive. There are many excellent resources to help you plan for membership growth. From the regional growth summits conducted by Lanton Lee to Kiwanis International's REVEAL strategy available on www.kiwanisone.org, your club has access to the tips, tools, and techniques needed for club growth.

Missed the growth summit? Don’t have time to develop a membership campaign? This article is for you. Spring4Service is a simple seven step tactical plan that enables you to plan a membership drive for your club in just a couple of hours! Here is your membership drive in a box:

**Step 1:** Reach consensus with your club to run a membership drive.

**Step 2:** Select a membership drive chair.

**Step 3:** Divide the club membership into two teams. Select a captain for each team. The membership drive chair could lead one team and the club president could lead the other.

**Step 4:** Award points to each team for attendance at May meetings - one point for each Kiwanian who attends; two points for each guest who attends; and three points for each application of membership received.

**Step 5:** Set a Spring4Service service project for Saturday, May 19 (the weekend before Memorial Day weekend). The team captains can be co-chairs for this service project or the club can select another chair. If the club does not have an idea for a service project, they can organize a “Walk the Magic Mile” event to raise money for pediatric trauma care. Complete details on how to organize the Walk the Magic Mile service project are available from Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation.

**Step 6:** Purchase a Spring4Service Door prize. At each meeting in May, Kiwanians and guests will fill out an entry form with their name and email address and give to the club secretary. Your club’s email list can be updated with the names and addresses of your guests to keep them informed of upcoming meetings and the big service project planned for later in the month. Place all the entry forms in box and select a winner at your service project.

**Step 7:** Select great programs for your May meetings and market them. For example:

1. Week of April 30: Kiwanis Kickoff – ask your club president or Lt. Governor to give an overview of Kiwanis and/or your club.
2. Week of May 7: Community Focus – ask a community leader or local charity leader to speak (maybe your local United Way director).
3. Week of May 14: Service Project Planning – ask your service project chair or leader to use this meeting to describe project benefits and do any final planning for your project on Saturday, May 19th.
4. Week of May 21: Club Celebration – buy a cake for your club and have the losing team serve the winning team dessert. Induct your new members!
Eliminate Events at Mid Year

02/09/2012 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Cindy Champer, Dist. Coor.

ELIMINATE ACTIVITIES AT MID YEAR

It is anticipated that many Ohio Kiwanians will be attending the Saturday March 10 Mid Year Education Day, and when they do, much will be happening in regards to Eliminate.

There will first be a booth that to both provide information and sign-ups for club presentations, and it will also be where our SLP individuals will meet to discuss their projects to support Eliminate. And be sure to stay tuned to the opening session to find out the new Zellers and recognize clubs and individuals who have contributed to this great project that saves the lives of women and children in 38 countries.

There will also be two forums on Eliminate. The first forum will include three of our regional coordinators who will tell how their clubs became Model Clubs and/or have chosen to participate at a high level. Questions and answers as to how to participate will be the order of the day.

A second forum will feature International trustee and former vice-chair of the Eliminate project Dr. John Button as speaker. Dr. Button has just recently retired from his medical practice and is a strong advocate of the need for both saving the lives of women and children and also emphasizing clean birthing practices. Please come and get informed, ask questions at both of these innovative forums!

Find the Educational Opportunities at Mid Year Education Day

02/15/2012 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Sharon O'Neal

Mid-Year Education Day will provide you with a variety of "keys" to unlock possibilities for new community service projects, making your meetings entertaining and educational, fundraising ideas suitable for any size club, and for growing in membership.

You will have the opportunity to talk with Kiwanians who are preparing displays to further educate you on Kiwanis International and Ohio District programs available for your use. You will hear from an expert about the Kiwanis International Eliminate project. Do you need extra money for a special project? There will be a forum to instruct you on procedures for filling out the form for an Ohio District Foundation grant.

Look over the list of forums and descriptions. Divide them up between your club members attending so that you will not miss a single opportunity to obtain "keys" to unlock the doors for leadership development, education, and fellowship in your club. We look forward to greeting you on March 10th.

