Happy New Year!

10/13/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Diana Keplinger

Happy New Year to all members, Lt. Governors, District Chairs and officers!! It is the beginning of the 2014-15 Kiwanis administrative year and it started with a great day of education and celebration at the Doubletree Worthington Hotel on October 4th.

Thanks to everyone who attended the Formula Rally on Saturday afternoon. A great program of Formula review, goal setting, and team planning was presented by KI Area Administrator Lanton Lee, New Club Opening Chair Kathleen Moylan, and Membership Chair Bill Snellgrove. This was a way of getting everyone involved in the Formula process focused on the same goals for our great district. Growth is imperative for the longevity of our organization and the protection of our legacy of service to the children of Ohio. In the coming year we will celebrate the 100th Birthday of Kiwanis, but while we are celebrating, we must prepare for the next century of Kiwanis service.

The installation of district officers was held on Saturday evening at the Doubletree. We had over 175 members in attendance. The Fringe Benefit quartet sang the National Anthem with enthusiasm and gusto. That was a fitting start to a wonderful evening. Later in the program they sang The Armed Forces Medley. When each branch of the armed services theme song was sung, our members who had served in that branch stood up to show their pride in having served in the military. The audience showed their appreciation to each of them. That was a highlight of my evening.

Thanks go out to everyone who participated in the program. A special thanks to Past Governor Jack Hilborn who was the MC for the evening. He did a wonderful job of keeping the program on schedule, while interjecting bits of humor along the way. A special treat was the presentation of a Zeller Award to Diane Griffin from her husband, Lt. Governor Larry Griffin of Division 20. It was a complete surprise for Diane and was presented to her by Immediate Past Governor Jennifer. Thanks to all of these people, and many more, the evening was very special for Tom and me.

And now a few words about the coming year. Tom and I have decided that our “family project” or the one that will involve financial support from members and clubs will continue to be the Eliminate Project. This is the final year for us to pledge to financially
support this Kiwanis International campaign. We have the ability to end a disease that attacks the most vulnerable infants. One mother and all of her unborn children can be spared for as little as $1.80. Members and clubs can pledge the funds necessary to end maternal and neonatal tetanus, as we did with IDD a few years ago! All pledges can be paid over the next 5 years. Why not pledge $1.80 for each of your healthy children or grandchildren per month? Small gifts can add up and the “children of the world” will benefit from your generosity. If you are aware of a foundation or corporation that awards grants to projects such as Eliminate, please let your Lt. Governor know about them. We can use their help.

I am looking forward to meeting each of you at division council meetings as Tom and I travel around the district. Enjoy the beautiful leaves, crisp apples, and cool evening air of autumn in Ohio. Grab the excitement of children at Halloween as your inspiration for Kiwanis meetings and service projects.

Above all, be well and happy.

Yours in Kiwanis service.
Governor Diana

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**District Secretary's Notes**

10/15/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Dave Whiteman

For those of you looking here and expecting to see another article from me this month, you are spared. I want to take this time to recognize two individuals who are celebrating birthdays in the next month. One will be celebrating his 100th Birthday just as our organization prepares to celebrate its 100th Birthday and the other is celebrating his 90th Birthday.

Donald E. "Don" Williams served this organization with distinction as our International President in 1985-86 and I was very proud to be a delegate when we elected Don as President at my first International Convention in 1985. In 16 years of traveling to Indianapolis and elsewhere for various meetings and conventions, I can tell you that Don is thought of just as highly by Kiwanis International Staff and volunteers from other Kiwanis Districts as he is here in the Ohio District. I value his counsel immensely and it has been one of the great privileges of my life to know Don Williams.

Next month a birthday party is being held for Don and the details are as follows:

Date: Saturday, November 22, 2014 (actual birthday is Nov. 21)
Where: The United Methodist Church of Berea, Ohio
When: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Theme: 100 years in the life of Don Williams

Please RSVP by November 15th
to: Beth Reams (440-748-6408)
The family has requested no gifts.

Past Governor Albert Gilbert is another one of my favorite people and he is celebrating his 90th Birthday on October 29th. A small celebration is being planned by the family. Past Governor Al and First Lady Iris are doing well and living independently in Twinsburg, Ohio. I am sure Al would enjoy receiving a card or letter. If you would like to know their address, please contact me in the District Office at (888) 827-8196 Extension 2.

