

Empire State Kiwanian

New York



January 2015, Volume 2014-15, Issue 2

New York District, Kiwanis International

International President Visits Buffalo

International President Dr. John Button and his first lady, Debbie, attended the Official Governor's Visit to the Niagara Frontier South Division on Jan. 10 in Buffalo.

The event had been rescheduled from November after the Buffalo area was buried with up to 7 feet of snow, a storm now dubbed Snovember.

President John participated in the pre-dinner meeting with club officers from the division, and addressed the dinner during the evening, which also included the usual Governor's Visit activities.

Some special presentations did take place.

Gov. Eric G. Paul received a Centennial Award, an award only available during Kiwanis' centennial year. The award was arranged by the current District Board, which is headed by Niagara Frontier South Lt. Gov. Chuck Eckert.

Distinguished Past Gov. John Gridley was on hand to meet with the family of Stephanie Szymanski, who has received support from the Kiwanis Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation for the continuing treatment of her infection. Gridley announced that while the foundation had previously approved \$15,000 to pay for her treatment, that in light of the continuing expenses that



International President Dr. John Button (left) presents Gov. Eric G. Paul with a Centennial Award, which was arranged by the current District Board. Looking on are Executive Assistant Kevin Love and Niagara South Division Lt. Gov. Chuck Eckert, who also is president of this year's board.

amount would be increased to \$50,000. Also present for the surprise announcement were members of the Marilla club, who originally referred the Szymanski family to the foundation for assistance.

Gridley also presented Gov. Eric with a Brittany Award, noted that the \$500 donations which support the Brittany Awards are the primary source of rev-

enue for the foundation.

Eckert also made a presentation to the Buffalo Children's Hospital as a result of a division project. The clubs "nickel-dime-quarter" project had allowed the division to purchase many gift cards which the hospital can give to families who need some immediate help as a result of a hospitalization.

Mid-Year is Feb. 20-22

The 2014 Mid-Year Conference will take place Feb. 20-22 at the Holiday Inn on Wolf Road in Albany.

A series of informative forums are being planned. Those seeking to become certified in CPR will have an opportunity to take a class.

Past Gov. Joe Aiello and the 2013-14 lieutenant governors will be honored at Saturday evening's dinner.

Registration for the conference can be done online at www.kiwanis-ny.org, or with forms which have been mailed to clubs throughout the district.

See Page 4 for more information and a detailed schedule. See the district web site for the latest information.

Centennial Events April 23-26

A Centennial Tour around the Kiwanis world began with the Detroit celebration which took place Jan. 23-24 ends at the International Convention in June

New York has been selected as a stop on the tour. Events will take place April 23-26 in New York City and on Long Island.

Kiwanis International President Dr. John Button and First Lady Debbie will arrive Thursday. There will be a coffee event for club and division officers on Friday.

On Friday evening the celebration will continue at the Kiwanis Club of Chinatown's Benefit Night. The event will be at the Golden Unicorn Restaurant, 10 East Broadway, New York City. Tickets for the event, being chaired by Grace

Law, are \$75 per person or \$750 per table.

On Saturday there will be a ground breaking for a Kiwanis Centennial Playground in Island Park. The school playground will replace one destroyed in 2012 by Hurricane Sandy. Distinguished Past Gov. David Rothman is chairing that event.

After the ground breaking, there will be a celebration luncheon at Domenico's Restaurant, 3270A Hempstead Turnpike in Levittown. Tickets are \$42 for adults and \$20 for children. Distinguished Past Gov. Joseph Corace is the chair.

A project also is being planned for late Saturday afternoon. For the latest information on the weekend's events, see the district web site.

**District
Secretary/
Treasurer
Justin
Underwood**



Welcome to the New Year! Everyone finished up the 2014 calendar year in great style ... Lots of projects and over 200 New Members! ... Congratulations to you all!

Tour for 100th Anniversary

The Kiwanis Centennial Tour, led by Kiwanis International President John R. Button, M.D., will visit 12 districts to celebrate Kiwanis' 100th anniversary and leave a legacy of service to children through some special playground builds.

The New York stop will be at Long Beach April 23-26, 2015.

2015 International Convention

Registration for the 2015 Kiwanis convention will be up any day now.

The New York District will party Thursday afternoon, June 25 at the Hard Rock Café from 4 PM to 7 PM. Get your tickets now before they run out!

Prep for the 100th Annual Kiwanis International Convention in Indianapolis with this at-a-glance schedule preview, subject to change. Get updates when you sign up to receive convention news:

Every day: Get fit with yoga and runs/walks on Cultural Trail. Tour the Kiwanis International home office and the Kiwanis World Showcase (formerly Exhibit Hall).

Wednesday, June 24: Get on track at pre-convention workshops, attend the Service Leadership Programs Conference and network at happy hour.

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Thursday, June 25: Get educated at 30-minute round robins, watch the Panc-a-tron at the Monumental Pancake Lunch and experience the opening and The Eliminate Project celebrations.

Friday, June 26: Have breakfast with the Kiwanis family, get down to business and explore Indy before the Birthday Bash on Georgia Street and Fireworks Night at Victory Field.

Saturday, June 27: Dedicate the Kiwanis Playground, exchange ideas TED-style and wrap up the 100th at the Up With People concert and Next Century Ball.

Feedback from the last Kiwanis International convention was clear: Attendees loved the shorter education sessions laser-focused in key topic areas. Along with the new pre-convention education tracks, the 2015 convention will offer:

- 30-minute round robin workshops focused on the four areas of Kiwanis' strategic iPlan: Membership and engagement; Meaningful service; Image; Financial viability

- A TED-style, "show and tell" morning at which members can hear real suc-

cess stories and learn the success secrets from other members.

See the convention schedule on the Kiwanis Centennial site. Again, registration will open soon.

Things around the corner

- Kiwanis One Day is Saturday, April 11th this year.

- The deadline for grant applications to KI Foundation is April 15. All Kiwanis family clubs, districts and district foundations are eligible to submit applications.

