



Aktion Clubs

Debra Fuchs

Gov Joe was extremely supportive of my Partners Project last year and I am happy to say I will be continuing my service with the disabled as your Aktion club administrator. An action club is a Kiwanis service organization for adults with disabilities. It gives these individuals an opportunity to develop initiative, leadership skills and to serve as part of their community. Each club can be sponsored by a Kiwanis club, a Kiwanis division and or other member of the Kiwanis family.

Already the year has started off beyond my wildest dreams. The Queens West Division under the guidance of LG Mike Miller announced that they are in the final stages of opening the first downstate Aktion Club in South Ozone park, where my brother Richard resides. Gov David and myself will be attending their organizational meeting and we are looking forward to getting them started in the right direction.

Shortly after that announcement, I received a call from Christina Russo, Recreational Coordinator at Maryhaven Center of Hope, located in Port Jefferson Station, Long Island. She had heard about Aktion Clubs and had called Kiwanis International looking for a contact person. Gov David and I attended the Suffolk East divisional under the direction of LG Bill Jackson. Bill invited Christina down for a presentation and two clubs, Riverhead and Patchogue showed an interest in sponsoring Aktion Clubs.

Rob Rothchild of East Meadow Kiwanis, my second club, made a contact for me at the ACLD organization. I spoke with LG Sue Martin of the Long Island South Central Division and we invited Joe Bianco the Director of Residential and Apartment Services down to their divisional to encourage the division to possibly start an Aktion Club in one of the group homes that is located in their area. I have plans on meeting with several other divisions since Mr. Bianco has homes all over Nassau and Suffolk county.

It didn't stop there. I received an email from LG Ed Stoddard of the Hudson River West Division. He informed me that the Monticello Club was interested in starting an Aktion Club at New Hope Community.

I applaud the efforts of all of the Kiwanians who are making my job easier. Thank you so much.

By far, the key club shined when a presentation was made to me at the divisional for Key Club Div 6, led by LG Rickie Santer. The following key clubs and their Kiwanis sponsors made donations for the purchase of 26 bed kits as part of the SCAW program, the service initiative for Aktion Clubs for the 2006-2007 Kiwanis year: Levittown Kiwanis, Macarthur Key Club, Division Avenue Key Club, Island Trees Key Club, East Meadow Kiwanis, East Meadow HS Key Club, W.T. Clarke Key Club, Woodland M.S. Builders

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11th KPTC Black & White Ball Held at Leonard's of Great Neck



The 11th Annual KPTC Black and White Ball was held this past September at Leonard's of Great Neck. Attendees were dressed up in their finest black & White outfits and danced the night away while celebrating the KPTC accomplishments of the past year.

Pictured above: 2006 newest KPTC Fellows.

Photographer Bill Moseley generously donates his talent, time and supplies to create a memento of the evening's fun. Thanks Bill, everyone loves the photos!

Kiwanians Tour Albany KPTC

The Kiwanis Club of **SAND LAKE**, Van Rensselaer Division – Averill Park and East Greenbush High School Key Club students and Sand Lake Kiwanis members were taken behind the scenes at a pediatric trauma center recently at Albany Medical Center.

Jerry Tysiak, chairman of the Young Children Priority One committee arranged the tour. "The Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Unit at Albany Medical Center hosted a site visit for local Kiwanis and Key Club members," said Tysiak. "Twenty Key Clubbers in attendance were evenly split between Averill Park H.S. and Columbia H.S. In addition, Sand Lake Kiwanis Sponsored Youth Chairperson Barb Fioravanti, along with the high school Key Club Advisors from both schools, Chris Blais, Kelly Stone and James Driscoll also were there."

The administrator of the 17 bed unit talked about the facility and her job as unit manager. She explained that the day of the visit was a particularly busy day. The KPTC was filled with seriously injured and ill children. She had to juggle and move a number of children around the hospital to fit the most critically injured within the appropriate hospital setting for their age and health condition.

The tour groups were joined by the two doctors who run the unit--Dr. Sanchez and Dr. Walsh. They expressed their thanks to the Key Clubbers for the work they do and for coming to visit the facility. Everyone seemed very impressed by what they witnessed during the tour of the KPTC.