Dave Whiteman
District Secretary

Key Leader 2014-15: ONE event only!

10/08/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Kelly Shaffer

Greetings and Happy New Year, Ohio Kiwanis!

There are a few things you need to know about Key Leader for this year. One major change you will notice is that there will not be an event in the spring. Declining registration numbers dictate that we are unable to continue to support two events this fiscal year. With your help, we will do everything we can to fill up the upcoming fall event and bring the spring event back for next year.

Speaking of the upcoming fall event...that is fast approaching. The event will take place at Recreation Unlimited during the weekend of November 14-16, 2014. Currently, there is a huge need for Student Facilitators. Those are typically students who have previously attended and wish to return and try out their new leadership skills by helping to lead a small group throughout the weekend. Please encourage your local Key Leader graduates to apply for these positions. The cost to sponsor a Student Facilitator is only $115. There are nearly 45 open spots for student participants as well. It is critical that we work together to fill this event to capacity. If we do not reach the minimum registration number of 60 students, we will quickly find ourselves without any Key Leader events.

What can you do? Encourage your home club to sponsor one or more students. Any high-school-aged student can attend. Also encourage local businesses to support a student. The cost is only $200 if registered before November 7. Key Club members can attend for as low as $175 because of the generosity to the Kiwanis International Foundation. If you find that the cost is not within your budget, please consider a donation to the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation for Key Leader. We can pool the donations to create sponsorships for deserving students who are not fortunate enough to have Kiwanians like you in their areas.

Also, please help spread the message about this life-changing service leadership weekend experience to students in your area. We cannot reach everyone and need your help to reach your local students and schools. This can be done by contacting the person you work with on scholarships in the spring. Please email ohiokeyleader@gmail.com for additional information. We would be thrilled to be your club or division program at an upcoming meeting and/or to answer any questions you might have. Let’s keep changing lives of teens here in the Mighty Ohio District.
Well, we are embarked on a new year. I want to applaud the service you do in your community. We, as Kiwanis club members, need to remember just how important we are in the grand scheme of things. I am truly proud to be a Kiwanian. I am proud of our service, our members, and our entire organization.

Be proud of what you do!

Our challenge, yours and mine, is to grow our service and strengthen our clubs. Each supports the other. There is no service without dedicated Kiwanians and the purpose for Kiwanis is our terrific service. Those clubs who have grown stronger over the last few years have been able to increase their service to their community. I want your club to be one of these. I have said it before and will say it again – they have several things in common:

1. They have fun with their meetings and projects;
2. They have a small dedicated group that continuously works on strengthening their club membership;
3. They have a plan in place as to how they will invite new members and how they can retain existing members by meeting the members’ needs; and
4. That plan has what actions are to be taken, who is responsible, when it will be done and the expected results.

Make sure the rest of the world knows how essential and important your club really is. Share the excitement with someone. Show them how belonging can meet their needs and invite them to join your club. Do it today – it is the only way to continue your club’s wonderful legacy of service to your community!!!!

Bill Snellgrove, District Chair
Governor_Bill@columbus.rr.com

Why Attend Key Club District Leadership Conference?

What’s coming up with Key Club you might ask? Well it is time to think about the District Leadership Conference. It will be March 13-15 at the Doubletree, Beachwood in Northeast Ohio, within an hour of 60% of Ohio Key Clubbers!

(All the registration will soon be on the website at www.ohiokeyclub.org)

Some of the same things that happen at any organization Conference happen at the DLC. 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 projects. 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 event to raise funds and awareness for the ELIMINATE project. There will be opportunities for advisors to give input, ask questions, and be recognized for the valuable work and time they contribute to Key Club. It will also be a time for advisors to renew old friendships and make new ones while trading ideas for their clubs.

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 Leadership Conference. It will make them stronger Key Clubbers, your club a stronger club, and you a Kiwanian contributing to our future. See you in March 2015!

Making The Future an Open Book

10/08/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Sarah Roush

I am so very pleased to share the news that Kiwanis International has partnered with Scholastic Books! (http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/face-new) Reading is such a vital tool for the success of our children and so many do not have easy access to books. Kiwanis can now partner with local schools, churches, community centers and even homeless shelters to provide reading materials to children.