- The District directory is available for download. Your Club President and Secretary has the link to use.

- Registrations for the Mid-Year Conference are available on-line at www.kiwanis-ny.org/my/. Visit this site often to see changes in schedule and forums.

If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact the District Office ANY TIME!

Justin Underwood, District Secretary/Treasurer 1-800-419-8898 or districtoffice@kiwanis-ny.org.

Time for Clubs to file IRS Form 990

The IRS Form 990 is an informational tax form that most tax-exempt organizations must file annually with the Internal Revenue Service. The form gives the IRS an overview of Kiwanis club's activities, governance and financial information. For those clubs with a foundation, they need to file as well.

Club and foundation treasurers are required to file one of three Form 990 reports based on gross receipts on the 15th of the month, 5 months after the end of the fiscal year. For example, if the fiscal year ends Sept. 30, file your report by February 15, 2015. You'll find suggested steps to follow and details about determining which form fits which club's circumstances on the Kiwanis website (www.kiwanis.org).

The IRS website also includes related tools and resources. Kiwanis International does not have records of club's IRS history, but clubs can contact the Kiwanis International Office's Finance Department by email at finance@kiwanis.org or call 1-800-549-2647, ext. 153 or 146, for guidance.

2014-15 Events

Feb. 20-22, 2015:

Mid-Year Conference, Holiday Inn, Wolf Road, Albany

March 20-22, 2015:

Circle K District Convention, Albany Hilton

March 27-29, 2015

Key Club Leadership Training Conference, Desmond, Albany

April 23-26, 2015:

Kiwanis Centennial Playground Dedication, Island Park

May 1-3, 2015:

Key Leader Weekend, Camp Stella Maris, Livonia

May 15-17, 2015:

Kamp Kiwanis Work Weekend and Open House

June 25-28, 2015:

Kiwanis International Convention, Indianapolis

Circle K International Convention, Indianapolis

Key Club International Convention, Indianapolis

Aug. 12-16, 2015:

District Convention, Desmond Hotel, Albany

Governor

Eric G. Paul



WELCOME to the 2015 Kiwanis Year!

I hope this new Kiwanis year brings you all you desire, including a new commitment to your local Kiwanis Club!

We have a great many things going on, beginning with our 2015 Mid Winter Education Conference (Feb. 20-22). Please consider attending or seeing to it that your club sends representatives, as we will be doing CPR training, doubling our educational sessions and honoring Gov. Joe Aiello and his Team of Jaguars on Saturday evening with a black tie optional gala! Information on registration and room availability at the Albany Wolf Road Holiday Inn is in this issue of the Empire State Kiwanian.

After Albany, we will see March bring our Circle K (March 20-22) and Key Club (March 27-29) annual conferences. Please do what you can to assist our SLP's send delegates to attend these important conferences, and consider attending yourself to learn more about how our Sponsored Programs operate.

April brings the ground breaking of our Kiwanis Centennial Playground (April 23-26) at Island Park on Long Island, together with the Celebration in Chinatown on April 24. We will be

joined by Kiwanians from the surrounding districts as well as International President Dr. John Button and First Lady Debbie for this weekend of special events.

June will bring the Kiwanis International Convention, June 25-28 in Indianapolis where delegates from Key Club, Circle K and Kiwanis will gather in our headquarters city for a great weekend of events and celebrations of our 100th Anniversary! New York has secured the Indianapolis Hard Rock Café for a Gala Celebration on opening night!

As we work towards these events, always remember that the activities and projects of our local Kiwanis Clubs are the MOST IMPORTANT part of our organization. The officers, lieutenant governors and district chairs comprising TEAM ERIC will do all we can to assist you and your Club to be the best you can be as we work together to improve our world, one child and one community at a time. Concerns or Questions? Contact me any time and I will do all I can to help!

2014-15 Gov. Eric G. Paul - Proud to be a Kiwanian!



The three governors, Key Club Gov. Jacob Spencer, Circle K Gov. Renee Girard and Gov. Eric G. Paul were pictured at the K-Family Conference in November with license plates for each organization.

Governor-Elect

Forbes Irvine



Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanzaa, Happy New Year. We have spent the last month saying it – more importantly you have spent the last month living it.

Kiwanians know that the joy of living comes from the joy of giving and the New York District, whether by giving your time, your money or your spirit. Thousands of New Yorkers, from infants to seniors, were shown first hand that they mattered and weren't forgotten, not this year and with your help not next year either.

I have read your reports, shared your stories and know I am a better person simply because of YOU. Helene and I would like to thank the clubs and divi-

sions that invited us out to share in your holiday projects. We apologize for the projects we couldn't attend, but Kiwanians do a lot this time of year and there are only 24 hours in a day.

We cannot express how we are looking forward to this upcoming year. Please keep us in mind for 2015, we will make every effort to come out to your project. If we can't make it, I'll ask your lieutenant governor or a district chair to come out. It is my intention to support you, your club and your division to the best of the district's abilities.

On a serious note, I want to thank all of you who reached out to us about certain children throughout the district who really had no reason for optimism or hope. These children weren't asking for toys or iPhones, computers or bicycles. They were asking for shoes that fit, a warm coat that was their own, warm pajamas, a jacket for their mom or boots for their sister.

I want to thank those Kiwanians who answered my call and went out to these homes and provided desperately needed items without fanfare or recognition. These acts of kindness and giv-

ing is the spirit of KIWANERGY at its core.

As we close out the first 100 years of Kiwanis and start our next 100 years, I ask each and every one of you to remember the child inflicted with pediatric lyme disease; the child in despair that needs a trauma kit from KPTC; the child who will have a life changing opportunity from Kamp Kiwanis; or the \$1.80 that will save the life of mother and child. We are proud Kiwanians and "we take care of our own".

Finally, Helene and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year, and ask that you do one thing – have a better 2015 than 2014 whether it be physically, spiritually, emotionally or through your commitment to service.

Kiwanis is a wonderful organization, and Kiwanians are extraordinary people. Please pass it on – invite people to your meetings your activities and your projects. Kiwanis – "LOVE IT. SHARE IT. LIVE IT."

