Alan Penn Elected International President

Alan Penn Elected International President

Alan and International First Lady Designate Jeri Penn served the Ohio District as our District Governor and First Lady in 1999-2000. Alan was elected to the International Board in 2006 at the International Convention in Montreal. He was elected Vice President in 2009 at the International Convention in Nashville and President Elect last year in Las Vegas. Alan has been a strong force for change on the International Board and he was instrumental in developing new membership initiatives designed to assist our clubs grow.

Alan is also a member of the Internet Kiwanis Clubs in Tombstone, Montana and All Ohio – eMedina and he was previously a member of the Lakewood Kiwanis Club in Ohio. First Lady Jeri is also a member of the All Ohio – eMedina Club. Their children, Randy and Jody, as well as Jody’s husband, James are Kiwanians as well. Al and Jeri’s grandson Prestin will be Vice President of his Builders Club in Westerville, Ohio this fall and grandson Pierce will hopefully follow in the Kiwanis family footsteps as he enters school.

District Governor's Report

The summer months of June, July, and August are now half over and the Ohio District Kiwanis Clubs and members have been involved in many festivals, events, and in support of our communities. There are still many opportunities for our clubs and members to make a difference in the lives of the children in our communities.

A number of Kiwanis members from the Ohio District have just returned from the Kiwanis International Convention in Geneva, Switzerland. To say it was an outstanding
event would be an understatement. The hospitality shown, the festivities, and all of the convention were truly memorable. A special event was the election of Alan Penn as President of Kiwanis International for the 2011-2012 year. Alan will truly be an outstanding leader for Kiwanis International. The Eliminate Project was launched at the convention and promises to change the world by eliminating Maternal/Neonatal/Tetanus in mothers and newborn babies. This is a chance for Kiwanis to again be a leader in eliminating a disease that kills a newborn baby every 9 minutes.

If you have not registered for the Ohio District Convention on August 12-14, at the Park Inn in Toledo, Ohio, please do it now. Many special and educational events are planned for the convention. A special service project is being planned for the convention. We will be collecting new pairs of socks for “Hannah’s Socks”. Our goal is 50,000 pairs of socks. That is a high goal, but we know that we can do it. Start now by collecting new socks to bring to the convention. The Ohio District will be presenting the socks to “Hannah’s Socks” for use in their program to help those in need. Another highlight of the convention will be the launching of the Eliminate Project in the Ohio District. Cindy Champer is the coordinator of the Eliminate Project for the Ohio District. Cindy and her committee will be letting everyone know how they, and their clubs, can help Ohio be a leader in the Eliminate Project. Also, don’t forget about bringing gift baskets for the “Silent Auction” at the convention. We need your baskets. The money raised from the auction will go to the First Family Project. Many fun and educational events are planned for the convention. Make sure you are registered and your club is represented. See you in Toledo.

Membership still remains a top priority in the Ohio District. The numbers continue to improve and many are working hard to change the trend of previous years. We do not have a report of the “Plus Clubs” and “Plus Divisions” as of the end of June due to the International Convention. We will have a report for you as of the end of August. Let’s all continue to work on new members and new Kiwanis Clubs to make the district strong and enable our clubs to increase their service to their communities.

Save a Child's Life for Only $2!


Did you enjoy that $2 (or more) fancy coffee, frappe, capuccino or other frothy drink today? If so, you’re not alone, it’s part of enjoying life! But did you know that if you "eliminated" just one fancy coffee drink of $2 (or more), you could save the life of a child?

That's right and that's the core message of the Eliminate Project, Kiwanis International's newest worldwide service project which is being officially kicked off in Geneva during July and then in Ohio during the District convention in Toledo August 12-14.

For every $2 donated to Eliminate, you can save the life of a mother and ultimately her unborn child. Every nine minutes - a little longer than it will take you to read this article.
- a child born in one of 38 underserved countries will die from neonatal tetanus, something that can be prevented with proper immunizations, combined with clean birthing practices and postpartum cord care.

