Greetings Ohio Kiwanians! I’m having trouble believing that it is the middle of September and my term as Governor is nearly at its end. I want to thank you each for the service you do in the community, for the funds you raise for the Eliminate Project and other causes, and for the leadership you bring to your club. Service can be done without Kiwanis, but Kiwanis is what brings people with the goals of improving the lives of children together. Let’s continue to maximize this coming together to continue our work in the community.

Many clubs struggle with leadership and energy. With The Formula, I hope that members can focus on all of the positive aspects of Kiwanis in the world and in your community and find ways to Live It. Share It. Love It. We must be positive in our approach and share Kiwanis. Membership in most organizations is struggling. I am optimistic that Kiwanis International is taking steps to make membership and club styles more flexible. But any Kiwanis International initiative is only as good as how open and creative we as individual members and clubs can be. We are in a time when creative membership and service is being embraced. Let’s step outside of our comfort zone and adapt to new forms of membership and clubs.

A fitness instructor always reminds us in class that our bodies will only change and improve if we step out of our comfort zones. If I constantly lift 5 pound weights, I am not going to gain much muscle mass and will not improve my muscle mass. Once you get comfortable with a certain set of weights or a certain distance walking or running, do you really want to challenge yourself to go further? I dream of muscle definition or the completion of a long run, so I have to push myself and move out of my comfort zone. Maybe I look weak or sweaty at times, but it moves me closer to my goals.

Push yourself and your club out of your comfort zone. The only way that you are going to make that big improvement in your town is if you organize it and get people (even non-Kiwanians!) to help. The way to get new members is to push out of the comfort zone and ask and then make them feel welcome. The way to get comfortable speaking in front of crowds, is to do it.
Serving as Governor has sometimes pushed me out of my comfort zone – travelling to Japan, working with Aktion Club members, driving many, many miles, speaking to groups, and much more. It has been a great time, and I am thankful for the support of the District office, the District Board and Chairs, the Kent Kiwanis Club, my workplace, and friends and family. I have enjoyed running in races for the Eliminate Project, performing service projects, speaking at Service Leadership Conventions and talking with SLP members, inducting new members and officers, and much more. Best of luck to each Kiwanian in the future!

Jennifer DeFrance
2013-14 District Governor

District Secretary's Notes

09/12/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Dave Whiteman

The 2013-14 Kiwanis Year is nearly over and we will soon install new leaders in our Clubs and Divisions in the Ohio District. For us to meet the service needs of our communities, membership growth must be a major focus of our clubs and the district. While our membership showed growth for most of the year, September losses have been substantial so far. We all need to work to see that the gains from earlier are not wiped out in one month! I have a couple other items of interest for you.

**Kiwanis License Plates**
Don’t forget that you now can show your pride in Kiwanis membership through purchase of a Kiwanis License Plate. We are still looking to reach the 500 level in plates purchased. Your support is needed for this to be a successful fundraising effort for the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation.

**2015 International Convention Details**
If you haven’t heard yet, our 2015 International Convention will be a celebration of the 100 year Birthday of Kiwanis International and all the fun will take place in Indianapolis, Indiana. Mark your calendar for June 25-28, 2015 to be sure you do not miss the festivities! The Ohio District has endorsed Past Governor John DeVilbiss to run for the office of Kiwanis International Trustee at the convention. Please consider sending two delegates to the International Convention in Indianapolis to support John DeVilbiss and to take in the sights as we celebrate 100 years of service to our communities. A Kiwanis Cruise is being planned after the convention to continue the celebration for an extra week. Be sure to check the Kiwanis International Website for all the details.

**Mid Year Education Day**
Our 2015 Mid Year Education Day will be held at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North Hotel on Saturday, March 6, 2015. Please mark your calendar for this premier Kiwanis education event. Governor Diana Keplinger and Mid Year Education Day Chair Jamie Kaufman have plans to make this an exciting event. Watch our website for additional information to come.

Dave Whiteman
Ohio District Secretary
Key Leader is Back Again!