CPR Training

Louis Cazzetta Jr.



So what did everyone receive for Christmas, Hanukkah and your holidays this year? Some new clothes, gadgets, toys for your children and grandchildren.

Here are a few people in New York who received the ultimate present, the gift of life because of another persons training in Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).

In October 2012 an anonymous Good Samaritan provided CPR to a 40-year-old tourist who was walking down 6th Avenue in New York City with his family. Hospital officials said he survived due to quick CPR.

On Aug. 6, 2014, a New York City police officer saved a 2-month-old by doing CPR. The baby was taken to Montifiore Hospital and survived.

Oct. 1, 2014, a Dutchess County police officer found a father with his 22 month old baby who was not breathing and performed CPR on the way to the hospital. Hospital officials credit the officer's quick actions with baby's survival.

These are just three of many success stories that happened throughout New York when people trained in CPR techniques acted quickly and made a difference. Governor Eric Paul and I know how important it is for every Kiwanian to learn basic CPR and the steps to take during a medical emergency, that is why the District Kiwanis CPR Initiative is so important.

We are asking each Kiwanis club to host or sponsor a community CPR class. Call your local volunteer rescue squad, Red Cross or American Heart Association chapter and see if you can work with them to offer an inexpensive basic

CPR class for your members and the community.

If you are coming to the Mid-Winter Conference and would like to take a community CPR class, we will be offering it on Saturday, Feb. 21 from 8:30 a.m. until noon. This will be an American Heart Association Heart Saver CPR and AED training which will include a student manual and certification card. If you, your club and family members are interested in taking the class at Mid-Winter or would like more information on sponsoring your own class, please feel free to contact me and I will do every-

thing possible to help. You can e-mail me at Louis@Lessons-for-Life.com or find me on Facebook under Lessons for Life: CPR and First Aid Training or the Kiwanis Club of Staten Island.

Kiwanians are without a doubt the most generous and charitable people throughout the world. Let's give our communities something different. Let's give ourselves and our communities the CPR training to possibly save another person's life. Is there any other gift more valuable than giving a person another chance at life? CPR saves lives - Learn it!

2015 Mid-Year Conference Schedule

Friday, Feb. 20, 2015

Registration.....	3-7 p.m.
Board Luncheon.....	Noon-12:45 p.m.
Basket Raffle and Display Tables	3-7 p.m.
Board Meeting	1-4:30 pm.
Welcome Reception.....	3:30-6:30 p.m.
Welcome Dinner	6:30-7:45 p.m.
Opening Session	8-9 p.m.
Special Event: Karaoke.....	10 p.m.
Hospitality Rooms	10:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 21, 2015

Past Governors Breakfast.....	7-9 a.m.
Breakfast (on your own).....	7-9 a.m.
Lt. Gov. Elects Breakfast with Gov.-Elect Forbes Irvine.....	7:45-8:45 a.m.
CPR Class.....	8:30 a.m.-Noon
Registration (closed during lunch)	9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Basket Raffle and Display Tables	9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Forums	9-11:45 a.m.
Service Leadership Program Luncheon	Noon-1:30 p.m.
Forums.....	1:30-4:15 p.m.
On To Indianapolis	4-4:30 p.m.
Past Lt. Gov. Meeting.....	4:45-5:30 p.m.
Gala Reception	6-7 p.m.
Gala Governor's Dinner and Awards	7:30-10 p.m.
Hospitality Rooms	10:30 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 22, 2015

Breakfast (on your own).....	8-9:30 a.m.
Foundation Board Meeting.....	9-11 a.m.

Schedule is subject to change.

See www.kiwanis-ny.org for the latest information.

Bulletin, Scrapbook Contest Judging at Mid-Year Conference

District Scrapbook Competition

All Clubs who participate in the New York District Scrapbook Competition will receive a maximum of 5 points (5 being highest - 1 lowest) in each of the following areas: Cover Design; Type Font Usage and Interesting Headlines; Use of Color; Use of photographs (action shots including participation); Photo captioning; Use of printed Newspaper and/or ESK articles; Inclusion of club activities and service projects; Kiwanis Branding; Creativity; Overall Commu-

nication about the Club.

Please bring your Club Scrapbook to our Mid-Year Conference. You may drop them off on Saturday morning 10 a.m. at the District Office Room.

If you are interested in being a judge please see Past Governor Bill Risbrook.

District Bulletin Competition

All clubs who participate in the George H. Prout Past Governor Bulletin Awards Competition will receive a maximum of 5 points (5 being highest - 1 lowest) in each of the following areas: Layout and Kiwanis Branding; Use of Color; Ease of Reading and Communi-

cation; Spotlight on Membership; Use of photographs (action shots including participation); Photo captioning; Information about Place and Time of Meeting; Club Contact Information; Upcoming Club Events; Kiwanis Education

These awards are made based on the size of the club: Diamond Level for 76+ members, Ruby for 46-75 members, Emerald for 30-45 and Coral for 29 or fewer members.

Please send your Club Bulletins to PG William F. "Bill" Risbrook at 115-17 172nd Street, Jamaica, NY 11434 or e-mail at wmajestic25@aol.com.

Greater Westhampton Supports Homeless Project

For 14 years Maureen's Haven of Riverhead, a not-for-profit organization, has been providing food and shelter every night during the cold winter months for many of the homeless in the area.

The program enlists the support of local churches as well as civic organizations, to welcome local homeless in as guests to house, feed and support them from November all the way through to the spring thaw in April.

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Westhampton has been doing its part to as-

sist in this enormously important and heartwarming effort for many years. The third Monday of every month the club acts as hosts for this program in conjunction with one of the local churches.

Kiwanians shop, prepare and share meals with up to 21 guests who arrive that evening by the program's shuttle. The guests are welcomed into a warm space where clean beds have been prepared in a safe environment for the rest for the night. They will have a warm dinner with dessert, a hot breakfast in

the morning and a nutritious lunch to take on their way. Also provided are gently used clothing and other necessary items the guests may find difficulty in obtaining.