Click here for a Tentative Schedule of the Workshops at our 2012 Mid Year Education Day.
International Convention Early registration Extended

02/15/2012 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Al Allender

Kiwanis International has extended the deadline for the International Convention early registration from February 14 to March 20, 2012. There now is enough time to still get registered at the “Early’ rate. The rate remains at $195, but then jumps to $250 March 20.

The convention opens in New Orleans on Thursday, June 28, 2012, with the closing ceremony Saturday afternoon, June 30. You may register online at Kiwanisone.org using a credit card. You may then choose one of the KI Convention hotels or book a room by any others method convenient for you. The Ohio District is planning a Reception in honor of International President Alan and First Lady Jeri Penn. The reception will take place on Thursday evening from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at the Chicory Venue just a short walk from our host hotel. Watch for more details coming in the mail when you register to attend the convention.

At the business session on Friday, delegates will elect next year’s officers for Kiwanis International, consider proposed changes to the International By-laws, and other business items as needed. Each local club is permitted two delegates.

We cannot overemphasize the importance of having a large Ohio delegation in New Orleans to support our own Alan Penn, Kiwanis International President, as he leads this year’s convention. He needs to be able to look out upon a “sea of red” supporting him from Buckeye land.

Some forums/seminars are offered on Wednesday afternoon as well as on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. You will have an opportunity to learn all about the Eliminate Project as well as information concerning all aspects of Kiwanis programming and administration. Others opportunities are provided for entertainment, motivation, and fellowship with Kiwanians from all parts of the world.

We would like all Ohioans to dress in red shirts at the delegate sessions (and any other convenient times). Red shirts with Ohio Kiwanis identification are available. See our
booth and/or attend our 3:40 P.M. Forum at Mid-Year Education Day for more information.

This is an excellent opportunity to include a family vacation in a great historic area. There are many things to do, and see, of interest to the entire family.

Questions may be directed to: Al Allender, Ohio District On To Convention Chair (740) 392-8471 or ajallender@embarqmail.com. Cell phone is (740) 507-4274

**Why attend Key Club District Convention?**

02/17/2012 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Jeff Eble

What’s coming up with Key Club you might ask? Well it is time to think about the District Convention. The convention will be April 21-22 at the Hyatt Regency, Columbus.

(All the information is on the website at www.ohiokeyclub.org)

Some of the same things that happen at any organization convention happen at the Ohio Key Club convention. There will be workshops that will help local club officers to learn more about Key Club. They will learn how to be officers for coming years, they will learn leadership tips, and there will be seminars that will give them ideas for fund raising and service project. These will come from successful clubs, various experienced adults, and organization professionals the will make their messages come alive and be personal to the attendees.

We will break bread together and celebrate the successes of the year. Members and clubs will be recognized for achievement in service, leadership and more. There will be ribbons, and trophies and plaques and certificates that will commemorate the occasion.

We will have elections. Key Club members will have to opportunity to run for district office in order to lead the District board and put their stamp on the continuation of the Ohio District. We will have speeches and questions that will test the candidates and allow delegates to make the all important choice of who they want to lead them in the next year.

There will be a charity walk through downtown Columbus to raise funds and awareness for the ELIMINATE project. Hundreds of same Tshirted Key Clubbers walking through downtown, invariably chanting and singing will definitely be a memorable event.

Sounds like a lot of the things that may happen at any organization convention, doesn’t it? Well, it is, except for one thing.

One thing unique and memorable is to see the sparkle in the new Key Clubbers eye when they begin to grasp the size of the Key Club organization and its benefits. They begin to understand their role in the organization and that they can have many roles during their high school career. The light bulb goes on that next year I am going to be on that stage. I am going to be Lt. Governor, I am going to be Governor, and I can contribute to my club, my District and the world. And I can do it with friends, kids like me that have fun, are welcoming, and want to make the world a better place.

I don’t believe you see that spark many other places. It is a spark well worth the efforts
of Kiwanis to support, kindle, and to help break into open flame.

Think about it. Support your local Key Club in all ways, but help them to get to Convention. It will make them stronger Key Clubbers, your club a stronger club, and you a Kiwanian contributing to our future. See you in April!

