



## Secretary/Treasurer

Justin Underwood

Welcome to a new Kiwanis year of Service. While we have all been working to assure that the business of Kiwanis continues without interruption, it is fitting that we take the time to thank "Dave's Diamonds" for all the work they have done to make sure that our clubs are working hard to make our communities better. THANK YOU, PG DAVE AND YOUR BOARD OF DIAMONDS!

Secretaries for 2005-06 should be sure that your club's Annual Report has been completed. There is still time to get that information in. Our District's achievement committee uses the information in the Annual Report to make our determinations of many Annual District Awards. Filing is "easy" as you can do the report directly on the Web. Just go to [www.kiwanis.org](http://www.kiwanis.org) and choose, under member services, "Forms" which should take you to a web page where you can just "click" on Club Annual Report and allow you to enter the club's year of service activities.

Governor Joe Corace and his team have put together a most exciting program for this year, one where we can honor all those "Everyday Heroes" in our communities. There are 6 parts within the traditional Governor's Project this year, that each of our clubs can use to highlight people in our communities that truly make a difference. You can get all the up-to-date information on each of these initiatives on our web site ([www.kiwanis-ny.org](http://www.kiwanis-ny.org)) along with all the instructions, forms and press releases to make your local club "Shine throughout the community".

New, this year is our "web - based" monthly reporting system (KiwanisOne). This system is so very easy to use and incorporates the Club Annual Report as you submit your monthly activities. That monthly report, though not a "paper" or "e-mail" version, is still due by the 10th of the month. For clubs that have secretaries with no computer, please allow another member of that club to input the data for the secretary. The secretary would fill out the traditional form and give it to their member that can go to the web and file the report. The advantage of this reporting system is that the Governor and your Lt. Governor will have full access to more useful information than in the past AND you will not have to file an Annual Report if you file on the web all year long. There is substantial help around the District, as we have assembled an "IT" (Information Technology) committee headed by PLG Mike Siniski. And, of course you can call the District Office (315-735-3463) or me (1-800-419-8898). Speaking of our website, please note the absolutely wonderful job that continues to be done by our Webmaster, Marty Toombs. All of the current club information should be correct on available on [www.kiwanis-ny.org](http://www.kiwanis-ny.org).

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# Kiwanis Membership Grows Toward Million-Member Goal

Kiwanis International membership totaled 260,701 in 8,241 clubs as of September 30, 2006. This figure represents an increase of 11,413 members and 124 clubs compared to final figures as of September 30, 2005. The count for 2006 reflects all reported member adds and deletes during the year and all new clubs organized.

"This is great news for Kiwanis and for all those we serve," says International President Nelson Tucker. "This gain is the first measurable progress toward our goal of one million members by 2015, the 100th anniversary of Kiwanis." Club delegates adopted the million-member goal at the 2005 International Convention.

Positive growth was achieved in all four regions of the Kiwanis world: North America, Latin America, Asia-Pacific, and Europe.

"Our commitment to regional growth plans, positive organizational messages, Kiwanis-branded service, K University, and membership growth (TAG) teams are examples of how we are building momentum," says CEO/Executive Director Rob Parker. "We have established a strong foundation and must continue our commitment to achieving a million members by 2015."

The final figure for each club, division, and district on September 30 is also the official starting figure for 2006-07. Clubs can add and delete members at any time during

the Kiwanis year, as well as when the club roster is submitted to each club at the time of annual dues billing. However, member adds and deletes during the year will not change the October 1 starting figure.

Clubs only pay dues for members reported on their corrected club roster, while annual growth achievement is measured by the September 30 final figure each year. To maintain accuracy and avoid confusion, it is important for clubs to report member adds and deletes as they occur. New members should begin receiving Kiwanis magazine and their district newsletter as soon as possible, so they can become informed about the organization they have joined.

## San Antonio Beckons Kiwanians

Long a crossroads of history and cultures, San Antonio, Texas, will host the 2007 Kiwanis International Convention, July 3-7. Now the eighth largest city in the U.S., San Antonio is an amazing mix of modernity and history.

The city was founded in 1718 with construction of Mission San Antonio de Valero, which became etched in the annals of history in 1836 as The Alamo. Located in the heart of downtown, today The Alamo is a shrine and museum.

Four other Spanish missions, the Governor's Palace, and San Fernando Cathedral reveal the city's roots and Spain's influence on the Southwestern part of the United States. Also dating back to the 18th century, La Villita ("the little village") is a haven for artists and craftsmen.