Through the talents of one member from the club who is a hair dresser, the guests are also offered haircuts; these are a boost not only to their personal appearances but their spirits as well. Through the efforts of the club, they make life a little brighter for these truly grateful, less fortunate residents of the East End of Long Island.

Formula Chair

Joseph Aiello



Now the Holidays are over, the district is now in full swing again.

The Formula is back in business, we are now in 2015 and 100 years of service.

It would be just great when we attend our Mid-Winter Conference in Albany to have reached part of our total goal of 1,100 new members.

By February I would like to see 350 new members to the Kiwanis Family. It

could be done.

I encourage every club and lieutenant governor to invite the New Club Builders and Counselors to attend your club meeting or divisional meeting, as a guest speaker on the Formula. Distinguished Past Gov. Joe Eppolito, Lt. Gov. Elect Julie Watterson are working very hard to make our district be on top of North America. Every president, membership chair and lieutenant governor should set a goal for each club. As formula chair my goal is to have every club to be in the plus when go to the International Convention.

We need to work together in building the Kiwanis Family in our District. We have to get out of the frame of mind we don't need to add new members, we are just fine. Well that's not good. We all need new faces and ideas so we can

build our community, schools, and our YOUTH.

That's what we are about -- the CHILDREN.

I'm willing to travel where ever I need to be to support and assist you to continue our goal. Even though I'm a past governor, I know all of you. You have Kiwanis in your Heart and your Heart in Kiwanis. Our sitting governor has put faith and trust in me to continue growth in our great district. I have promised him we will do it together.

I encourage everyone to attend the Mid-Winter Conference and to attend our Formula forum. I promise you that there will be some surprises at the forum.

So, what are we going to do? I know! Invite a guest, have a membership drive, let's build a club.

Builders Clubs

Joanne Underwood



Most of my writing or speaking is about how Builders Clubs are THE BEST thing that Kiwanis does. I truly believe that, as I have seen Middle School students Blossom and Grow in Self Esteem, Confidence and Leadership as they do their own projects to help others. There is nothing else like that experience for them. However, in this article I'd like to tell you about something that can help with their educational experience; it's the Builders Club Contests!

Every year, Kiwanis International sponsors several contests for Builders Clubs and/or individual members. These contests encourage them to express what they have experienced in their Builders Club meetings and projects. This year's contests helps students to reflect on projects they have done and how those projects have affected others.

There are contests for an individual to enter. They are:

1. A Speech where an entry form, the written speech and a DVD of the student giving the speech are required to be submitted.
2. An essay where the entry form and the essay are entered.
3. A Poster contest where the entry form and poster are required.
4. A Leadership Award which requires an entry form and letters of recommendation are required. (One winner from each District that submits an entry).

Contests for the Builders Club or group participation to enter are:

1. A Picture Book - with the entry form and the book are submitted
2. A Scrapbook - with the entry form, scrapbook and information sheet are submitted
3. Club Single Service Award - where the entry form with an explanation of the project are submitted.

The rules are VERY SPECIFIC. You need to go to the Builders Club Website: www.buildersclub.org and download the 2014-15 Contest Booklet NOW!

It gives all the information and forms that are needed. Each club may submit ONLY one entry for each contest, however you do not have to enter every con-

test. ALL entries need to be in my hands (usually mailed to me) by April 1. Once I have them, my committee picks the best in each category and sends that entry to Kiwanis International.

As long as I've been District Administrator, New York has always had at least 2 International winners, but we've never had more than 9 entries! This year I would like at least one entry from every Builders Club!

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS please call me at (585) 342-7657. I'll be happy to help you in any way possible. OUR KIDS ARE THE BEST! Let's get them all involved and growing in this educational way too! BUT, you need to start NOW!

The website also has the winners of past contests displayed, so students have an example shown of what they are competing against.

It's a great experience for students who enjoy doing these things, and the kids will never know if they can do it, until they try. I look forward to hearing from Kiwanis and/or Faculty Advisors about this phase of Builders Clubs opportunities.

Helderbergs Club Restores One-Room Schoolhouse

The Kiwanis Club of the Helderbergs has completed restoration of a one-room schoolhouse in Knox.

The schoolhouse, owned by state Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, was built in the late

1890's. The school was restored under the guidance of Parks' Historic Sites Restoration Office; the building is now on the National Register of Historic Places.

The foundation, sill plates and floor joists were in such bad shape that the building had to be jacked-up so the foundation could be rebuilt. A club member, Rudy Stempel, owned a sawmill and was able to provide custom sill plates and floor joists.

Another club member, Pauline Williman, attended the school in the 1930's. Her recollections, and those of several other former School #5 students, provided details about the school that were helpful during the restoration. For example, the students were occasionally asked to apply linseed oil to the Douglas fir flooring. Several of the teachers in the early 1900's lived with Pauline's family, so she was able to provide interesting details about the teachers.

To complete the project, the club produced a book about the schoolhouse, "History of a One-room Schoolhouse in Knox, NY", was written by Daniel A. Driscoll. It includes information about the restoration and a summary of inter-



Pauline Williman and Fred Schroeder in the one-room schoolhouse.



John Elberfeld and Homer Warner in front of the nearly finished one-room schoolhouse.

Kiwanis Wins Rotary Event

On Dec. 4, the Oceanside Kiwanis Club competed in the second annual Oceanside Rotary Art Heyman Memorial Free Throw Challenge.

The Oceanside Rotary Club challenged Kiwanis, the Oceanside Library trustees and an Oceanside Community Facebook group. It was a three-person team for the most free throws made. Each player got five shots.

Oceanside Kiwanis had two teams competing against one from the Rotary Club, one from the Library and one from the Community. We are happy to report that one of the Kiwanis teams was able to take the trophy with five shots, while the other team tied with Rotary with three.

Club Donates Books

The Kiwanis Club of Huntington donated more than 350 new and gently used books to The Huntington Freedom Center Head Start in December.

The Center gives books to the children to take home each week. The children love to read, and the center hopes that the books will help them build their own personal libraries.



