



Foundation President

Lindy Marrazzo

I want to thank all those early birds who sent in their money for campers in particular, the Mastic Club, who is always the first to reserve their slots at Kamp Kiwanis. Applications have been sent and we would like to request that they be completed and send in as soon as possible. If you do not have the kids to send to camp, we do.

For those who attended our Mid-Winter Convention, you had the opportunity to meet our new camp director, Rebecca Lopez. I'm sure that if you had the chance to speak to her, you went away impressed. I am anticipating our best year ever.

Thanks to the family of Dominic Sciarrotta and his club. They have decided to dedicate the new infirmary we are building at Kamp Kiwanis in Dominic's name and have pledged a donation of \$50,000.00 to our Foundations in memory of Dominic. It's going to be great to see Dominic's name on the new infirmary.

Remember, this year our big push is fundraising and paying off our credit lines. Over the last 5 years we spent close to \$1,000.00 in capital improvements at the camp. We owe approximately \$350,000.00. We are looking for grants from public and private sources, donations, purchases of cabins, acres, benches, bricks, Kaisers, whatever other fundraising activities you can think of. We are planning a Kamp Kiwanis golf outing in the summer in Long Island and a dinner-dance sometime in the fall.

Remember, Kamp Kiwanis is ours. It is owned by every Kiwanian in New York as every Kiwanian is a member of the Foundation. Let's give it an extra special treatment. It is the handicapped children and adults and underprivileged children we send to Kamp Kiwanis that stand to benefit.

Kamp Kiwanis Gets A New Executive Director

Rebecca O. Lopez began work in January at Kamp Kiwanis in Taberg as the new incoming Executive Director. She is excited about the opportunity to work for such an excellent service organization and such kind people as the NY District Kiwanians. Rebecca currently lives in the home next door to camp that was recently purchased and remodeled by the Foundation. Rebecca is single and has moved to NY on her own.

Rebecca has spent her life in camp. She began camp as a camper in 1983 and attended camp as a camper for two summers. When Rebecca was just 14 she began working at camp as a summer job at a camp called Teens Reaching Out to Help, which was geared towards children with developmental disabilities. From there and throughout college Rebecca worked at various types of camps throughout the country. The camps were varied and served those in an economically upper class and those that were for children with an economic need.

After college, Rebecca worked as a Supervisor at a shelter and group home for children called The Child Crisis Center in Mesa, Arizona. The focus of the center was to serve children that were abused, homeless, in need of emergency shelter or those

that needed a therapeutic environment to succeed in placement opportunities. She worked there for 5 years, leaving each summer to attend summer camp. After this amazing experience, Rebecca decided to devote her career to summer camp. She then moved throughout the country directing summer camps, beginning her journey in Oregon, where she moved to Maine, Rhode Island, Michigan and finally Massachusetts.

For several years Rebecca worked for the Girl Scouts and directed two camps under their name. It was here that Rebecca truly began to appreciate working for non-profits organizations that also had a mission of service to others.

In order to be closer to her friends Rebecca moved back to Massachusetts to direct Horizons for Youth Summer Camp in Sharon. After 66 years of providing summer camp opportunities for at-risk youth, it decided to close its doors. So an excellent opportunity for her was had when the NY District of Kiwanis Foundation advertised for a new Executive Director in the fall of 2004. Rebecca interviewed and was hired. Rebecca is excited to be part of such an incredible organization that values children and their needs so highly.



Rebecca Lopez

Kamp Kiwanis Executive Director

Rebecca is an American Red Cross Instructor, a Girl Scouts Master Trainer, has gone through the American Camp Association Basic Camp Director Course and is an American Camp Association Visitor. Please do not hesitate to contact her to schedule a presentation. She is excited to meet you all and help with any questions you have regarding Kamp Kiwanis.

Kiwanians Mourn Death of Dominic Sciarrotta

Peninsula Kiwanian Dominic Sciarrotta who devoted his entire life to helping children, died after a long battle with cancer on Sunday morning, January 9, 2005 at South Nassau Communities Hospital. He was 64 years old.

Born in Italy, Dom came to the US in 1958 and married his wife Lorraine on January 28, 1963. Dom and Lorraine have three children, Dominic Jr., Angelo and Cathy, and three grandchildren Christopher, Dominic, Rayna-Bella, and Gabriela.

Dominic was a DPLG of the Long Island Southwest Division and a two-time DPP of

the Peninsula Kiwanis. He was past chairman of Firemen's Night, an annual event where firefighters from each of the departments within the battalions of Inwood, Lawrence, Cedarhurst, Woodmere, Hewlett, Valley Stream, and Meadowmere Park are honored as firemen of the year.

Dominic was the force behind obtaining Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Kits for local battalions, as well as the Atlantic Beach Rescue. Forty-eight hours after Dominic presented the Pediatric Trauma Kit to Peninsula Kiwanian and Atlantic Beach Rescue Chief Jonathan Kohan, he remarked, "the kit was used to save the life of a young boy in Atlantic Beach who was struck by a basketball backboard."

Dominic was named "Man of the Year" by the Inwood Civic Association and was the first recipient of the "Make a Difference Award" given by the Town of Hempstead for his outstanding dedication to helping young children. He was an active member of the Inwood Buccaneers Young Organization and a member of the board of the sons of Italy in Inwood.

During Thanksgiving for many years, Dominic and his wife Lorraine went shopping and purchased all of the food necessary to provide Thanksgiving dinner for needy families. He then delivered the food and on occasion cooked the food at his home for those who are unable to prepare it themselves. In addition, at Thanksgiving time Dominic was involved in a food drive obtaining Kosher food for a Woodmere temple and canned food for St. Joaquin's Roman Catholic Church.

Dominic was a founding member of the Peninsula Kiwanis "Dream Christmas." The team of sixteen organizations provide food, clothing, and toys to approximately 600 children during the holiday season.



Dominic Sciarrotta

"Dominic gave every free hour of his life to helping those children less fortunate," said DPLG Sal Accomondo, President of the Peninsula Kiwanis.

Dominic was recently appointed to the New York District Kiwanis Foundation Board and will be sorely missed for his dedication to our organization by all Kiwanians. In lieu of food or flowers, the family asks that all donations be sent to Kamp Kiwanis, c/o New York District Kiwanis Fdn, 1522 Genesee Street, Utica, New York 13502.

Divisions Reach 100% Outreach Goals



New York District Board members Joseph Battista (left) and Ed Sexton (right) present at our Mid-Year Conference, 2003-04 LISC DPLG Tom Gallagher, Queens East DPLG Bill Risbrook and Brooklyn DPLG Joseph G. Schiavo, Jr. with plaques for their divisions reaching 100% participation in the Foundation's Outreach Program.

New York District Website
www.kiwanis-ny.org