



First Lady

Debra Fuchs

Partners Project

I have been overwhelmed by the response of those of you that I have met during the past three months who have conveyed to me the desire to start an Aktion club. It is so heart-warming to know that so many of you are interested in this year's Partner's Project. Governor David's and my ultimate goal is to form several Aktion clubs for the 2005-2006 Kiwanis year. Many of you have asked for information regarding what an Aktion club is all about and how to start one. Besides going to the Kiwanis International website to download information, you can contact your local chairpersons. The downstate chairper-

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Ben Bay Kiwanis Holds 16th Christmas Party

The Kiwanis Club of **BENSONHURST and BAY RIDGE**, Brooklyn – recently held its 16th Annual Children's Christmas Party.

This year was the largest turnout that the club had ever had. Many were nervous that Santa might not have enough Christmas presents and stockings for each child, but then they remembered that Santa always had enough presents in his big red bag for all the good girls and boys.

The beautiful Tiara ballroom at the El Caribe Caterers, decorated with red and green tablecloths and many colorful balloons, made the room festive for the children and their parents. The children were entertained by and danced with King Henry and his friends, Elmo, Shrek, Sponge Bob, Dora the Explorer, and Oscar the Grouch.

Bensonhurst and Bay Ridge enjoyed seeing the photographs that club member and photographer Jerry Bertuna took of the children enjoying all the activities. Many happy dollars and thanks were raised for Jerry for taking time to create these photo memories of the families and the children.

The club extends thanks to all those whose made donations to help make the children's Christmas party a continued success. Thanks to Willie Basso, the co-chairman for doing a great job and for the beautiful balloons, President Silvio for the Welcome Banner, Neil Noto, the newest member who donated Burger King crowns and action figures, and Frances DeFranco for doing a

super job on the Christmas Flyers.

The club would also like to thank Santa (name, of King Henry's) for making an early visit to deliver presents to all the children who attended the Bensonhurst and Bay Ridge Kiwanis Children's Christmas Party.

Special thanks to Santa's helpers, First Lady Janet Honovic, Frances DeFranco, and Anne Basso.

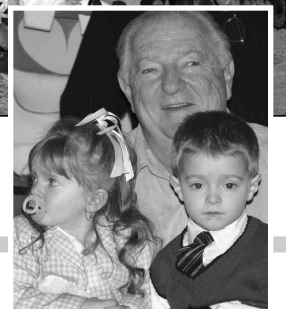
Last but not least, a memorable thanks to Phil Kelly and the El Caribe's staff for making the party perfect from start to finish.



The Kiwanis Club of Bensonhurst and Bay Ridge, Brooklyn Division, created a Christmas Party hat brought joy to many kids and their families.



Children pose with cartoon characters above. At right: New York District DPG John Gridley enjoys the party with his grandchildren Paige and Austin on his lap.



2005-2006 KIWANIS PARTNERS PROJECT AWARD REPORTING FORM

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| 1. Build an Aktion Club | Date |
| 2. Hold a fundraiser for the disabled
<i>ie: United Cerebral Palsy, AHRC, Down's Syndrome, Multiple Sclerosis</i> | Date |
| 3. Participate in the Special Olympics | Date |
| 4. Volunteer at a group home for the disabled | Date |
| 5. Sponsor a Physically Challenged Little League | Date |
| 6. Volunteer in a respite | Date |
| 7. Volunteer at a Ronald McDonald House | Date |
| 8. Provide equipment for the disabled
<i>ie: swing/wheel chairs</i> | Date |
| 9. Mentor the disabled | Date |
| 10. Read and spend time with disabled children and/or children with long term illnesses | Date |
| 11. Sponsor a disabled child to Kamp Kiwanis | Date |
| 12. Visit an assisted living facility for disabled individuals &/or senior citizens | Date |
| 13. Organize activities for the disabled | Date |
| 14. Sponsor a Locks of Love project | Date |

Must complete four of the above criteria or build one Aktion club during the 10/01/05-09/30/2006 administrative year. Please forward any articles to both myself and Maureen Neuringer at the ESK for publication. Please send completed application to:

First Lady Debra Fuchs, 84 Madison Avenue, Island Park, NY 11558

Kiwanis Club of.....
 Division

Date

Club President.....
 Signature.....
 Club Secretary.....
 Signature.....

For additional information contact: First Lady Debra Fuchs, 84 Madison Avenue, Island Park, NY 11558 <Blueyes1255@aol.com>

Rothman

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Belgium/Luxenburg and their wives Elaine and Alix, respectively, for showing just how global an organization we are.

Our Mid-Winter Conference is approaching fast. I want to thank everyone involved in it's planning for their time and hard work. Thinking "out of the box" and looking to increase attendance, we have planned some special events at the conference. As part of our kick-off to the International Convention in Montreal, we will be hosting a guest chef from the Culinary Institute in Hyde Park. The chef will perform a cooking demonstration for all to enjoy. Additionally, at this time, we are trying to finalize plans for a wine tasting to take place in conjunction with the guest chef. Our finance committee has worked very hard trying to keep our budget in check with he lower membership that is anticipated.

Again thinking "out of the box" we will host a "Texas Holdem" Poker Tournament on Friday evening. The proceeds will go to the New York District. If you plan on playing please contact Alan Beinhacker at <Mrhacker516@aol.com> or 800-547-9000 for the particulars.

This year's Governors Project is Mentoring, and First Lady Debra's Partners Project is working with the disabled. Some clubs have started and or completed some service programs in support of these projects. These are excellent projects to work on with our Sponsored Youth Organizations. Perform a joint program together.

Please make every effort to visit our Sponsored Youth Clubs. Our keynote speaker for the conference will be Dr. Frank Saracino, retired superintendent of schools from East Meadow, N.Y. who still works as an advocate for education. Saracino will speak about mentoring and the No Child Left Behind Program which is supported by Kiwanis International.

Lastly, please keep the dates of May 5, 6 and 7th open for a special treat. Our International President Steve Siemans and his lovely wife Barbra will be making there official visit to the New York District. They will fly downstate on May 5, 2006 and visit the Pediatric Trauma Center at L.I.J. - North Shore University Hospital. That evening many downstate divisions will host a dinner in the International President and First Lady's honor. The next morning we will fly to Syracuse and then drive to Kamp Kiwanis, where the District Foundation will host Kamp Open House. International President Steve will address those in attendance and help make ready the Kamp. From there we will drive to the Finger Lakes, were a dinner will again be held in their honor. International President Steve is a wine connoisseur and will be able to sample the grapes from the region. The next morning we will tour the area before returning home. I want to thank everyone involved with the planning for his or her hard work.

Please remember that, Together we can and Together we will, nothing is impossible!

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