The Patchogue Toy Trot features many runners in seasonal costumes.

Toy Trot Collects 800 Toys, Raises Funds

With 850 entrants, impressive times were achieved by competitors in difficult cold and windy race conditions at the annual Santa's Toy Trot sponsored by the Patchogue Kiwanis Club.

The course started and ended at the Shorefront Park in Patchogue.

Besides collecting 800 toys for needy children, proceeds were earned for the club's many child service projects. Members of the Patchogue Kiwanis Club managed the event along with many volunteers who helped make the event a great success.



Oceanside Holiday Happenings

On Dec. 13 the Oceanside Kiwanis Club and the Oceanside Department of Community Activities hosted their annual Holiday Happenings.

The free event is attended by more than 500 children and their families. The morning started off with the Middle School Swing Choir leading us in song. The children were then invited to make crafts, decorate holiday cookies, have their face painted or head over the Santa's workshop to sit on Santa's lap and have a free photo taken.

All of Oceanside's Service Leadership clubs, six K Kids clubs, Builders Club and Key Club, helped run this event.

Guinness Certifies Record

Guinness World records has advised One Square Mile of Hope and Central Adirondack Kiwanis "We are thrilled to inform you that your application for Largest raft of canoes/kayaks has been successful and you are now the Guinness World Record Title Holder!"

On Sept. 13 by gathering an estimated 3,150 boats in one raft and raising nearly \$185,000, One Square Mile of Hope (OSMH) and Kiwanis Club of the Central Adirondacks of Old Forge regained its place in the Guinness Book of World Records.

More than 3,150 boats with participants from 31 states, 2 Canadian provinces, Thailand and Belgium converged on Fourth Lake in Inlet to shatter the Guinness World Record for the largest raft of canoes, kayaks and guide boats. The raft, held together only by hands, fulfilled a Guinness rule by free-floating for at least 30 seconds.

This year the primary recipient of the funds raised will be the Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF), located in New York City. So far \$75,000 has been committed to BCRF, \$10,000 to Upstate Cancer Center at University Hospital, \$10,000 to the Clara Condie Fund at Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital and \$5,000 to Central Adirondack Kiwanis.

Corning Stages Leadership Conference

The 20th annual Corning Kiwanis Leadership Conference sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Corning was held on Nov. 7. Fifty three sophomores from the Corning Painted Post High School experienced a full school day of activities designed to develop their leadership skills, learn teamwork, encourage volunteerism, and gain an understanding of themselves and others around them. Six seniors were the junior counselors to help implement the activities.

Ardith Kurchey was the workshop leader. Robertta Bittel, president of the NYS Advisor Students Association, was the keynote speaker.



Queens West volunteers serving dinner.

Queens West Visits Ronald McDonald House

On Dec. 20 members from clubs in the Queens West Division sponsored an event at the Ronald McDonald House organized by the Queens West Division Foundation.

The volunteers arrived at 4:30 p.m. to prepare to serve a meal to the 50 to 60 families at the facility.

Santa arrived at 7 p.m. and each child had a chance to sit on his lap and share their most secret wishes.

Parents snapped their photos and

toys were piled high for distribution. A group of teenagers from Bethpage entertained with Christmas carols.

Queens West Foundation was well represented by 18 volunteers from the following clubs: Glendale, Sunnyside, Howard Beach, Woodside, Maspeth, Forest Hills, Corona-East Elmhurst, East River, LaGuardia and Bayside. Also participating were members from Mapleton, Brooklyn and Huntington, Suffolk West.

Boy Scouts Honor Kingston Club

The Kiwanis Club of Kingston recently received a certificate of appreciation from the Rip Van Winkle Council of the Boy Scouts of America for 25 years of service in support of the annual food drive.

The certificate recognized the club's support of the Scouting for Food program for more than 25 years. Volunteers from the Kiwanis Club have helped receive, sort, pack in boxes, and deliver food picked up by Scouts from homes in the greater Kingston area to multiple food pantries and soup kitchens. More than 600,000 items of food have been delivered from 1989 to 2014.

The Boy Scouts with the help of many adult volunteers have helped feed the needy throughout Ulster and Greene Counties with nearly 2 million items of food delivered to over 40 food pantries and soup kitchens. About one third of that food was from the Kingston area.

K-Kids Raise \$3,300 for Eliminate

On Dec. 19, Oceanside Kiwanis Club President Thomas Cersiro III attended at meeting of the Oceanside K Kids at which he was presented \$3,300 raised by the K Kids and other students at School 5 during the Trick or Treat for UNICEF to benefit the Kiwanis International Foundation.

During October the K-Kids Club organized through their school a classroom challenge for the Trick or Treat for UNICEF. Each class was challenged to see which would bring in the most money. The winner won a pizza party and a new classroom Kindle.

All of Oceanside's sponsored organizations have raised approximately \$5,500 towards the Eliminate Project from the Trick or Treat Boxes.



From left, Eliminate Project Chair Randy DeLay, Chinatown Past President James Tong, Kiwanis International President Dr. John Button, and Jason Lee, past president of the Key Club of Cardozo High School in Bayside. The picture was taken at the Kiwanis International President luncheon Dec. 27, a lead up to the Tournament of Roses Parade on New Year's Day, and the annual entry of a Kiwanis float in the parade.



On Nov. 6 the Monticello High School Key Club members put together a fundraiser called the Pumpkin Palooza. Activities included Pumpkin Bowling, Pumpkin Hooola Relay Races, Pumpkin Discus Throwing, Pumpkin shot-put and Pumpkin Pair Relays. Monticello Kiwanis and RJK Middle School Builders Club members came out to support the event. The \$162 in proceeds will go to the Eliminate Project.

Eliminate Project

Sister Anne-Marie Kirmse



We finally achieved the \$1 million mark! As of the December report, New York has raised \$1,061,547, thus saving more than 588,749 mothers and babies from MNT. Our goal is \$1,796,314, so we still have to work hard to raise over \$700,000 more by the Centennial Celebration in June.