You will find out more at the district convention about how you can help prevent the untenable thought of a newborn dying with no hope of being saved! For more information or to schedule a program for your club or division, contact CindyChamper@aol.com; or phone 419/350-0477.

**Foundation Donations Provide Funds for Grants**

*07/20/2011 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Jean Forbes*

The Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation has given out $19,114 in grants in this administrative year. These grants have helped Kiwanis Clubs throughout Ohio to provide service in their communities. Where does this money come from?

- General community service grants come from 2% of the endowed funds of the Foundation.
- Your club's donations to the annual club birthday fund, individual donations to the Ambassador Program and donations that are recognized by our awards programs all help in increasing these funds.

Has your club sent $3 per member to celebrate the anniversary of the club's charter? Have you enrolled in the Ambassador Program with a minimum donation of $50? Has your club honored a member by giving a Past International President's Award? More information about these ways of giving can be found at the Foundation's website [www.odkf.org](http://www.odkf.org).

Pediatric Trauma grants are given from funds donated to the First Family's Project. This year Governor John and First Lady Wanda DeVilbiss have emphasized Pediatric Trauma Safe Transport. They have taught us about the need for special equipment for transporting children in ambulances. Donations to the First Family Project are immediately available for grant awards. Ten grants have been given this year for projects to provide EMS equipment, bicycle helmets and safety fair events.

What is your club doing to protect children from injuries and treat children for injuries? Join the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation in supporting Kiwanis service to children in Ohio.

**Key Leader Changes Lives**

*07/01/2011 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Kelly Shaffer*

This past spring, Key Leader came back to Recreation Unlimited in Ashley. About 50 students attended and were met with the enthusiasm and expertise of Lead Facilitator, Bobbi Kahler of Vail, CO. The following article was submitted to the Madeira High School newspaper The Stampede by attendee Emma Sabransky and is used with her permission.

*Take the Lead: A Key Leader Weekend* by Emma Sabransky
I climbed up the four steps to the top of the platform with my legs and hands shaking almost uncontrollably. I turned around, put my heels to the edge, and took a deep breath. "Spotters ready?" I asked.

"Ready!" came the reply.

"Ready to fall," I said, my voice getting tight with the anticipation.

I swallowed hard and took a shaky breath. "Falling," I said. And then I fell. Never in my life did I think that I would do a trust fall. More importantly, I didn't think that I would ever do one with a group of people that I met 24 hours earlier. But on April 30, I did just that.

This past Friday, I made my way up to Ashley, Ohio, where the Key Leader program was being held. Key Leader is sponsored by Kiwanis, and it is a weekend retreat for teenagers. This one was held at Recreation Unlimited. About 50 high school students from all over Ohio came to this event where we learned how to be leaders at our school, in our activities, and in our community. At first, I thought that it sounded like a simple job, but after hours of group activities and discussions, I realized that there is so much more to being a leader.

Any person can stand up and start telling others what to do, but a leader has integrity and follows her values. A leader knows that personal growth and trust develop who she is. A leader gives respect and receives it in return. A leader accepts everyone for who he is and works to create a better community. And most importantly, a leader strives for excellence.

My weekend cannot be summed up into a single sentence. Each day there was absolutely amazing. Our lead facilitator, Bobbi Kahler, was an inspiration to every person in the room, and I am proud to say that she has helped me believe in myself and my abilities to become a leader. But I think the most important part of my experience was the challenge course. It was there that I learned how important trust is. Not only was the trust fall fun, but it taught me an important lesson. No matter who you are, what you stand for, and how you lead others, you still fall down sometimes. But there is always someone who is ready to catch you.

Now is the time for your club to budget for this life-changing weekend. The cost is only $200 per student ($175 for Key Club members). Any student in 9-12 grade is welcome to attend. Please make this incredible opportunity available to your future leaders. The next scheduled event is Nov. 11-13, 2011 at Recreation Unlimited. Registration is open at www.key-leader.org. The Ohio Key Leader team will be at District Convention to answer all of your questions and to provide a hands-on, activity-filled forum to give you a taste of Key Leader. Please contact ohiokeyleader@gmail.com if you need more information.