09/09/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Kelly Shaffer

It's Key Leader time again. If you haven't started your efforts to help spread the word to your local teens, now is the time. Ohio's ONLY event for 2014-15 is coming soon, November 14-16 to be exact. Again, this is our ONLY chance to make the Key Leader difference in the lives of teens this Kiwanis year.

Why Key Leader? Key Leader is the only servant leadership education program endorsed by Kiwanis. It was started by Kiwanis for Kiwanis in 2005. After almost ten years, Key Leader has touched the lives of thousands of teen and adults. It has resulted in new Kiwanis members in the form of classic Kiwanians and Key Clubbers. Not only that, many Key Clubs, including Nordonia Hills and Perrysburg here in our own Ohio District, have been built as a direct result of students participating in Key Leader. There is room for over 70 students at the upcoming event and plenty of time to get the word out to students, schools, Key Clubs and others.

Still not sure? Read on for a student's perspective, by James:

Key Leader has taught me so much. As a member of numerous clubs and organizations in my school and community, I interact with different kinds of people in unique situations every day. Growing older has given me more responsibility; from serving as my class's Vice President to holding a leadership position in my school's JROTC, I find myself suddenly in a place where both my peers and underclassmen look to me for guidance. This is where Key Leader has improved me by leaps and bounds. The upside-down triangle idea of servant leadership has shaped my leadership style and shown me how to both communicate effectively and get things done. During my first trip to Key Leader, I learned that things like organizations, involvement, and teamwork are all important aspects of leadership. Throughout my second Key Leader, I was able to implement these strategies as a student facilitator and really appreciate how much I have grown both as a leader and a human being. I wouldn't trade my experiences at Key Leader for the world and I look forward to my trip this year.

Please don't hesitate to contact us: Kelly and Brian Shaffer, co-chairs at ohiokeyleader@gmail.com or Brian Yacucci, Site Coordinator byacucci@cinci.rr.com if you need additional information, handouts for you club or division or a club/division program. We love to share our passion for Key Leader. Let us know how we can help you and your club make the Key Leader commitment this fall.

Kelly and Brian Shaffer
Ohio Key Leader

K Kids Update

09/11/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Jeri Penn

This year the theme for K-Kids is “Seeds of Service.” Through their service projects, club members will plant the seeds of service in their schools and communities. While doing this they will grow as leaders.

With the arrival of the 2014-15 year it is time to register your sponsored clubs and
receive updated materials. The Club Renewal Center is open for business. Kiwanis clubs are asked to follow two steps to complete the renewal process for the sponsored K-Kids and Builders Clubs:

1. Register each club at the Club Renewal Center and pay renewal fee.
2. Provide the updated Kiwanis advisor on the Secretary Dashboard in the Kiwanis online club and management system.

Each fall since 1950 children from the U.S., Canada, Ireland, Mexico and Hong Kong have gone door-to-door saying, “Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF!” In 1994 Key Club joined the cause. They have done this to help children who need more than candy. Now they do for the Eliminate project. UNICEF will be shipping the coin boxes to SLP clubs who have participated in the program for the last two years and to those ordering them after September 16. Kiwanis clubs are encouraged to help with this project. Details can be found at www.kiwanis.org.

Thank you to those who attended the K-Kids/Builders Club forum at the Ohio District Convention. The participants created cards to be taken to a local care center. They also decorated baby bottle shaped banks and organized a Penny War Fundraiser. The containers were placed at the K-Kids/Builders Club display table. Even though the CKI bottle scored the highest, the Eliminate project was the real winner. Look for those bottles again at Mid-Year and bring your change!

Jeri Penn
Kiwanis Kid Chair

**Strengthen Your Club**

*09/08/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Bill Snellgrove*

Ohio Kiwanians are building a great legacy of service! It is genuinely appreciated by our communities. We provide wonderful service - and think what more we can do if we strengthen our clubs.

What concerns permeate our clubs? The concerns I have heard: Shrinking membership, how to recruit SLP alumni, difficulties getting officers. Sound familiar?