However, there are some new ways to achieve our goal. I wrote briefly about the Model Club match and the Centennial Award in the last issue of ESK. Here are the some incentives:

MODEL CLUB MATCH: An anonymous donor has offered to give 20 percent of the amount remaining for any club that wishes to become a Model Club. So if a club needs to raise \$22,000 to become a Model Club and has already raised \$7,000, they still

need to raise \$15,000. With the 20% match giving them \$3,000, they now only need to raise \$12,000 spread over five years from the time that they sign the pledge form. For example, if they sign on as a potential Model Club on February 6, 2015, they have until February 6, 2020 to complete their pledge. (Please Note: although Bronze and Silver clubs are not eligible for the matching funds, they too have a five-year window to complete their pledges.)

CENTENNIAL AWARD: The 100th Anniversary Award is available for a donation of \$1,500 which can be paid over two years. The donor will receive a commemorative lapel pin at the time of the initial donation and a custom-framed medallion and personalized certificate when the donation is completed. It is available only until June 28, 2015.

SAVE-A-BABY-A-DAY: Members can pledge to donate \$1.80 per day over a one- or two-year period. Payments can be scheduled monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually, and taken directly from a credit card if desired. Or, as one woman who was excited about this idea said: "I'd like to put \$1.80 aside each morning and then all day I will be aware that I did

ELIMINATE
maternal/neonatal tetanus



something good that day. If I can't do this in the morning, I will empty my purse in the evening and put in my \$1.80. Then, no matter how my day went, I can go to sleep knowing that I did something good that day." She recently emptied her container and gave me a check for \$50, with a promise of more to come. If you would like to do this "hands on" as she is doing, you can send your check directly to the Kiwanis International Foundation or to me as she did.

But if you can't do any of the above, please do something. What about a Baby-A-Week? Perhaps clubs who have not donated anything can become a 100 Mother and Baby Club for a donation of \$180. The mothers and babies of the world are depending on us. We can't let them down.

For further information on what you or your club can do, please contact me. Excelsior!

Circle K

John Keegan



I don't know where the time goes. Nine months of the Circle K year has already passed. I hope you have taken a chance to visit your local club. You do not have to be the sponsor to ask them to help with your projects. Circle K members prefer to work in the communities.

In October 84 members from the dis-

trict went to Kamp Kiwanis to help clean up the camp. The weather was cold and wet. That did not stop them from working outdoors.

In November we held our annual conference in Lake George where there were 185 in attendance. We had a motivational speaker on Friday night who really got everyone enthused for the weekend. On Saturday various workshops and topics for members and officers on leadership skills.

The program is not just education. They have a banquet on a smaller scale than what we have at district convention and a dance to celebrate the first six months of the year.

Now they are preparing for the Dis-

trict Convention which will take place March 20-22, 2015 at the Albany Hilton, 40 Lodge Street.

Each year we have a convention honoree, this year's honoree will be Past Governor Jack Tetamore. Jack also served as the District Administrator of Circle K.

We will also have an alumnus of Circle K receive the Glen Fitzpatrick alumni award. The honoree this year will be Richard Hall who has been a member of the Kiwanis committee of Circle K for more than 25 years.

We would like to see many Kiwanians attend to attend to honor these great Kiwanians. Information will be coming out soon.

Youth Protection

Jim Mancuso



I just finished watching the story about Stephen Collins, the well-known actor, who was recently exposed as a child abuser on ABC's 20/20 news magazine program. If you are not familiar with this situation, Collins has been seen on many television shows and movies over the past 40 years. His most prominent role was that of a minister and father on the show 7th Heaven, where he played the part of Rev. Eric Camden for 7 years.

In real life, he was married for 29 years and has recently been going through an ugly divorce. His wife recorded conversations they had where Collins exposed three episodes of sexual child abuse. According to Collins in 1972, 1982 and 1994 the episodes of abuse occurred with 10, 13, 14 year old girls, respectively. In the first case he had inappropriate contact and in the other two he exposed himself.

What drives a person to abuse children, if what Collins is saying is true, so sporadically? We typically think of a child abuser as a chronic repeat offender. Watching the Collins interview, I felt he was telling the truth. If that is indeed the case, it shows that those who abuse children may do so infrequently and sometimes in very isolated ways.

Large gaps in time between episodes of child abuse are, in and of themselves, very concerning. Those large gaps in time make child abuse harder to identify. Of course, infrequent episodes of abuse are better than if they occur frequently but the Collins case illuminates another type of child abuser. This type uses gaps in time as camouflage, to cover up their offenses. In this case, after the first episode in 1972 it took an-

other 10 years before the next episode in 1982 occurred and then taking another 12 years for the next time. Collins let his desires hide dormant and in the shadows for very long interludes. He claims since the last episode he has felt no desire to abuse again, but given his track record, who can place trust in that statement?

The Collins case represents a strong reminder that a pattern of child abuse

does not always readily reveal itself whether due to gaps in time or other techniques used by abusers (i.e. such as "grooming" which I have written about before). Spotting child abuse is a difficult task to say the least. When child abuse happens in such an isolated way the challenge is only amplified. The message therefore is to be vigilant and keep child abuse top-of-mind at all times to protect our children.

Oceanside Charters K-Kids

During December the Oceanside Kiwanis Club chartered the club's fifth and sixth K-Kids Clubs.

On Dec. 2 Oceanside Kiwanis Club President Thomas Cesiro presented the official charter to Fulton Avenue School. On Dec. 17, the charter presentation took place at Florence A Smith School #2 K Kids Club.

Kiwanis Opens Protection Hotline

Nothing is more important than the well-being of those we serve. To help Kiwanians protect youth, Kiwanis International has opened a hotline to report a troubling incident involving a youth and/or club member. The hotline is available in two ways:

- Phone: 1-800-KIWANIS, ext. 298
- Email: protectouryouthhotline@kiwanis.org

During the convention in Chiba, Japan, the Kiwanis International Board of Trustees approved the addition of Section 9 to Article VIII of the organization's bylaws-providing direction to clubs regarding "depraved or unacceptable behavior in relation to youth or children." One new requirement was for a Kiwanis club to report such behavior, and such a club member, to the proper authorities and to Kiwanis International.