Kelly Shaffer
2010-11 Key Leader Chair

**District Convention Update**

*06/29/2011 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Craig Wallace*
Toledo is the place to be on August 12, 13 and 14! Those are the dates of the Ohio District Convention which will take place at the Park Inn Hotel in downtown Toledo. The convention starts at 7 pm on Friday evening. The close will be Sunday morning at 11 am. The dress code for the convention is business casual except for the Governor’s Banquet on Saturday night which is business formal—coats and ties for men, dresses or pant suits for women.

To register for the convention go to www.ohiokiwanis.org and click on “District Convention”. Registration for the convention includes the Saturday luncheon. There are several other items on the website including hotel reservations, Toledo activities, the convention schedule, and previous Buckeye Bulletin articles about the convention.

During the convention we will be conducting a SERVICE PROJECT. Socks—any kind, any size, or any color of NEW socks—will be collected and donated to Hannah’s Socks on Saturday afternoon at the convention. Please collect socks between now and the convention. The goal of the project is to donate at least 50,000 pair of socks to Hannah’s Socks. The socks will be given to those who don’t have socks.

On Saturday afternoon, the annual meeting of the district will take place. Delegates representing clubs (each club can have up to 3 delegates) throughout the district will vote on the business of the district including candidates for various district positions.

We will honor Governor John and First Lady Wanda on Saturday evening at the annual Governor’s Banquet. There will be FUN entertainment, addresses by the first couple, good food and other activities.

Sunday morning will be a very special time as we remember those Kiwanians who have passed away since the last convention. This will be a meaningful service for all who attend.

The convention basket room is a fund raiser for the First Family Project. Plan to donate a basket with a value of up to 60 dollars to the basket room. The more baskets donated the better as all the proceeds go to a great cause. Then, at the convention, please bid on the baskets!

With the Seagate Center as a part of the convention, we have an excellent space for exhibit tables. Don Overmyer (dpo@donpovermyer.com) is in charge of the exhibit tables. Contact Don or complete a form requesting an exhibit table—which is available on the district web site. The tables are available on a first come basis to non-profit agencies and businesses. Please encourage businesses who want to promote business with Kiwanians to reserve an exhibit table.

FOR YOU TO DO: Register for the convention; Come to Toledo; Donate a basket; Bring socks for Hannah’s Socks; Enjoy the Convention!

There will be new people to meet, new ideas to learn, as well as good times. I HOPE TO SEE YOU IN TOLEDO!!

Craig Wallace
Ohio District Convention Chair
What Does the Ohio District Key Club Board Do?

06/29/2011 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Jeff Eble

Good question, as I am not sure the typical Kiwanian knows! The Ohio District board consists of 35 student positions that are responsible for the operation of the Ohio District. It really exists as a leadership experience vehicle for high school Key Club members and is a bridge for leadership experiences between the local high school club and the International board.

The executive officers are the Governor, Secretary, Bulletin Editor, Webmaster, Treasurer and Historian. Most are elected with the Webmaster and Historian being appointed. The remaining members are the Lt. Governors which serve the role of communicating between the state board and the local clubs.

Not all positions are filled unfortunately and that definitely hampers the ability to communicate both ways to facilitate local club activities and promotion of events & service initiatives.

The District Board has two primary functions, to put on the District Convention and the Fall Rally. Each is attended by over 400 Key Club members from around the state. This is accomplished by four board meetings during the course of the year and the work of a number of committees such as K Family Relations, Laws & Regulations, and other standing and special committees.

Each year at the local club level candidates for Lt. Governor should be elected in December or early January by their local club to run for the Lt. Governor position at a division meeting. Ideally we have a training meeting for the new Lt. Governors in March and a planning meeting for the year including the Executive officers (elected during the convention) held in June.

The Lt. Governors are also responsible for holding Division meetings and trainers for the local club officers to help them with their club management, leadership, service ideas, and fund raising ideas.

