

Pediatric Lyme Disease

DPG John Gridley



In this issue of the ESK I think that I just want to say "Thank you," to our Kiwanis Family (Kiwanis, Circle K, Key Club, Builders Club, K-Kids and Aktion Club) for taking the time to care and share.

I have been in Kiwanis for almost 40 years and our Sponsored Youth have never failed to impress me. Their dedication to service is always over and above. Our Sponsored Youth should be recognized for their talents, skills and ideas.

Too often, we adults focus on Sponsored Youth as needing resources rather than being the resource, but are afraid

that their ideas will not be accepted because everyone already has an answer. Community Service can be used to give our Sponsored Youth the opportunity to be resources. It has been my experience that if Sponsored Youth are involved in the entire process of community service efforts, we can utilize their talents and see the positive outcome. The time, effort, and money spent obtaining resources are saved because the Sponsored Youth are the resources. Throughout this process the Sponsored Youth learn more about themselves and their abilities.

After Sponsored Youth have been engaged in the entire community service process from planing to completion, and after they have been utilized as resources, the best way to keep them motivated is to recognize them for their time and work.

Whether it is an award, a certificate or just taking a moment to say "Thank you," acknowledging the fact that Sponsored Youth are doing something posi-

tive encourages them to continue to give back to their community and motivates them to get others involved in the Kiwanis family.

Community Service must not be taken beyond the level where our Sponsored Youth do the work and adults get the credit. With so many options to chose from, our youth don't have to be involved in Kiwanis Community Service. Recognizing them lets them know that their actions speak and are not taken for granted.

Sponsored Youth are our future in Kiwanis. Community Service helps prepare our Sponsored Youth for the future. Let us as Kiwanis members empower our Sponsored Youth to determine their own destiny.

So on behalf of all the members of the Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation and all the young children with Lyme disease, I say "Thank you" for remembering that the main thing, is to keep the main, thing the main thing, and the main thing is helping children.

Aktion Club

Debra Rothman



I am excited to report that three new Aktion clubs have joined the New York District this year.

Please welcome the Aktion Club of Abbott House, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of White Plains, the Aktion Club of Jamestown, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Jamestown and the Aktion Club of Holland, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Holland.

We are growing in numbers and have

more than 600 members. Our members have been assisting our K family in many activities as well as performing many service hours on their own projects.

We had a very successful forum at the Mid-Winter Conference. Thank you to Jeff Sanderson and Richard Hermanson, advisors from the Niagara County Aktion Club, and members of the Kiwanis Club of Lewiston who provided a very informative slide show at the forum.

Thank you to also to Martha Bachman and Tim Holmes, advisors to the Adirondack Aktion Club and members of the Kiwanis Club of Plattsburgh Breakfast and the Kiwanis Club of Saranac Lake respectively, for bringing members of the club down to the Mid-Winter to participate in the forum. They

prepared a slide show of their fundraisers and service projects. They all did a great job!

Kiwanis International and the Indiana District will be holding the third annual Training and Leadership Conference Sept. 6-8. The fee for each TLC attendee is US\$100, which pays for food and lodging during the conference, as well as events and transportation at the camp. Registration begins May 1. Please go to www.aktionclub.org for more information.

Kiwanis International has also added a new contest, a T-shirt contest, to promote our Aktion Clubs. Rules for the contest can also be found on the Aktion Club web site.

As always, please follow us on our Facebook page, NY District Aktion Clubs and thank you for all you do.

Key Leader

Mary Jean Sprague



Are you a Key Leader? A Key Leader is one who embodies the many qualities of Servant Leadership.

A Key Leader, asks questions, listens to the answers, has a vision, is passionate about their beliefs, is a great decision maker, is a team builder and is of good character.

Key Leader is a life changing leadership program for 14-18 year olds. We accept students for our program regardless of where they fall academi-

cally in their class.

We believe that everyone deserves a chance to grow, learn about themselves and reach beyond where they are today. Key Leader impacts the potential of these students by encouraging and supporting growth in personal integrity and community building.

Every day you meet young people with promise and potential, and you can tell they would excel if given the opportunity. Key Leader is one of the best opportunities that Kiwanis offers.

We reach out to students who are not necessarily in Key Clubs and give them a chance to lead. Key Leader is a unique and powerful opportunity for reaching out to these students and inspiring them to be more.

Key Leader Camp is May 3-5 at Camp Stella Maris in Livonia, south of Rochester.

Unfortunately our numbers are still low this year. So I find myself pleading for students again.

If you have students without funds, I have scholarship assistance available. Please have them register immediately so that we can prepare for them appropriately.

Registration cost is as follows: \$200 for non-Key Club Members or late registration; \$175 for Key Club members and \$115 for Student Facilitators or additional Chaperones.

They can register themselves; at www.Key-leader.org If you have any further questions about Key Leader or registration please email me at askmj@hvc.rr.com