With the new hotline, Kiwanis is helping ensure that members have a way to do so promptly. What kinds of behavior should be reported?

- Documented and confirmed inappropriate touching
- Documented and confirmed inappropriate sexual or bullying conversations
- Documented and confirmed behavior that would be considered contributing to the delinquency of a minor (such as alcohol or drugs)
- A felony conviction involving children or youth

It might be hard to believe that such an incident involving a youth or a club member could happen in any club or community. But there are countless examples among all types of youth service organizations. That's why Kiwanis International provides club members with information and resources regarding youth protection. Find these resources and links to key information at www.KiwanisOne.org/youthprotection.

Key Club Cares with Bears

The North Shore Key Club has created a service project called: "North Shore Cares With Bears."

The North Shore Medical Center pediatric patients will receive the gifts and the club members will distribute the bears personally.

Public Relations

Nodia Chambers



This year Kiwanians globally is celebrating 100 years of serving the children of the world. As we do our personal reflections, a tradition observed at this time of year, let us extend it to our clubs and at your next meeting take a few moments to share your Kiwanis moment.

At this special reflection meeting challenge each member to invite a friend, neighbor, co-worker and don't forget family. Wait a minute -- this is getting exciting. How about inviting your local media? Oh, what was that ... a brilliant idea you say? Aha, now the excitement is catching on. Are your members celebrating a major milestone such as 10, 20, 30 years in Kiwanis?

Celebrate their journey with a Legion of Merit pin, plaque or certificate.

This may sound like what many of us already do and that is excellent. Did anyone take photos? But there were so many cameras. How many times do we find ourselves asking the same question a day, a week, a month after these very worthy events?

As Kiwanians our focus is assessing the needs of our communities and finding ways to fulfill those needs through fundraisers and partnerships with other non profits. Our Pancake Breakfasts, Spaghetti Luncheons, Theater Afternoons, Bowling Nights and Dinner Dances allow us to support needy families at Thanksgiving, provide treats for children at Christmas, provide life saving education through our Pediatric Trauma Centers and tackle global issues such as the elimination of Iodine Deficiency as well as our current fight to rid the world of Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus.

Let us not spend the next century being the best kept secret in town. In-

clude a Public Relations committee in your club with a dedicated chair responsible for publicity, media relations and memorializing your events or meetings with photos or videos, create a web presence through a traditional website or social media.

A major element of Governor Eric's vision this year is for us to forge stronger ties with our Service Leadership Programs. Ask for their help in creating a social media presence, nobody does it better than they do. Make a project of it. Invite the media to your governor's visit. The message he shares could be the catalyst your club or division needs for membership growth.

Do you have an idea but could be a sounding board to validate or enhance it? Would you like to be that sounding board for others? One thing that we all have in common is our love for this organization and our efforts in improving our communities one child at a time. To share ideas for publicity or to be a part of the Public Relations Committee email kiwanisnodia@gmail.com.

Autism Acceptance

Kevin Kamper



Thank you for your participation during the 2013-14 Governor's Project for autism awareness. For the 2014-15 year, our attention has evolved into autism acceptance.

Let me try to explain the difference. Autism acceptance is about accepting autistic individuals for who they are and not what you perceive them to be. Accept them for what they can do and do not discriminate against them. Currently there is a campaign for making information easily understandable to foster participation, choice and protect human rights.

Here are some tips to share, taken from the article "Ten Tips to Support Me" written by Dr. Joaquin Fuentes and published in the November, 2014, issue of the Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry:

1. I am not "autistic". First and foremost I am a person who has autism. The term autism should not be used in a negative way. I deserve to be respected.

2. I am an individual. Having autism does not make me the same as other people with autism. Make an ef-

fort to know me as an individual.

3. I belong with other children. Do not separate me from them. I should be placed in regular settings and special support should be provided as needed.

4. I belong in society. Engage me in vocational training. I want to contribute. The services needed should be guided by inclusion in all activities in my community. The goal should be to adapt the environment and attitudes I have to face.

5. I belong in the world and I have a role to play.

Think of autism not as a tragic epidemic but as a part of life with both challenges and abilities that deserve to be accommodated.

Please share this information at a club meeting. You can help by supporting efforts for inclusion in job training and job placement. By doing so you can make a world of difference.

In December, I had the opportunity to attend the premiere screening of

the documentary "Autistic Like Me". The documentary provided a unique look at the father's perspective for raising and caring for children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. To say the least, this documentary really hit home. It is the first of its kind that shows the father's emotional aspect of having a child with autism.

At first the father blames himself for his child's condition but as time goes on he comes to terms with the situation. This documentary really opens your eyes towards the father's perspective. Please check out their website at autisticlikeme.net and hopefully it will be available for screening soon. Thank you to writer and director Charles Jones for making this film and to Past International President Tom DeJulio for arranging the screening in New York.

Please feel free to contact me at knkamper@gmail.com for any further information and thank you for your support.

Monticello Club Supports Toy Project

Instead of exchanging gifts for the holidays, the Monticello Kiwanis Club members brought an unwrapped toy or game that would be donated to United Way of Sullivan County for local children in need.

In addition the club and individual members donated money to be used by the Robert J. Kaiser Middle School Builders Club for purchasing items for the United Way Project Care Program.

The Builders Club members donned Christmas caps and reindeer antlers and went Walmart where they picked out items that someone in their age

range (12-14) would enjoy. They were accompanied by Builders Club Advisor William Oefelein, Kiwanis Club President and Builders Club Liaison Jane Sorensen, and Kiwanis members Sheila Lashinsky and Pat Monteverde.

Kaytee Warren of the United Way was thrilled to receive both the toys. The Builders Club members were thrilled to pose for pictures with all their donations and to enjoy birthday cupcakes and beverages. Ms. Warren thanked everyone for their generosity to assure that no child is forgotten during the holiday season.