Let me share what those clubs successfully working through these issues seem to have in common.

1. They enjoy fun and fellowship.
2. They have a plan to recruit new members and retain existing ones through the fellowship and meeting the needs of all. This includes who does what, when and what will be done.
3. Their projects are relevant to current community needs. Hands-on projects are especially good to building member relationships.
4. They welcome guests - and new members are introduced individually and encouraged to get involved in projects that meet their needs.
5. They mentor future club leaders to help them grow and succeed. They make sure members know many people, attend training and district/division events.
6. Older members act as "connectors" to younger members. Connectors are people
who know many people and can help younger members network.

7. They have embraced Family Membership.
8. They celebrate successes - both individual and club.
9. They respect traditions, but embrace change when needed.

Does this work? The 58 clubs that have done this were +243 for 2011-13 and, when this year to date is added, these same clubs are +382 members. That means the service they do can increase dramatically. Let me know what you think.

And remember, many of these clubs had members who worked to open a new club in their division. They strengthened their division and learned how to strengthen their own club. Kathleen Moylan and I have a team of 50+ volunteers across the district to assist you in strengthening your club and opening new ones. Contact us.

Finish strong this year so that we have a terrific start to next year.

Please know that your service is recognized and does make a difference in the lives of children.

Bill Snellgrove
District Chair

Governor Designate Introduction

09/10/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Diana Keplinger

As your newly elected Governor Designate, I wanted to take a few moments to communicate some of our plans for the 2014-15 Kiwanis Year. Tom and I look forward to serving you and all the Kiwanis members of the Ohio District. My theme for the 2014-15 administrative year is “SOAR to New Heights in Kiwanis Service”. That means that we have to use more energy to get the “lift” that we need to soar. We have to work smarter, not harder. We have to focus on the need for growth so that we will have more hands and hearts to protect the legacy of service that we provide and then expand or enhance it. That is the way we will soar!

Membership is always a priority in the Ohio District. At this point in our Kiwanis year we have achieved positive growth. Unfortunately, as we approach the end of the Kiwanis year we know that some memberships will not be renewed. Please contact these people and ask them why they have not been active or have decided not to renew their membership. The information will be invaluable. We cannot strengthen our club membership if we don’t know why members have chosen not to renew in October. The fall is a great time to plan a membership drive. If your club has a growth plan, review it, assess where you are and work to finish the year strong!

As we move ahead in our Kiwanis year the next exciting event will be the Installation Banquet and 2014-15 District Installation. It will be held in the Doubletree Columbus/Worthington Hotel from 6:30-9:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 4, 2014. The hotel is located at 175 Hutchinson Ave., Columbus, Ohio. This event will mark the beginning of the new administrative year. We will enjoy a delicious meal, an inspirational program hosted by Past Governor Jack Hilborn, and the installation of the 2014-15
leadership team.

The details of this event and registration information have been sent to each club and an email invitation has been sent to all district board members, district chairs, and past officers. Please contact the District Office at 1-888-827-8196 to make a reservation.

Between now and then, be the inspiration in your club to begin to plan a membership drive, invite a prospective member, call a member who has not been active and find out why he/she has not attended, or invite a member of the Formula Region 1 Growth Team to be a guest speaker at your meeting. That will give your club an extra “lift”.

Be well and happy.

Governor Designate Diana Keplinger
dk.kiwanis@gmail.com

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Keep on Volleying

09/11/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Cory Briner

District Convention has passed and we are nearing the end of the Kiwanis year. We had one of the interclub volleyballs show up in Columbus and its travels have gone from Lima to Toledo to Cincinnati and back up to Columbus, covering most clubs on the western part of the state. It has moved on to the northeast corner of the district and plans to continue around. If anybody knows the location of the second interclub volleyball, please let me know. Thanks to everyone who has kept this moving along. Please post photos of the interclub volleyball when your club gets it to our district Facebook page so we can follow the progress.

