



### Foundation President

Lindy Marrazzo

With Springtime finally approaching and the flowers about to bloom and Mr. Groundhog popping his head out of the ground, this means camp season is approaching. This year we will have eight weeks of camp. two weeks of camp in June for seniors and six weeks for children from throughout New York. Applications are available from Nancy Nowak at Kamp Kiwanis or the District office. Please get them filled out as quickly as possible and sent to Kamp Kiwanis in order to insure a slot. The experiences of these children have been invaluable and you are helping them with your contributions. Each week twenty (20) slots are put aside for handicapped children.

Special thanks to DPLG Don Ciota from the Bronx Westchester South Division for obtaining a \$10,000 contribution to Kamp Kiwanis from Raymond T. Dalio and Gregory S. Jensen. Also, thanks to the Staten Island Kiwanis Club for obtaining a \$5,000 grant and to Assemblyman and Kiwanian David G. McDonough for obtaining a \$5,000 grant from New York State. David has always been a friend to the Foundation.

Uncle Bob, where are you?

We are planning our open house and work weekend at Kamp Kiwanis on May 1st - May 2nd. Everyone is invited to attend and to help get the camp cleaned up for the season. We would like to have a good turnout. Not only do we work hard, we have a lot of fun doing it.

A special presentation will be made on behalf of Victor Allegretti, who recently passed away, from the Bensonhurst & Bay Ridge Club, Brooklyn. The club purchased a cabin in Vic's memory. The Mapleton Club will also dedicate a cabin in memory of DPLG Warren Samuels.

# 2004 NY District Convention in Buffalo

Thursday August 19th through Sunday August 22nd  
Make Your Plans Now!



The New York District Convention Buffalo, New York  
August 19-August 22nd

Western New York and the Buffalo Convention Staff have spectacular plans for your 2004 District Convention.

The Hyatt Regency Hotel continues to be the site of choice. They have a large ballroom, plenty of meeting rooms and guest rooms that will satisfy the most sophisticated traveler, and wonderful food and beverage facilities.

If you enjoy the outdoors, we have it. Large State Parks for the picnicker, hiker, bicyclist or nature lover. The Great Lakes offer fishing, boating and sailing, along with the always-present photo opportunities.

And of course, there are nightlife, restaurants and casinos. We have an exciting convention planned. Make your plans now.

For more information write us at Jim Yochum, 3976 Seneca Street, Buffalo, New York 14224, call us at 716 675-0777, fax us at 716 675-0830 and be sure to check our website at <[www.on-to-buffalo.com](http://www.on-to-buffalo.com)>

## Letter from Steven

*These are excerpts from a letter received by Kamp Kiwanis . . .*

Hello everyone my name is Steven. I'm from Queens, NY. I was a recent camper at the greatest camp in the world - Kamp Kiwanis.

The summer of 2003 my mother asked me if I wanted to attend a sleep away Kamp, because I had never attended any kind of camp. I could never give her a straight answer. I would always say to her, can you ask me tomorrow? All day everyday I would always say to myself, "I can't stay locked up in this house all summer, this is the summer I'm supposed to be outside enjoying myself."

I decided within minutes to go. Mom was very surprised. We went out and brought the supplies that I needed like, shampoo, soap, a rain poncho, a toothbrush and toothpaste.

My mother, my brother and I left around 9:20 a.m. We walked a block down because that was where the bus would be departing from. Before I knew it the other campers and I were on our six hour trip upstate. There were many televisions on the bus and a bathroom. I was very nervous about spending six days at a place that I've never been before. The trip seemed like minutes, but was really hours and soon we arrived to the camp.

The campers and I got off the bus and took our luggage from the compartments. I saw the sign Kamp Kiwanis and I was nervous even looking at the sign.

One of the counselors named Felix and Colin placed me and about 9 other kids in cabin 15. We slowly walked away as we passed a pond which I saw canoes and paddle boats in. The cabin was very neat and

Continued on Page 14



### Kamp Director

Nancy Nowak

2003 marked the completion of Kamp Kiwanis' 35th season in the camping industry. It seems fitting that this summer we also welcomed the American Camping Association to reaccredit our program. This is a task that only occurs every three years. Having had the opportunity to work with the ACA for the past 7 years, I was ready for the challenge. The ACA sent two trained visitors to the camp to observe all functions of the camp from human resource policies and facility upkeep to risk management protocol. After 8 hours of scrupulously going through our policies, we were again awarded a rating of excellence! The process always seems to awaken Directors to new ideas and ways of preventing a crisis. I hope these ideas will further allow us to create a safe and sound environment for the children we serve and the staff that supervise them. I recently was also bestowed the honor to be nominated to the 2004 Board of Directors of the Upstate NY ACA Chapter. This will allow Kamp Kiwanis to have a say in how camps are run in NY State as well as be on the cutting edge of new legislation affecting our industry.

The summer of 2003 definitely was a challenging one. We attempted to increase our season by adding two additional children sessions. This posed some problems as Kiwanis Clubs seemed to spread their campers out throughout the season versus the week(s) they were assigned. In the end, because of your support 800 campers were able to spend a relaxing week out in our rustic kamp. We ended up serving 109 more children than in 2002. This was a great increase, but still far below our goal of 240. Thus, we have decided to go back to running six sessions of children's kamp in 2004. You should have received your application packets by now. One packet is mailed to each Club President and Secretary. We would appreciate your willingness to copy the forms for your sponsored campers to help us defray costs.

A special thanks goes out to Helen Brooks and the Lefrak City Kiwanians for helping to find nearly all of the campers who attended the Children of Heroes Week. Although the grant from Kiwanis International to host these special weeks has been fully utilized, we hope to welcome several of the children to attend Kamp Kiwanis again in 2004 free of charge. These campers will now be integrated into our regular camping sessions. Please contact Kamp Kiwanis if your club is able to assist with the cost to sponsor these children or if you know of another funding source for this valuable program.

Continued on Page 14



All clubs recently received information about the Empire Club. It allows Kiwanians and friends of the NY District Foundation to make a long-range gift to further help children that we serve through our District Foundation.

Remember, joining the Empire Club allows you to make a long-range gift to the District Foundation and be recognized at all District Conventions with a reception in your honor, a plaque, pin and a banner patch for your club's banner. A member of the NY District Foundation would be honored to make the presentation at one of our conventions or conferences as well as at a Division Council meeting.

Feel free to call PDG Joe Eppolito or email him with your questions, suggestions, concerns or any other comments that you have about the program. <[Pepster@aol.com](mailto:Pepster@aol.com)> or (315) 449-9613.