"Everyone who has visited the Children's Hospital and the KPTC now realizes just where the money goes and how it's used to help the kids of the entire northeastern part of New York State," added Tysiak.

Kiwanis Club members and Key Club members will be at Crossgates Mall on Saturday, December 2nd to accept donations for the "Bell of Life" campaign. This Kiwanis endeavor has supported the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Unit at Albany Medical Center for a number of years.

"The Kiwanis Clubs in this area have pledged to raise almost half a million dollars for this life-saving children's medical unit," added Tysiak. "We are within a few thousand dollars of our goal."

The Kiwanis Club of Sand Lake is one of six Kiwanis Clubs in the Van Rensselaer Division, which includes: Cambridge Valley, Castleton-on-Hudson, Hoosick Falls, Rensselaer and Troy.

It's as easy as 1-2-3 You Hold the Key!

KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL – Immediate International Past President Steve Siemens last year introduced the 1-2-3 program in an effort to obtain the goal of 1 million Kiwanians by 2015.

It's a contest with prizes that can be obtained by Kiwanians who recruit new members.

Beginning July 1, 2006 and running through June 01, 2007 if you recruit 1 new member, you will receive from International a bronze key lapel pin and one (1) entry in a random drawing for prizes. Recruit 2 new members and receive a silver key lapel pin and an additional entry for a total of two (2) entries. Recruit 3 new members and receive a gold key lapel pin and a total of three (3) entries.

Lapel pins will be mailed to the recruiter once the entry form, required paperwork and new member fees are processed.

Once the gold level is achieved, that is the highest level of participation with the gold pin and the three entries.

Those who attended the International Convention in Montreal saw that the gold level members had a reserved seating section up front and were visited many times by PP Steve and a number of gifts were handed out.

At the 2007 International Convention a drawing from the entries will be held.

The first two winners will receive a trip to the 2008 Kiwanis Convention with free hotel, airfare and registration. The second winner spends the day at the home of the 2006 - 2007 International president Nelson Tucker in California. The third winner spends the day at the International Office with the Executive Director in Indianapolis, Indiana. The fourth winner receives a Kiwanis International Life Membership. The next fifty winners get a \$100 gift card to the Kiwanis Family Store and the following 100 winners receive a \$25 gift card to the Family Store.

The necessary forms should be available from your Club Secretary or from <memberservices@kiwanis.org>.



Senior Project

Dave Goodwin

This year, Governor Joe has presented a multifaceted Governor's Project, which in part has one area designated to honor our New York District's senior citizens.

Our plan is to provide a one day project, originally planned for Valentine's Day, February 14, 2007, but later expanded to be done with the time frame of Saturday, February 10, thru Sunday, the 18th. But to insure every club can have the opportunity to participate, we now have opened up the window of opportunity to any day in February 2007.

The basic plan is quite simple, but we ask that every club to examine their own capabilities, and to expand, and/or improvise.

The simplest form is to search out within your area, a nursing home, senior citizen complex, assisted living home, hospital, or a church group, of senior citizens, and for one day treat them with some TLC, with the passing out of valentine cards, perhaps some heart shaped cookies, a little schmoozing, some small talk, and maybe a hug or two.

Clubs could expand on this with perhaps providing a luncheon, or dinner, some musical entertainment, a magic show, comical skits, or some small gifts.

There is no such thing as "there are no such groups in our area," and even if that were to be true, clubs are encouraged to join with other clubs (joint programs), or asking neighboring clubs if they could enter into a surrounding area, to visit groups that another existing Kiwanis Club may not be able to in their plans, for various reasons. Even if it means crossing over into another Division's area. As long as permission is asked for, that permission must be granted.

And would it not please our senior citizens even more, if we were to include Circle K, Key-Club, Builders Club, or girl or boy scouts, in passing out these valentine cards?

Forms will be published for this project, which will require a description of the project performed, a photo is requested, and club presidents will be required to have their Lt. Governors sign, and forward the completed forms to me. Banner patches will be provided.

Your Lt. Governor has received information already on this project, plus there is a large committee across the District to provide assistance also. I will provide those names to you, in future articles in the ESK.

"We can't do it," is not an option. What a statement the New York District of Kiwanis can make, by every club saluting our beloved senior citizens, within the same month. But everyone doing it on February 14 would be even better.