If all works well, the 12,000 members of the Ohio District (one of the largest in Key Club International) provides many leadership training experiences, through the vehicle of service projects at the local, division, and district level.

Pretty busy bunch huh? All thanks to the support of the Ohio District of Kiwanis! Thanks Kiwanians!

Jeff Eble, Administrator
Ohio District Key Club

Is Your Club's Membership on the Rise?

Is your club's membership on the rise?
How many of our clubs can answer this question with a resounding YES?

The answer, unfortunately, is not many. We have a great story to tell. So, this article is a little bit about sharing that story.

Membership starts with asking...
We have heard this many times. However, I believe, it starts before we ask, while we ask, and after we ask. We must be prepared for the typical questions that will be the response to an invitation to a meeting. We must be prepared as clubs to receive guests. We must be prepared to get people involved so prospective members see Kiwanis for the outstanding service opportunity that it is.

How do we prepare our clubs?
I believe this question is often overlooked. Do you have a designated greeter at your meetings? Do prospective members feel welcomed when they arrive? Does someone take the time to introduce the prospective member and get to know them ahead of time?

If you feel a bit squeamish about answering the club questions, there is a bit of work to do ahead of time. There are relatively easy ways to incorporate welcoming guests into your meeting agenda. If your club eats prior to the formal meeting, be sure to acknowledge the guests when they arrive. Welcome them. Tell them you are glad to see them at the meeting and hope to see them often. Be prepared to share some local club successful projects or events. If you have an upcoming service project, what a great way to get a prospective member involved right away. Invite them to join the project. Don't scare them away, but encourage involvement early and often.

How do we prepare to ask?
Be prepared to answer some basic questions about Kiwanis. Even though Kiwanis has been around for nearly 100 years, there are still a lot of people who do not know what we are all about. They may think it is some secret organization with secret handshakes and full of rituals. So, how do you answer the question when someone says... well, What is Kiwanis? I am glad you asked!

What is Kiwanis?
We can start with the defining statement... Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time. But we can say so much more! Kiwanis is a family of organizations including Terrific Kids, Bring Up Grades, K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, Key Leader, Circle K, and Aktion Clubs with over 600,000 members worldwide.

What does Kiwanis do?
Kiwanis clubs make an impact in their communities and the world community. We are building on the successful Iodine Deficiency Disorder (IDD) project. Kiwanians raised $107 million dollars and is credited for raising the global IQ of the planet. By the distribution of Iodized Salt reaching 70% of the world's population, the cure for the most treatable symptom of mental retardation was delivered. The new Eliminate project is just as aggressive in distributing a cure for maternal/neonatal tetanus (MNT). In the next 4 years we will again be proud of our global contribution.

Kiwanis clubs around the world annually do over 150,000 services projects, provide 6 million hours of service, and contribute $100 million to their communities. It is great to be part of something making this kind of contribution.
If you can be prepared to say what we do, it will come across to the prospective member, we do service better than any organization on the planet. And, more importantly, if they have a heart for service, they will want to join in to make a difference in your community.

What is a Successful Kiwanian?
Well, it depends. It is different for each person. There are many roles in Kiwanis for members to participate. It could be club administration, service project coordinators, volunteers, division leadership, district leadership. But, a successful Kiwanian is always someone who can share a Kiwanis moment where they made a difference.

Handling Objections
There are many opportunities to take up peoples time. Weekly meetings are a time commitment. Dues and meals are costly. I can already perform service without an organization, why do I need to join yours? These are questions many of us have heard. There are no easy answers to these objections. If you enjoy doing service, would you enjoy it more doing it with a group of friends? If you like to get involved, the ideas of many similar minds may get you involved in more than you could do on your own. Many hands make lighter work is a phrase that applies here. The more Kiwanians involved, the more service we can do. Together we are stronger.