Studies have determined that 61% of low income families have no books in their homes and 98% of all educators said “family involvement and support” have a strong impact on academic achievement. Access to books and parents who actively support reading can make a huge difference in a student’s ability to process language. Children who read or are read to for just 21 minutes a day, hear/read nearly 2.8 million words a year versus a child who is read to/reads for just 5 minutes a day experiences just .28 million a year. A child, who is in the 10th percentile for reading skills, who does not have someone reading to them, experiences only an average of 8,000 words outside of school for the year. This exposure to words and sounds make a huge difference in learning skills.
A **Reading Oasis** is, in a nutshell, a designated room that has been decorated to be a comfortable place for children and mentors to read books. Research has shown that children are 90% more likely to read a book if they are permitted to choose what they want to read. Having age appropriate books which are interesting, colorful and in good shape will make learning to read so much more appealing to a generation used to automated graphics.

Wall decorations can be storybook posters – these typically have a picture of the cover of a book and the story or an excerpt of a story on them – a different reading medium of sorts. Or props from a favorite book such a golden snitch and a wand from the Harry Potter Books or a stuffed bunny for the Velveteen Rabbit, even shadow boxes with a book available to read propped up in it.

Kiwanis Clubs can co-sponsor a **Scholastic Book Fair**. Purchasing and donating books to the school can only be appreciated by teachers and librarians who often spend their own money to purchase books to be used as reading materials or as rewards for students. Books tend to range in the $4.00 to $15.00 range. Clubs could offer $1.00 vouchers toward the purchase of books for students who demonstrate effort toward their schoolwork, special recognition or they can purchase books and insert bookplates with a "*Purchased in Honor of _____________*" to add to a classroom or library collection. Tie this in with a B.U.G. Program and students can reward their own efforts to improve with reading material which can only enhance additional reading skills.

Scholastic also offers Warehouse Book Sales as a means to clearance out books that went unsold and to make way for new books. Items are deeply discounted at these events. While only school personnel or volunteers can attend, Kiwanis Clubs could help provide funds for educators to stock up.

Clubs should contact their local schools about the state of their libraries and reading supplies. Many schools, especially those that have not been able to pass levies desperately need reading materials. Clubs can host book drives for materials to be donated to school, current books of fiction are big hits with advanced readers in middle schools and in high schools. Contact your Key Club members about donating books they no longer are reading and have stashed away in their home and donate them to a struggling middle school library. Kiwanis Clubs can ask about purchasing magazine subscriptions, like National Geographic for Kids, Appleseed, Ask, Cobblestone, Cousteau Kids, Dig, Owl and Ranger Rick for classrooms to be used during “down time” when students have completed their assignments.

A super easy and cheap project that clubs can do to promote reading is to **donate Box Tops for Education**. These are those colorful little coupons on various food and office supply packages. Each of those little coupons is worth a dime. Not much use to you or I, but, when collected by dozens of people and turned over to a school, they become a valuable resource to purchase books. If you or your club would like to collect and send them to the district office, I will ensure they arrive at a local middle school library that has a lot of empty shelves. They would feel blessed for the windfall.

Working together to help children develop the joy of reading by providing easy access to books can only help them excel at school and come to love learning. Let’s work together to make the world and their future an open book.
2015 Kiwanis International Convention

10/10/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Karen Hagerman

Ladies and Gentlemen Start your Engines and join us in Indianapolis, Indiana June 25-28, 2015 for the Kiwanis International Convention. This is going to be a marvelous celebration as we celebrate Kiwanis’s Centennial and the successful fundraising achievement for the Eliminate Project. You won’t want to miss this! SAVE THE DATE and mark your Calendars now and join Kiwanis, Circle K, and Key Club members from around the world for this Birthday Bash.

There is a lot to enjoy in the Circle City for example, a cluster of ethnic eateries, antique shops, and art galleries. You can also run, walk, pedal, or paddle along the Central Canal. Eat your way Around the Work at the International Marketplace plus so much more. Don’t forget to add the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on your site seeing agenda.