One of my favorite reasons for being a Kiwanian is the fellowship. Whether it’s attending a district convention, working at a club’s fundraiser or service project, or helping with one of our service leadership programs, it’s always a good time. Many clubs are now celebrating the successes of this year as we prepare for the new leadership and the new year. As clubs and divisions do their installations, it’s a great time to show your support and offer your resources by interclubbing with these clubs. As time is running out, it’s also a great way to visit those last few clubs to get your interclub award for the year. To be eligible for the Bump Award, your club must interclub with all clubs in your home division, one division event, and one district/international event. The Set Award includes visiting all home division clubs, two division events (one must be Governor’s visit), and two district/international events. To get the Spike Award, your club must visit all home division clubs, three division events (must include Governor’s visit), Mid-Year, District Convention, and International Convention.

For your club to receive one of these awards, send a report to me by November 15, 2014, by e-mail at brinercd@hotmail.com, or by mail at 30069 Wolf Av., Elkhart, IN 46516.

[Click here](#) to download the Interclub Award Nomination Form.

Thank you Ohio District for making Kiwanis FUN!

Cory Briner
This year’s Governor Project has been “Healthy Kiwanians, Healthy Communities.” The project has been for Kiwanians to take steps to improve their own health to lead by example and then work with schools, communities, and recreational facilities to assist or institute health programs to improve the health of children and community members. Clubs engaged in summer food programs, health fairs, eye clinics, trail, park, and playground clean ups, and much more.

At Mid Year and Convention, we held drives for healthy communities. The success of the MidYear Education Day service project to collect healthy food items (low sodium, high protein, low sugar, natural canned fruit) for the underserved Ohio regions in Southeastern Ohio was exciting. Funds were raised and food collected for the "SE Ohio Food Bank" (501c3) also serving these counties through "Hocking-Athens-Perry Community Action". The service committee identified this region as having a high child food insecurity rate and low commercial income support. This region benefited by Ohio Kiwanians’ collection of over 4 tons of healthy food donations!

At Convention, Kiwanians donated a total of 2,913 coloring books and 1,321 boxes of crayons/markers/colored pencils. These donations were distributed to Pickaway, Madison, Licking, Ross, Pike, and Vinton County Children Services who in turn divided them up to social workers, visitation areas, and therapists within those counties working with distressed children and their families. This project provided, in a very small way, help for children who face mental health problems because of risks in their lives. “Mental health and physical health are inextricably linked. Evidence has shown that mental health disorders—most often depression—are strongly associated with the risk, occurrence, management, progression, and outcome of serious chronic diseases and health conditions, including diabetes, hypertension, stroke, heart disease, and cancer. This association appears to be caused by mental health disorders that precede chronic disease; chronic disease can intensify the symptoms of mental health disorders—in effect creating a cycle of poor health.” (www.healthypeople.gov)

If your club participated in a healthy project this year, please be sure to complete the patch recognition form and possibly apply for the Healthy Impact Award for larger scale community impact recognition. The award form is due to the District Office by October 15, 2014.

Click here to print a copy of the Healthy Impact Award recognition form.

I hope that your club continues to support healthy programs in your community. I also encourage you to continue to work to improve your own health outcome. I wanted to lead by example this year to improve my own health and physical condition. For the past 16 weeks, I trained for my first half marathon. I followed a training program and only really diverged from the plan while in Japan for Kiwanis International Convention. I am happy to report to you that I completed my first half marathon on September 7th. Not only was I pleased with my ability to complete the run without walking but I was proud that I stuck to the training plan. For the fall, I think I am on to some other challenges but will continue to run. I hope that each of you find a way to improve your health! Best of luck!
I want to thank the District Service Committee – Young Children: Priority One Chair Linda Steinbrunner, Youth Services Chair Jennifer Lewis, and Community Services Chair Sarah Roush – for promoting “Healthy Kiwanians, Healthy Communities” and organizing and executing the District collections at our events.

Thank you,

Governor Jennifer DeFrance

How Do You & the Eliminate Project Celebrate Kiwanis' 100 Years?