Responsibility for Growing Membership
It is all of our shared responsibility to grow membership. That doesn't have to be a burden. There are many resources available to you. Kiwanis Area Director, Lanton Lee is a tremendous resource for our District, Divisions, and Clubs. The Membership Growth and New Club Building Committee is ready to assist you. We are planning a visible presence in the Education Sessions at the District Convention in August and we hope to see you there. We hope to inspire you to grow our membership and increase the Kiwanis impact one child and one community at a time.

Now that you are prepared, let's go out and ask and get more people involved. Then, we will be in a position to say our membership is on the rise and we are making a bigger difference.

By: Eric Bush
District Chair, Membership Growth & New Club Building (10-E,S,W & 11-N,S)

Congratulations, Kiwanis Kids!

07/02/2011 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Faith Cook

The 2010-2011 school year was a year of growth for Kiwanis Kids. Ohio has 52 active K-Kids Clubs. Six new clubs were chartered this year by the Kiwanis clubs of Delphos, Mason, Alliance, Piqua and Wellington, who sponsored two clubs.

Congratulations to the following K-Kids Clubs:

- Harrison School, sponsored by the Lakewood Kiwanis Club, for achieving the "Honor Club Award" and earning a banner patch
- Monac Elementary, sponsored by West Toledo Kiwanis Club and "We Build", sponsored by Delphos Kiwanis Club, earned banner patches for their Scrapbook
Contest entries

- "We Build," of Delphos, submitted entries in the Speech, Essay and Art categories of the International K-Kids Contests. "We Build" of Delphos won First, Second and Third Place District Awards for Speech and Essay and First and Second Place District Awards for Art. Highland Elementary, of Stow/Munroe Falls, entered the Art category only and won the Third Place District Award. All winners were presented with K-Kids District Certificates of Recognition. Way to Go!

Hope to see you at the Ohio District Kiwanis Convention in Toledo. Stop by the Kiwanis Kids display and join us at the forum session to discuss and share the "10 Top Reasons" your club should sponsor one of the Kiwanis Kids programs.

Faith Cook
Kiwanis Kids District Chair

District Secretary's Report

07/20/2011 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Dave Whiteman

As this issue of the Buckeye Bulletin is being prepared, district Kiwanians are preparing for our 94th Annual District Convention. This year we will be meeting in Toledo, Ohio at the Park Inn. The convention committee is working very hard to make sure you have an enjoyable convention experience. Please review this issue of the online newsletter, as well as the District Convention page of our district website (www.ohiokiwanis.org), for updated convention information about the activities taking place August 12-14 in Toledo.

Report of Club Elections

The deadline for return of the Report of Club Elections form to Kiwanis International and the Ohio District was June 1, 2011. Once again all clubs were encouraged to report their 2011-12 officers’ online using KiwanisOne. As of July 20th, only 152 Ohio Kiwanis clubs have submitted their report through KiwanisOne. This means that a significant number of our 258 Kiwanis Clubs have not yet filed this report. If your club has not submitted the form, please do so immediately. This information is critical as it is used to publish the International and District directories. In addition, the information is also used to build a database that will be used for future mailings to your clubs. Thanks for your prompt attention to this request. If you need help filing this report online, please feel free to call us in the district office for assistance.

2011 District Installation

Please be sure and mark your calendar for the Installation of our 2011-12 District Board. The Installation will take place on September 27, 2011 in Columbus, Ohio and details will be coming to your Club Secretary in early August. We will also post information online using our district website at www.ohiokiwanis.org. The first official meeting of our 2011-
12 Kiwanis Board will take place on Sunday, September 18th.

**CLE Makeup Session Planned**
For those 2011-12 Club Officers who were unable to attend Leadership Education in their local divisions, a makeup session is being planned for Friday afternoon, August 12th in Toledo, Ohio at the Park Inn Toledo. The session will be held prior to the start of our district convention. To register to attend this session, please call the district office.

