

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.