09/09/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: CindyChamper

Kiwanis International, and therefore all Kiwanis members and clubs, will participate in a wonderful, once-in-lifetime event known as Kiwanis 100th Birthday. How will you and your club participate in this, especially as it pertains to Eliminate? Here are some ideas -

Have a bake sale and sell 100 cookies; collect and donate 100 dimes; 100 Mason jars filled with coins; 100 Trick or Treat boxes; 100 days of giving up something and if you don't make it, donate $100 to the Kiwanis International Foundation for Eliminate.

Could you donate $1 per day for 180 days? that would save 100 lives. Or $1.80 for 100 days; Or call 100 businesses or homes and ask for donations. Or you can also click on www.goodshop.org to buy things/donate to the project.

One great idea that Kiwanis International Foundation and the Eliminate team has come up with is the Centennial Zeller. This Zeller not only saves 833 lives with the $1,500 donation, but the medallion is specialized to celebrate the 100th birthday of Kiwanis. Here in Ohio, our goal is to sell 200 of these during the first three months of the Kiwanis year. What can you do to help?

Click here for more information about the Centennial Zeller Award.

Cindy Champer
District Coordinator
Eliminate MNT Project

Gilbert Humanitarian Award Presented by Foundation

09/12/2014 - District: Ohio - Submitted by: Jean Forbes

In August, the Foundation presented the first Albert and Iris Gilbert Humanitarian Award to Dr. Alfredo Casino for his significant contributions to caring and sharing through humanitarian service. Along with the plaque for Dr. Casino, the Foundation provided a $200 grant for the Foundation for the American Foundation for Aid to the Poor to assist Dr. Casino’s continued humanitarian work.
Dr. Alfredo V. Casino, a member of the Barberton Kiwanis Club for 46 years was recognized for his work helping children in Head Start and schools of Barberton. As a physician he founded the American Foundation to Aid the Poor in 1986, an organization supporting surgical missions to the Philippines which has continued for 18 years. At his own expense, he has participated in surgical missions to Liberia and the Philippines numerous times since 1997. In 2013, eleven missions were completed through this organization. He has continually made selfless contributions of his surgeries to ensure that children born with cleft lips and cleft palates in the Philippines can live a normal life free from ridicule and embarrassment.

Past Governor Albert Gilbert and his wife Iris have given the Foundation an endowment to sustain an award that will annually recognize an individual who has given exemplary Kiwanis service to significant humanitarian causes.

Al and Iris Gilbert have expressed their wishes in this way:

“Caring & Sharing” is the motivation for the Humanitarian award for a gift or lifetime of acts and memories that help all to view and understand the many outstanding deeds performed each day by the unsung humanitarians in Kiwanis and throughout our communities.

Your Kiwanis Club can nominate a humanitarian for this award by contacting director@odkf.org or secretary@odkf.org. Presentations of the Past International Presidents Award or the Alan Penn Award from the Foundation can be used to recognize the service of Kiwanians in your community. The end of the administrative year is a good time to consider this. More information is available at www.odkf.org.

Club News

Granville Maple Leaf 5K on October 11

09/15/2014 - Club: Granville - Submitted by: Jennifer Lewis

The 6th Annual 5K run/walk will be held Saturday, October 11, 2014 at 8:30 AM at the Granville Intermediate School in Granville, Ohio at 2025 Burg St, Granville, 43023. The 2014 race is focused on the Prevention and Treatment of Pediatric Trauma and the Eliminate Project.

Participants can walk or run the 3.1 miles. Awards will be given in many age brackets. Top winners will receive special trophies containing our club’s pure maple syrup (see our article in the September Kiwanis International Magazine!). All participants receive high-quality technical race shirts, swag bags filled with items including a safety reflector light for running/walking or biking (donation from our club),
food coupons and a chance to win one of many free high-value raffle items from local businesses.

A free children's race will be held at 9:30 AM. The cost is $15-$25 to participate and family discount available. (We keep the entry fee low intentionally, thanks to many generous local sponsors.) Signup online, mail in or on race day starting at 7 AM. Download entry forms at www.granvillekiwanisclub.org to mail or go to signmeup.com to enter online. Donations accepted!