Dating to 1840, Market Square (El Mercado), the largest Mexican marketplace outside of Mexico, is a festive combination of Tex-Mex cuisine, music and entertainment, and products ranging from pearls to piñatas.

For many visitors, San Antonio is the Paseo del Rio, an urban masterpiece. Better known as the "River Walk," these cobblestone and flagstone paths border both sides of the San Antonio River as it winds its way through the business district.

The River Walk has multiple personalities — quiet and park-like in some stretches, while other areas are full of activity with European-style sidewalk cafes, specialty boutiques, art galleries, nightclubs, and gleaming high-rise hotels.

San Antonio is the perfect setting for great family vacations, beginning at the Children's Museum. Kids of all ages will want to experience the excitement of The Magik Children's Theatre in the heart of downtown and the nearby Downtown All-Around Playground at HemisFair Park.

Milam Park (across from Market Square) provides excellent stops for kids to burn off excess energy and a favorite is the Tower of the Americas, which offers a spectacular view of San Antonio from 579 feet above the ground.

Brackenridge Park, a 343-acre refuge in the heart of the city, offers a full day of family fun, including the San Antonio Zoo. Not far from the park, you can follow your senses through the Botanical Gardens, where acres of lush vegetation replicate three distinct landscapes of Texas.

Around the city, families will find abundant opportunities for fun — Laser Quest, Malibu Grand Prix and Castle, Splashtown

Water Park, and the Texas Transportation Museum. San Antonio is Texas-sized fun at SeaWorld San Antonio, the world's largest marine life park, and Six Flags Fiesta Texas.

And best of all, when you attend the 2007 International Convention, you can share the San Antonio experience with fellow Kiwanians from around the world. For a free visitor information packet, call the San Antonio Convention & Visitors Bureau toll-free at 1-800-ALAMO-07 (TTY 210-207-6706.) Or visit their home page at [www.SanAntonioVisit.com](http://www.SanAntonioVisit.com).



The Alamo

**The International Convention Registration Form is now LIVE online at the Kiwanis Website**  
<http://www.kiwanis.org/convention/>

## In Raising the World's I.Q., the Secret's in the Salt

New York Times reports on IDD progress

On December 16, a New York Times headline informed readers, "In raising the world's IQ, the secret's in the salt." In an extensive report from Central Asia, reporter Donald G. McNeil Jr. reviewed the progress made in eliminating iodine deficiency disorders and noted that Kiwanis International has played an important part in the worldwide campaign.

"The 1990 World Summit for Children called for the elimination of iodine deficiency by 2000," he noted, and the subsequent effort has been led by the International Council for Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders "along with UNICEF, the World Health Organization, Kiwanis International, the World Bank, and the foreign aid agencies of Canada, Australia, the Netherlands, the United States and others. Largely out of the public eye, they made terrific progress: 25 percent of the world's households consumed iodized salt in 1990. Now, about 66 percent do."

However, "like all such drives, it cost more than expected. In 1990, the estimated price tag was \$75 million — a bargain compared with, for example, the fight against polio, which has consumed about \$4 billion. Since then, according to David P. Haxton, the iodine council's executive director, about \$160 million has been spent, including \$80 million from Kiwanis and \$15 million from the Gates Foundation, along with unknown amounts spent on new equipment by salt companies."

Every Kiwanian can be proud of the fact

that Kiwanis has provided half of the worldwide funding for the campaign against IDD.

The article also explained why eliminating IDD has been so difficult. In many developing areas, health authorities have to overcome widespread suspicion of iodization.

"In some nations, iodization becomes tarred as a government plot to poison an essential of life — salt experts compare it to the furious opposition by 1950s conservatives to fluoridation of American water.

"In others, civil libertarians demand a right to choose plain salt, with the result that the iodized kind rarely reaches the poor. Small salt makers who fear extra expense often lobby against it. So do makers of iodine pills who fear losing their market.

"Rumors inevitably swirl: iodine has been blamed for AIDS, diabetes, seizures, impotence and peevishness. Iodized salt, according to different national rumor mills, will make pickled vegetables explode, ruin caviar or soften hard cheese."

Kiwanis IDD grants have been used to fund public education programs to convince parents that iodized salt is safe and vital to their children's mental and physical development.

As part of its \$37 million endowment campaign, the Kiwanis International Foundation plans to raise \$1.5 million to help sustain the IDD program and ensure that our extraordinary investment is protected through close monitoring and preventative measures with UNICEF and other worldwide partners.