Dave Whiteman
District Secretary

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**Club News**

"We've Gone Billboarding"


Anita Jackson, Steubenville's President made the decision to use billboard advertising for their last two fund raising events for three reasons. First, she stated that she wanted the area and other clubs to know that Steubenville's Kiwanis Club was alive and well. Second, she wanted to create fun and interest among the members; and third, "perception is reality," it created interest and people responded to it and called about the events.

Back in March, the Steubenville tried a new concept brought to them by Club Secretary/Treasurer and past Lt. Governor, Tom Timmons, entitled "Trivia Competition." They renamed it "Kiwanis Trivia Competition." Tom's sister, Sue Bussler gave the club the design for the competition and then, flew in from Illinois to Emcee the program. As the Steubenville hoped, ten companies, schools and family groups formed teams of ten, paid $25 per person and had a great time. The club realized $1,800.00 from the event with very little effort.

June 10th, Phyllis Riccadonna and Brian Scarpone organized a successful golf outing for our Steubenville Club at Spring Hills Golf Club with a total of 17 teams participating. Phyllis was able to obtain a major sponsor for the event, which enabled the club to realize approximately $3,000.00 in profit for the outing. The picture of the "would be golfers" appeared on our billboard. (L-R) Paul Brandt, Duke Rakich, Tom Timmons and Anita Jackson, Steubenville's President.

Because Jackson was not certain if the boards would enhance the events, she made them a personal donation to the club. "I am pleased with the outcome of the boards," states Jackson, "They not only served to increase our attendance at the events, but they also served to create interest and comic relief among our club members."

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**Kiwanis Cooking for Cancer**

07/06/2011 - Club: Olmsted Falls - Submitted by: Dennis Mozser
On June 11th & 12th the Olmsted Falls Kiwanis Club happily took a active part in the local Relay For Life. We are very proud to be part of this great effort to eliminate cancer and to make birthdays, and to add needed funds for cancer research. We walked the track. We sold luminaries. We provided a good number of cancer survivors. We served over 300 people at a free pancake breakfast at 7AM and happily paid the cost out of club funds (600.00+ dollars). We trucked our food trailer to the high school site and sold pulled pork sandwiches, hand cut french fries and beverages to the general public, raised over $1,500.00. And in doing so we had a ball, fulfilled our commitment to our local communities, helped to hopefully find the cure that will allow many to live and enjoy life. It was a very worthwhile two days and we will do it again next year. If your club doesn't take in one of these Relays, give it a lot of thought. You won't regret it.

Aktion Club Blooms in Westlake

07/03/2011 - Club: Westlake - Submitted by: Victor Rutkoski

The Westlake Kiwanis Aktion Club planted their Hilliard Road flower box in red, white and blue in keeping with this year's Westlake Bicentennial theme for Westlake in Bloom. The club used a pattern created by member Jennifer Carlson while planting their flowers donated by Lowe's in Rocky River. The club hopes you stop by to see their display on Hilliard just off of Dover Center.

Westlake Kiwanis to host Special Olympics

07/03/2011 - Club: Westlake - Submitted by: Victor Rutkoski
The Westlake Kiwanis, along with the Westlake School District, will be holding their second annual “Westlake Kiwanis Family and Westlake School District Special Olympics” on Saturday, July 9.

The event will begin at 10 a.m. with a parade around the Westlake High School track, which will be led by the Special Olympics Torch followed by the participants, parents, caregivers and members of the Westlake School District, Westlake Kiwanis, Westlake Key Club and Westlake Aktion Club. There will be competition in the various events: the 400-meter run, softball throw, standing long jump, 25-meter walk, 50-meter dash, 25-meter wheelchair run and the 25-meter assisted walk.

Event organizer Russ Milan of the Westlake Kiwanis hopes this event will be well attended. Members of the Westlake School District, Westlake Kiwanis, Westlake Key Club and the Westlake Aktion Club will be handling everything, including organizing the parade, handing out water, helping the Olympians with their various events and judging the events.