In Celebration of the 100th Anniversary there will be a Post-Convention Bermuda Cruise aboard the Celebrity Summit – 7 Nights, June 28-July 5, 2015. For more information on the Cruise call Toll Free 1-800-999-3543 for Reservations or Online Website & Reservations at www.kiwanisanniversarycruise.com.

Hope to see you in Indianapolis!

Karen Hagerman
2015 On To International Convention Chair

Eliminating Maternal & Neonatal Tetanus on the way to 100 Years!

10/09/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: CindyChamper, Dist. Coor

As Kiwanis International moves to celebrate its 100th Birthday as an organization this coming January and all through the year, it makes sense that the Eliminate Project is on its way to its concluding year and a celebration of raising $110 million and saving approximately six (6) million lives!

To do this in Ohio, we have re-instituted our Model club contest. All clubs who pledge to become a Model club between now and the end of February 2014, will be in the running for two free registrations to district convention. Governor Diana Keplinger is also pushing hard for 100 % participation. There are only approximately 22 clubs who have donated and her challenge is to have each club save 100 Babies by donating $180.

The district will also continue its involvement in promoting the Model club ($750 per member), Silver ($500 per member) and Bronze ($350 per member). Each of these levels will help to save a significant number of lives. How many will you save today? Can you make and sell 100 cookies for Eliminate? Or can you donate $1 per day for 100 days? The possibilities are endless when it comes to saving lives.

We also have a new award called the Centennial award, which just became available October 1. This award will save 833 lives through your donation of $1,500, and can be
paid all at once or a pledge/payment over two years. Please note however, that the pledge will not receive the pin, certificate and lanyard until fully paid. Our goal is to sell 200 of these awards - whom can you honor?

**New Club Opening**

*10/17/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Kathleen Moylan*

Welcome to the New Kiwanis year. This is the perfect time to start thinking about an area in your Division that is not being served by a Kiwanis Club! More clubs mean more service hours in Ohio to serve the local communities.

Congratulations to the latest new club, The Kiwanis Club of South Columbus. This brand new club organized on September 28, 2014. Congratulations to Lt. Governor Dan Litzinger of Division 10-S and his team of Phil Caito, Steve Donahue, Greg Halbe and Rodger Southward for a job well done. They are already planning service projects and fundraising venues!

The club will meet on Tuesday, October 21 at Focus Learning Academy located at: 190 E Southwood in Columbus at 6:00 p.m. This ambitious new club is already looking at forming a brand new Key Club at this Charter School. Officers will be inducted by Lt. Governor Nelson Kopp at the first 10-S Division Council meeting of the year on Thursday, October 23rd at the Berwick Party House at 6:30 pm. Stand by for details on, what promises to be, a spectacular Charter celebration when the three “10” Divisions host the Governor’s Visit on January 20th, 2015.

If you are thinking about re-charging the batteries in your Division, give the New Club Opening Team a call and share your idea for a new club! Contact me at: kathleenmoylan@bellsouth.net, cell: 828 467-0761.

Kathleen Moylan
Co-Chair
Ohio Formula Team

**Circle K Year**

*10/08/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Molly Baumann*

Hello Ohio Kiwanis!

Happy New Year and congratulations to all newly installed officers! It was my pleasure to join members of the district the first weekend of October for the district board installation. While your year is just beginning, our Circle K administrative year is already half over, but with school back in session, our clubs are getting back into the swing of things. With Fall Rally rapidly approaching on October 24-25, the district board is hard at work finalizing plans for the event and promoting the event to clubs. If you sponsor or work with a CKI club, I ask that you encourage them to attend. It is truly going to be a great event of leadership and fellowship that will wrap up with a service project involving painting, maintenance, cleaning, and much more. If you would like to join us for this service project on October 25 from 1-4 PM, please do not hesitate to let me know.
Clubs are hard at work recruiting new members and engaging all members in creative service projects, informative leadership development, and fellowship events. If you need a few more hands for a project, reach out to a Circle K in your area. If you need their contact information please let me know and I will be happy to pass that along. We want to work with other branches of the Kiwanis Family this year and that starts with our sponsoring organization, Kiwanis. If I hear of a great CKI event, I will be sure to pass it along, and you feel free to do the same. I hope this will be another fantastic year for the Ohio District. Together, we can make a difference.

In Service,
Molly Baumann

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Club News

Appreciation for SLP clubs sponsored by Lima.