New York District Kiwanis Foundation

District Foundation

Sal Anelli



It's 2015, it's a new year which brings hope and inspiration to many as it does to me. 2014 was a good year for the foundation and Kamp Kiwanis, we were able to restructure many things to further help us be able to serve all those children that attend in a much more efficient manner.

The year 2015 will be a better one because of all the fine tuning we did in 2014. One of the major adjustments that was made this past year was to reduce unnecessary spending, I mean that many times we had too much month left at the end of our money and therefore were forced into paying late fees. We also consolidated all of our

debt and as a result we will be saving approximately \$2,300 a month, which is a great saving that will help in keeping the Kamp "The Crown Jewel" of the New York District.

Another very important and very helpful item was the securing of two additional weeks of Kamp for the Lifestyles for the Disabled. The organization brought its clients to our Kamp and it was a tremendous success, so much so that we have already secured them for the upcoming year. The organization was so impressed with Rebecca and her staff with all the programs we had for them and the entire professionalism displayed by the staff.

All of the above and many other things helped us on our finances and though we turned the corner, we must continue on this road. We can't let complacency settle in, we can't let up, Kamp Kiwanis performs a very valuable service to our children, we make dreams happen, we change the lives of children so they become valuable and

Go back to your clubs
and change a child's life
by sponsoring
"One More Kamper"

productive members of our society.

We ask that each and every one of you who is kind enough to read this article, that you go back to your clubs and change a child's life by sponsoring "One More Kamper", that is: one more than you sponsored last year.

I want to thank everyone in the district who has helped our Kamp with Kampers, in-kind donations and financial support. I would like to especially thank all those who take time from their hectic schedule to come up to the Kamp, roll up their sleeves and work so that we don't have to pay someone to get those much needed tasks done.

Have a great winter and we'll see you at Mid-Winter.

Key Leader

Dean Beltrano



\$50. If you could help train tomorrow's leaders today for \$50, would you do it?

As we enter our 11th year of Key Leader, we must hit International's goal of 60 student participants or face losing

this valuable program. I understand that some clubs and divisions may have concerns with getting students to Camp Stella Maris to attend, but does it matter what students attend? To this end, I am asking that each club in the district, if they are unable to send a student, send a donation of \$50 to District Secretary Justin Underwood, designated for Key Leader, and Ann Holevinski and I will ensure the session is full.

With more than 260 clubs in the district, we can fill the camp with the \$50 donation.

My home club, Lewiston, has already committed to sending four students.

The Spring Valley club has sent in a \$50 donation, so we are well under way. But the time is now to begin getting the funds and recruiting the students to go.

The event runs May 1-3. Each year we are scrambling near or at the deadline to reach our goal and we come up short. This year, I'd like to see the enrollment begin early and reach the goal of 60 long before the registration closes at the end of April.

I will have additional information posted on the district website and if you have any questions for me, please email me at dean.keyleader@roadrunner.com.



Kaiser Award Presented

On Dec. 14, The Oceanside Kiwanis Club presented club member and Past Lt. Gov. Nancy Baxter with a Kailer Award. She's pictured with her husband, Gary.

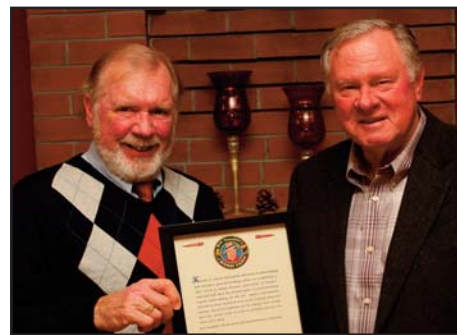
Kamp Worm Farm Maker Honored

At its annual Christmas Party Central Adirondack Kiwanis recognized member Bob Teesdale with its first ever Worm Farm award for work he did at Kamp Kiwanis.

One of the Kampers' favorite activities is fishing in the Kamp pond. Early last spring Kamp Director Rebecca Clemence asked the Kiwanis Clubs for a way to keep and grow worms for the fishing Kampers.

Bob Teesdale, a member of Central Adirondack Kiwanis, volunteered. Bob's groundbreaking efforts in establishing a Bait Corral at Kamp Kiwanis were more than successful.

Kampers and staff now have the ultimate peace of mind anglers require when arming for the fish-angler confrontation.



Central Adirondacks Kiwanis President Mike Griffin (left) presents a Worm Certificate to Bob Teesdale.



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East Meadow Supports Thanksgiving Projects

East Meadow Kiwanis has been actively working together with all our service and leadership programs during the month of November. With November being K family month, our club hosted meetings with programs by the East Meadow High School Key club, W T Clarke High School Key Club and for the first time a meeting was run by the East Meadow Aktion Club.

We had two major initiatives in November with our service and leadership programs. First was a food drive to feed 114 needy families. For two weekends in November the club and Service and Leadership programs each ran a food drive at two locations in East Meadow. Thanks to our efforts of our club members, SLP members, advisors and the generosity of the community the club was able to fill our entire storage bin with enough food to supply both our November deliveries and our December deliveries.

With all this food, our delivery truck was not big enough to move the food to Clarke High School so, with the help of our membership we had a convoy of



East Meadow Kiwanians at the dinner.

cars, trucks and vans to move the food. Once at Clarke our members unloaded and sorted the food. The following day after the delivery of our turkeys and hams, our members made the deliveries to the homes of 114 families to make their holiday a bit brighter.

The following day brought our 34th annual Senior Thanksgiving dinner. More than 50 turkeys were cooked. The East Meadow High School Key club and Future Business Leaders of America decorated the gym in a black and white

theme. The East High School Jazz band performed. Our Builders Clubs and K Kids seated our seniors while Key club members served. Our members cooked, cleaned and set up. When all was done more than 400 people were served.

Participating were volunteers from East Meadow High School Key Club, WT Clarke Key Club, Woodland Middle School Builders Club, Clarke Middle School Builders Club, Bowling Green K Kids, Meadowbrook K Kids and East Meadow Aktion Club.