Westlake Kiwanis Host Memorial Day Services

07/03/2011 - Club: Westlake - Submitted by: Victor Rutkoski

The Westlake Kiwanis has been sponsoring and coordinating the annual Westlake Memorial Day Parade and Services since 1965. Kiwanis President Rick Grane called the services to order and introduced guests. Aktion Club President Jennifer Rutkoski led the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance. This year's Guest Speaker was Major General Fred Lick, Jr. Commander of the Ohio Military Reserve was introduced by Kiwanian Major Joseph Anthony, USAF Reserve Retired. The mile long parade viewed by large crowds along the march down Hilliard Blvd. Many organizations took part in the parade which was led by the Westlake High School Marching Band. The Builders Club, Key Club and Aktion Club passed out American Flags along the parade route.

Lakewood Kiwanis has a full schedule of summer of Fundraising.

07/02/2011 - Club: Lakewood - Submitted by: John Huetter

The Kiwanis Club of Lakewood has scheduled seven fundraisers for June through September and by July 1st. has completed three of them. Starting with "Meet the Trucks" on June 4th. This is an event where kids can come and climb all over city trucks including police and SWAT cars, fire engines and huge snow plows. It brings out hundreds of families, including the Kiwanians. Our "Pete's Table" consists of four different types of packaged popcorn and sixteen different candy bars. Sales were brisk. During the four hours it affords the opportunity to speak with the parents about Kiwanis and handing out our club tri-fold and displaying posters telling of our involvement in the community and of course our Lakewood Scholarship Foundation with over $1.5 million dollars in scholarships already awarded to local graduates.
Our next event was the "Madison Park Bike Rodeo". Once again children and families allowing us to, again, repeat our "Pete's Table" and meeting the mom's and dad's. This time we also sold our famous Lakewood Kiwanis hot-dogs. Kids and hot dogs always seem to go well together.

Completing our June schedule was the Ohio/Chautauqua of which Lakewood Kiwanis was one of the sponsors. The event drew hundreds, mostly adults, to hear Abe Lincoln giving several of his speeches all under a huge tent on the shores of Lake Erie. And again, we were there with "Pete's Table" and this time we added soda and water along with our hot dogs. The event also gave us the opportunity to be proactive in a community event by supplying Kiwanians and Key Clubbers as greeters for those attending. All in all Lakewood Kiwanis had 34 members on hand.

Guess what we did on July 4, only this time we included all the above and a parade too while handing out candy to the kids. Our Chicken & Rib BBQ on the lake is a bit later in the month.

Dayton Kiwanis - Down On The Farm!

06/21/2011 - Club: Dayton - Submitted by: Chuck Sousa

On Saturday June 18, 2011 members and friends of the Dayton Noon Kiwanis Club gathered at the Learning Tree Farm on South Union Road in Dayton to build 3 ground level garden boxes and 1 raised garden box for children with disabilities.

The Learning Tree Farm is a non-profit organization with the mission to facilitate hands-on learning experiences in a traditional farm setting. It was founded in 1973 and served 200 students from Dayton schools that first year. Now it serves over 6,000 students each year from over 9 counties. The farm offers an appreciation for nature and an exposure to the natural world effective in developing a child’s physical and mental health, sense of patience, appreciation for property and a delight in living things.

At this time of the year children enjoy picking lettuce, strawberries and snap peas to smell and taste. A raised garden box that is also narrow enables children with disabilities to reach in and do their own picking. The boxes are also at an easy level making it possible for children to play in the dirt and to fill containers to take home their own flowers. In addition to the sweat equity enjoyed by our Kiwanis members and friends President Anthony Whitmore and the club foundation board presented a generous check to provide child size garden tools, wheelbarrows, buckets and mats to create a smooth surface for wheelchairs between the garden boxes. Funds will also be used to purchase lumber and hardware for building replacement benches for the trails and tire swing areas (I see another project in our immediate future!).

Everyone involved had a wonderful time changing the world, one child and one community at a time! To see more pictures go to www.daytonkiwanis.org and click on the Journal entry Learning Tree Farm on the right side halfway down the page. For more information about the Learning Tree Farm go to www.learningtreefarm.org.