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

"We love our K-Kids, Builders Clubs and Key Club. Thanks to Lima Kiwanis for believing in public education." Tweeted by the Lima City School System. Picture is members of the Builders Club of North Middle School of Lima, Ohio;

Westlake K-Kids Bring Bags of Toiletries to Hunger Center

10/08/2014 - Club: Westlake - Submitted by: Victor Rutkoski

Westlake’s Dover Intermediate School K-Kids delivered 200 bags of hotel toiletries to the St. Patrick’s Hunger Center in Cleveland. The toiletries were collected by the students, Westlake Kiwanis, and St. Ladislas Catholic Church. About 2000 items were donated. A representative group of students and parents handed a bag of assorted toiletries to each person at the Center. They also served meals and cleaned up afterwards. The men, women, and children at the Center were very appreciative.
Westlake Kiwanis Pass The Gavel

10/08/2014 - Club: Westlake - Submitted by: Victor Rutkoski

The Westlake Kiwanis held their new officer installation at Carrabba's in Westlake on Monday, September 30, 2014. Robert Clancy Past Kiwanis Division 14 Lt. Governor performed the installation ceremonies for the new officers. Russ Milan, new President, accepted the Presidential Gavel from Norm Resko who will now be Immediate Past President. George Christ was installed as President Elect, Vic Rutkoski as Secretary and Ray Budo as Treasurer for the Westlake Kiwanis. Installed to the Board of Directors were Robert Clancy, Kevin Walker, Brucie Zyrkowski, Rick Grane, Len Lieber, Larry McClean and John Sweany. Installed as Foundation Trustees were Joseph Anthony, Jake Rosenheim and Maria Thomas. Outgoing President Norm Resko spoke about his term as President and his hopes for the future of the Westlake Kiwanis. New President Russ Milan outlined his goals for the coming 2014-2015 Kiwanis year.

Aktion Club Takes to Lake Erie

10/08/2014 - Club: Westlake - Submitted by: Victor Rutkoski

The Westlake Kiwanis hosted the Aktion Club with a Regatta on Sunday, September 28, 2014 at the Cleveland Yacht Club. It was a beautiful day on Lake Erie as the club sailed from Rocky River to the inner harbor in downtown Cleveland. Thirty Eight members and their caregivers to part in this event. Pictured here are Westlake Kiwanis President Russ Milan flanked by Aktion Club Meghan Drops on the left and Anne Graves on the right. Top right is John Pyke an Avon Lake Kiwanis member and Captain of one of the boats.

Aktion Club Feed Residents of Ronald McDonald House

10/08/2014 - Club: Westlake - Submitted by: Victor Rutkoski

The Westlake Kiwanis Aktion Club prepared and served a meal to the residents at Ronald McDonald House in Cleveland on Saturday, September 27, 2014. The Aktion Club members not only prepared, cooked and served the meal but they also clean up afterwards. They also spent time interacting with the residents some of whom were patients or patients families from local hospitals. Pictured here are Meghan Drops, Kitty Drops and Shay Taylor preparing salads for dinner.
Powell Club Awarded International Foundation Grant

09/30/2014 - Club: Powell - Submitted by: Debra Miller

The Powell Kiwanis Club was presented with a $5,000 grant by Cindy Champer, Ohio’s Kiwanis International Foundation representative on September 8th. The club is partnering with the City of Powell to build a community garden, host multiple hands-on workshops for children on growing food in gardens and to maintain a plot, with the food grown to be donated to local food banks.

The Powell Club is very excited about this multi-tiered project that not only helps get healthy food to local people in need but also teaches children on maintaining gardens but the benefits of healthy food. Keep your eye out next spring for additional pictures of the community garden and our workshops.

Nancy McNeal Awarded a Hixson Fellowship


Nancy McNeal, a ten year member of the Kiwanis Club of Medina, was honored with a Hixson Fellowship for her untiring dedication to the Kiwanis brand. She has started K-Kids clubs, a Builders Club and has nurtured two Key Clubs. Nancy has served as president of the Kiwanis Club of Medina and as Lt. Governor of 16W. There could not be a better person to honor in this way than Nancy McNeal.

The Eliminate Project was the beneficiary of the club's donation.