Jeff Eble, District Administrator
Ohio District Key Club

Interclub and Fellowship

02/17/2012 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Kevin Whitlatch

Hello Kiwanians! The Kiwanis year is moving forward quickly and I hope all of you are doing well. As we move forward this year, I hope everyone is aware of our Visitation Is Powerful (V.I.P.) program.

The program has some subtle changes that I hope will allow more clubs to be recognized with certificates/banner patches. The V.I.P. Special club awards now include (in addition to the Blue. Silver, and Gold banner patches) the following opportunities for your clubs.

V.I.P. Special Club Awards: (certificate/banner patch)

- Kiwanis Club that traveled the farthest within the Ohio district for an interclub (excluding District Convention/Installation/Mid-year).
- Kiwanis Club that traveled and inter-clubbed the farthest to another district (excluding International Convention).
- Kiwanis Club that has participated in the most inter-clubs within the year.
- Kiwanis Club that “hosted” the most inter-clubs.

So, please plan your interclubs throughout the rest of the year. I believe the knowledge you gain and the Kiwanians you meet and interact with during your visits will inspire you and make available thoughts and ideas that you can take back to your clubs and use. Kiwanis is a great organization, and through Kiwanis service and fellowship, it will remain a strong, vibrant and a ............fun organization.

If I can be of service to you and your club please contact me by phone or email. Become an Interclubber and a V.I.P. believer!

Kevin Whitlatch
Interclub and Fellowship Chairman
419-878-6632
kwhitlatch@buckeye-express.com

Key Leader returning to Ohio
Do you know a high school student? Maybe someone who attends your local high school or your church? There must be one on your street or in your own family. These students are everywhere. Each and every one of them has leadership potential. Please consider inviting one or two to Kiwanis Key Leader. If it is difficult to find them, it is suggested that you contact the counselor or high school staff member who assists your scholarship committee.

It is also suggested that you encourage underclassmen, especially boys, to take advantage of this opportunity. All high-school aged students are welcome at Key Leader. The only requirement is that they have a desire to be leaders and to try something new.

While they are at Recreation Unlimited, they will meet new people from all over Ohio and beyond; take part in discussions about growth, integrity, respect, community and excellence; challenge themselves to work as a team on the low-ropes/team-challenge course; and lots more. The cost will remain at only $200 per student. Discounts are available for Builders (8th graders who are at least 14 years of age) and Key Club members. Please visit www.key-leader.org or contact co-chairs Brian and Kelly Shaffer at ohiokeyleader@gmail.com for more information.

Club News

Have a Heart

02/18/2012 - Club: Newbury Area - Submitted by: Janice Marx

Newbury Builders' Club sold 50 hearts at Newbury Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, February 12, 2012. The money was given to the American Heart Association. February is Heart Health Month. The younger kids who came to the pancake breakfast had fun decorating the hearts and they hung them on the wall. Thank you Newbury Builders' Club!

1000 Hours of Community Service

02/17/2012 - Club: Newbury Area - Submitted by: Janice Marx

Congratulations to Logan Otto, senior at Newbury High School, for reaching his goal of volunteering 1,000 hours of community service. He is a founding member of our newly formed Key Club. He accumulated these hours by working with Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP), Newbury Builders' Club, Newbury Key Club, Newbury Kiwanis Club, and Habitat for Humanity. Logan credits some of his family members for supporting him while he worked towards his goal. He believes that he gained a better sense of leadership and how to be a team player. When asked about his favorite experience, Logan shared that being the Easter bunny for a Kiwanis Easter Egg Hunt was the best.
We thank Logan for his commitment to the people in his school and community.

Lima Starts an Evening Satelite Club

02/17/2012 - Club: Lima - Submitted by: Ginny German

On February 6th, 2012 Lima Evening Kiwanis held its first meeting. President Robert L. Day Jr. gave the presentation about Kiwanis history and what we are doing today. Members, Candace Newland, Don Sadler, George Doyle, and Ginny German were in attendance to welcome the new members. 3 New members joined that evening with a great deal of enthusiasm. The satelite club will be called the "Lima Evening Kiwanis".