Please help us support safety and reduce pediatric trauma in our community, join us as a volunteer or participate in our race! For more information and race entry forms, see our race website, www.granvillekiwanisclub.org.

**Aktion Club Installs Officers**

*09/11/2014 - Club: Westlake - Submitted by: Victor Rutkoski*

The Westlake Kiwanis Aktion installed their officers for 2014-2015. The installation was performed by Division 14 Past Lt. Gov. Robert Clancy pictured. Returning President Jennifer Rutkoski, New Vice President Michael Sigmund, New Treasurer Sharita Taylor, and Returning Secretary Meghan. Out going Vice President Gary Gomez, Out going Treasurer Lynn Gomez and Chaplin Robert Grant

**Kiwanians Top Rotarians in Softball Game**

*09/08/2014 - Club: Warren - Submitted by: Jan Vaughn*

A friendly September softball game pitting the Warren Kiwanis Club against the Warren Rotary Club resulted in a stunning 15-9 win by the Kiwanians.

The players shared a picnic supper, and a “traveling” trophy was awarded to the winning team.

Team Captain Dave Snyder stated that the Kiwanians were in peak form and hope to keep the trophy traveling to the Kiwanis Club in years to come.

Photo cutline: (l-r) Rotary District Governor Phil Mariola, Warren Kiwanis Club member and Softball Team Manager Dave Snyder, and Warren Rotary Club President Rob Berk hold the trophy awarded to the Kiwanis team for their softball prowess.

**Beavercreek Club Park Project**
Members of the Beavercreek Club after completing building and installing Trail signs and markers for the Beavercreek Parks and Recreation Dept. at the Overlook Reserve Park Area.

Warren Kiwanis Club Pays Off Eliminate Pledge

The Warren Kiwanis Club has met its four-year pledge of $24,000 toward the Eliminate Project, a joint project of Kiwanis International and UNICEF which aims to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus in the world.

Warren Kiwanians were the first in the Buckeye State to step up and pledge to be a Model Club in the Ohio District of Kiwanis. A Model Club pledges $750 per member to the cause.

“Our organization not only functions locally, but on a global level,” said Dave Barran, Warren Kiwanis Club President. “The membership undertook this challenge because neonatal tetanus can be eradicated in our lifetime. Who wouldn’t want to be a part of a project this rewarding, a project that saves the lives of children? We are proud to be involved. Our community-wide fundraising efforts, including the annual Turkey Trot race-walk, helped generate monies to meet the pledged amount.”

The Warren Kiwanis Club has been recognized not only on the state level but on the international level for its commitment to the Eliminate Project.

Photo cutline: (l-r) Linda Christiano, USA1 regional coordinator for the Kiwanis International Eliminate Project; Randy Beard, representative from the Warren Kiwanis Club and Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation Board member; and Cindy Champer, Ohio Kiwanis International Foundation Trustee during the presentation of the last installment of the Warren Club’s $24,000 Eliminate pledge.

9th Annual Berea Youth Citizenship Awards Day
Several years ago, Dan Prok, a member of the Berea Kiwanis Club, thought it would be a great idea to showcase the positive actions of children in the community. So began Citizenship Day.

Before school ended in the spring, each elementary teacher in the Berea School District was asked to name a good citizen from his or her class. The nominee was someone who has helped make school and/or community life better in some way. Four top nominees were given $50 bonds provided by Fifth Third Bank of Berea. All nominees received certificates signed by Mayor Cyril Kleem, free tickets to local activities park, Swings ‘n’ Things, and a free lunch at the local Olive Garden restaurant. Kiwanis members placed signs on winners’ front yards declaring that a “Berea Citizenship Award Winner Lives Here.”

This year, Michael Sheppard, Superintendent of Berea City Schools, presented the awards. Parents, grandparents, and friends were invited. Refreshments donated by local businesses were served. Kiwanis volunteers arranged, organized, and served at this affirmation and encouragement of the good that children can do.