

Empire State Kiwanian

New York



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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.