Governor's Visit-Division 9 Meeting

02/13/2012 - Club: Jackson Area - Submitted by: Marolyn Ruston

On Sunday January 29th, 2012 our club hosted the Ohio District Governor William Snellgrove & wife Cheryl, also Lt. Governor Bob Gallagher & wife Susan for the Division 9 meeting. We prepared all the refreshments as this was an afternoon meeting. He talked about Service, Membership, and Growth. Cheryl talked about the 1st Lady's Project-backpacks that are to be presented to children that are removed from their homes and into foster homes, sometimes with nothing of their own. All clubs in Division 9 except 1 were present. Our club, as the host presented the 1st Lady with a granite apple, as this was our theme due to the "Apple Festival" and a $200 check for her project. The Division presented the Governor with a basket from Harry & David. It was a wonderful afternoon enjoyed by all present.

Berea Mayor Honors Volunteers

02/07/2012 - Club: Berea - Submitted by: Mike Nickols

On January 24 2012 the city of Berea held their annual dinner to honor those
individuals who make our community a better place. The program was to recognize several of the leading volunteers, including Giant Eagle for Giving 15,000 dollar worth of food to Berea Welfare. Among the projects the Berea Kiwanis participated in were to build a new Safety Town, put up and take down flags for patriotic holidays, put up tents for Art Fest, and involvement in staffing the Grindstone Festival, and the Jack Frost Christmas Parade. The theme of the event was, the heart of a VOLUNTEER is not measured in size, but the depth of the commitment to make a difference in the lives of others. (By Sam Weaver)

Caption for img_0573 Berea Kiwanians Barb Evans, Harl Evans, and Larry Myers enjoy the festivities. (Photo by R Blotzer)

Lakewood Kiwanis' First Pizza Bake-Off

02/05/2012 - Club: Lakewood - Submitted by: John Huetter

The Kiwanis Club of Lakewood has several ways of fundraising that have proven to be worthy efforts. This past January our president, Dave Norton, suggested a new idea, one to add to our schedule. After visiting an Avon Lake community fundraiser Pizza Bake-Off, he was sold on the idea for the Lakewood club. While visiting the Avon Lake event he was able to speak with the organizers and workers and to learn what it takes to make this a worthwhile endeavor. Soon after gathering the details he began to apply them to Lakewood and to sell the idea to our Board of Directors. After determining the total of pizza shops in the city Dave did most of the upfront leg work and eventually the ultimate planning, by personally contacting each one to see how much interest there might be.

Local shops supported the event very well by some donating all the pizzas they served, while others generously donated a number of them. After speaking with our Lakewood High School principal Dave received permission to hold the event at the school on a Friday night where several events were already scheduled for later that evening including swimming and wrestling meets and a play. All that activity turned out to be a good thing as not only students but families arrived to partake of the all you can eat pizza.

A requirement of purchasing a ticket for the event was to ultimately vote for the best “People’s Choice, Pepperoni and “Specialty” pizzas. By the end of the evening every pizza taster had all the pizza he or she could handle and the best pizza winners were announced. Plaques were presented to the winners in each category.

Fourteen local pizza shops served, a yet to be determined numbers of large pizzas. Over 200 pizzas had been donated by eight of the shops. Forty KCL members plus family worked the three hour event while feeding 600 pizza tasters.

The First Lakewood Pizza Bake-Off turned out to be a wonderful success not only for Lakewood Kiwanis, but for the City of Lakewood and the pizza shops. One shop owner called saying his business quadrupled the very next day. Success can be summed up by the many tasters asking “When’s the next one”?

Club Gives 630 Books to Children

01/28/2012 - Club: Montgomery - Submitted by: David Freas, Secretary
The Kiwanis Club of Montgomery, Ohio, gave 630 books to 630 young Head Start Children this past Christmas. Club member Judge Jack Rosen worked with Joseph Beth to obtain a wide range of children's books at a discount and package them for children in six schools. The children were selected by Cincinnati Union Bethel, one of the oldest charitable organizations in the country. We picked up the books and took them to CUB headquarters in downtown Cincinnati. They were then distributed to the children in the six schools.

Montgomery Kiwanis has provided books for Head Start children through CUB every year for 18 years for a total of approximately 16,000 books. This is our most significant and rewarding service project.