

Builders Clubs

Joanne Underwood



The school year is progressing faster than most people think! Spring or Easter Break is here and the rest of the school year will be history, very soon! How is your Builders Club doing? If you don't have one yet, there is still time during this school year, but don't delay. You'll want your Builders Club starting off next year, right from the very start of school.

I've told you from the very start that Builders Clubs are (in my mind at the very least) the very "Best Bang for your Buck" that there is. The kids are amazing and when given the opportunity to come up with projects and really get involved, they will outshine most of our Kiwanis efforts!

Sometimes, we do not give the kids an

opportunity to work on Kiwanis projects for themselves. For example, does your Builders Club know about the EliMiNaTe Project? From now until the end of the EliMiNaTe Project, whenever a Builders Club chooses to "Trick or Treat for UNICEF" as long as UNICEF knows it is a Builders Club doing it, the money collected will go towards the EliMiNaTe Project!

And, did you know that the "Builders Club Project" is selling Mother's Day Cards to Benefit the EliMiNaTe Project? At the SLP Administrators Conference this last January, the Kiwanis International Builders Club Committee chose to make the EliMiNaTe Project "our project" by buying and selling Mother's Day Cards to honor our mothers and at the same time save mothers and babies lives in those countries where Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus is still a major problem today! From now until the end of April, Kiwanians and Builders Club Members can go into the Kiwanis Store and buy a package of 10 Mother's Day cards for \$2.10 (Plus \$9.25 shipping and handling) which means each card costs only

\$1.14. Then they can resell that card for \$3.25 (comparable to any card store Mother's Day card) and contribute the extra \$2.21 to the EliMiNaTe Project! For every card sold at \$3.25 one mother or baby can be inoculated against Tetanus! Isn't that a terrific way to honor a mother here? We had also planned on having a template online where the card could be downloaded and printed on their computers, and then sold, but I'm not sure that component of the project ever got off the ground; however, I just ordered 10 cards from the Kiwanis Store (you will find them under "gifts") for women I want to honor this Mother's Day. How's that for a project?

We're hoping to allow the Builders to work on the design of the card themselves during the coming year and come up with even better ones for next year! This year because of time constraints, we chose a card that had been submitted in an earlier contest!

Check with your Builders Club and see if they're doing the Mother's Day cards. It's a great idea and one whose effects can change to world, literally.

YCPO

Rich Santer



As we move into the second half of the Kiwanis service year, it is appropriate to consider the direction of our clubs and our service. It is time to examine how we are doing in terms of our club's adherence to the most basic principle of Kiwanis In-

ternational. We need to ask, "What have we done this service year to serve the children of the world?"

At the very core of our service to children is our work on Kiwanis International signature club projects such as Young Children Priority One (YCPO).

Young Children Priority One focuses on children from prenatal to age 5. Research shows that this is the time of a child's development that service can have the greatest impact.

There are four main areas of Young Children Priority One projects.

These are:

- Maternal and child health

- Child care and development
- Parent education and support
- Safety and pediatric trauma

Kiwanis International asks clubs to conduct two Young Children Priority One projects each service year.

Kiwanis International recognizes participating clubs through the issuance of a banner patch. Clubs can order banner patches by using the online YCPO banner patch order form at www.kiwanisone.org/ycpo.

If I can assist any club in locating resources or in planning their YCPO projects, please do not hesitate to contact me at rs2wld@aol.com.

Women in Kiwanis

Veta Brome



More than 150 years ago, women made an intricate mark in history when they rallied against unfair working conditions in a New York factory setting. It took another 42 years before women were observed and honored internationally for their roles in the working force.

It was a great year in March of 1981 when Congress established National Women's History Week and later in 1987 expanded to National Women's History Month. Later, Congress passed a resolution and the president issued a

proclamation honoring women each year thereafter.

That year was a historic and joyful turning point for women because they were given the opportunity to become Kiwanians.

Ever since then, there has been no looking back in the depths and fulfillment of what the Kiwanis women have done to give that extra touch to the projects and roles that they took on in their Kiwanis club, division, district or even internationally.

Women play significant roles in membership, they chair club projects, they hone their skills as secretaries, treasurers, presidents, lieutenant governors, governors and a few have become International Chairs for Kiwanis.

The census shows that there are more than 150 million women in the United States, with the average salary more than \$35,000. More than 80 million

women are mothers, more than 30 million have bachelors degrees and a high percentage are owners of businesses. A high percentage of women are in the work force in management, as doctors, nurses, professional and other related occupations, and another 200,000 plus are in the Armed forces, many of whom are officers. The caring and giving of these women in their professional lives and in their roles of parenting and sharing, makes them some of our greatest Kiwanians.

These women give from the depths of their being and our clubs and our children are extremely proud of them and of the day that women in the world became members of Kiwanis International.