

# Empire State Kiwanian

New York



April 2014, Volume 2013-14, Issue 4

New York District Kiwanis Foundation

## All Island Club is Chartered



The district's newest club, the Kiwanis Club of All Island in the Metropolitan Division, received its charter in a ceremony on March 22 which included the Governor's Visit to the division.

The club, which had its organizational meeting on Dec. 5, was chartered with 21 members. It is now the only morning club in the Metropolitan Division, meeting every other Thursday at the Hampton Inn in Staten Island.

The club has as members two past Circle K district governors, its charter president, Helen Pollari Larino, and Past Metropolitan Division Lt. Gov. Sean O'Sullivan.

The club started out quickly, participating in a toy drive at a local hospital and conducting an Autism Speaks seminar.

The club also has pledged to be a Model Club for the Eliminate Project.



Above, left, Gov. Joe Aiello, Helen Pollari Larino and Sean O'Sullivan. Above, right, Larino displays a certificate. Below, the new club's members, with First Lady Carole Aiello and Gov. Joe Aiello at right.

## Kamp Kiwanis Open House is May 3

Kamp Kiwanis in 2014 will feature two weeks for adults and six for children once again.

Kiwanis Clubs are encouraged to spend some time at Kamp during May to help prepare for the summer. Work groups will take place on Thursday, May 1, through Saturday, May 3. The annual Kamp Open House will be on Saturday, May 3.

There will be an opportunity for Kiwanians to carry out projects at the Kamp on the morning of May 3. Dedications will take place beginning at 11:45 a.m., followed by lunch and then a meeting of the District Foundation Board of Directors.

Clubs interested in group projects can contact Kamp Director Rebecca Clemence to make arrangements.

All the information your club needs for the 2014 Kamping season is available on the Kamp Kiwanis web site, <http://www.kampkiwanis.org>.

Clubs are encouraged to begin identifying children to send to Kamp this summer. If clubs wish, they also can fund kamperships which can be used for children who apply directly to the Kamp for assistance.

More information is available on pages 10 and 11.

## Membership

JP DiTroia



We are doing well to achieve our goal of 1,000 new members. We are more than 500 new members strong to date towards our 1,000 new members goal. I am grateful for the commitment and job well done so far by our Kiwanis Family.

However, in order to reach our goal we must keep the momentum going. So this is a call for every one of our 7,000 plus members to do their part, including our leaders. All it takes is for each of us to make a concerted effort to bring in just one new member. We would have our 500 additional new members in short notice. The following are a few suggestions.

**Corporate Membership:** This is a great way to recruit new members into your club. It allows your club to designate an individual membership spot to an employee of a specific company or organization. As an employee changes jobs or is transferred to a new location (such as a bank or other financial institution for example) the company can designate a new employee to take the place of the previous member without being charged a new member fee by the organization. Better yet, a company can actually send different employees to attend the meetings each week. However only the designated employee is able to hold office or vote on club business. This way a Bank, Restaurant or other type of business with changing personnel can continue to support their local

community through your Kiwanis Club and your club gains the extra "hands" it needs to do those special new projects each year.

**The Key to Membership Growth is in the Follow Up:** Don't forget to follow up on potential membership leads or ask the potential member why they chose not to join. There might be a reason for which you can suggest an alternative. For instance, if the reason given is because the club meets in the afternoon, the suggestion would be to find them a club that meets in the morning or evening.

Some suggestions for recruiting members:

Offer an informal invitation for a breakfast, lunch or dinner meeting as an introduction to the Kiwanis Organization for the purpose of educating guests about it.

Select a guest who:

- may have a business in the community which your club supports
- is part of an organization that the club has supported with donations or other assistance
- is an active individual in the community with goals that are in line with the club's so that the membership becomes mutually beneficial
- is a parent of a member of a K Kids

Club, Builder's Club, Key Club, or Circle K Club

- is a parent of a scholarship recipient
- is a former member who may return
- is a Corporate Member

And don't forget, the Bring a Guest Contest which we launched last month. Bring as many guests as you can to your meetings. Send me a group photo. For each guest coming to a meeting, the club gets a chance to win a \$75 Gift Card. And, for each guest who becomes a member, the club gets a chance to win an Apple iPad.

You still have time to do your guest round up. The deadline is May 1. The more guests who attend meetings or join the more chances to win. Find more details on the District Web Site, <http://www.kiwanis-ny.org>.

At the Invite a Guest meeting be sure to have on hand: Applications, Club Brochures, A picture board depicting all the wonderful things that your club does.

Remember: The key to membership growth is in the follow up. Ask a potential member, "why not?" Eliminate their reason. Win them over. Follow up on your membership leads to discover the "key!"

## Legion of Merit

Sue Sheehan



Each year, the New York District recognizes Kiwanis Club members who have completed 5, 10, 15 and 20 years with Legion of Merit Certificates and corresponding pins designating the corresponding year.

Club secretaries can find the Legion of Merit Request Form on the district web site. The cost for each certificate

and pin is \$5.95 which should be made payable by check to the New York District and sent to me with their request. Upon receiving these requests from the club secretaries, certificates are prepared and sent to the clubs along with the pins.

As this year's Chair, I am asking that club secretaries upon submitting their Legion of Merit request forms, allow at least 7 to 10 days turnaround when they need it, so that I can meet their deadline in a timely fashion. If at any time you have any questions regarding this, please don't hesitate to send me an e-mail or call me at [ssheehan@frontier-net.net](mailto:ssheehan@frontier-net.net) or at 845-744-5984. I wish you all a pleasant Spring - yes Spring is finally here!

# The Empire State Kiwanian

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Martin Toombs  
84 Bridge St.

Seneca Falls, NY 13148

[webmaster@kiwanis-ny.org](mailto:webmaster@kiwanis-ny.org)

## 2013-14 Events

**May 1-3, 2014:**

Kamp Kiwanis Work Week and Open House

**June 30-July 6, 2014:**

Key Club International Convention, Anaheim, California

**July 17-20, 2014:**

International Convention, Toyko-Chiba, Japan

**July 19-22, 2014:**

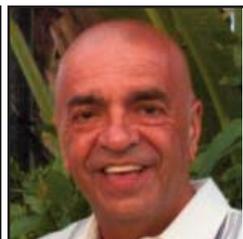
Circle K International Convention, Nashville, Tenn.

**Aug. 13-17, 2013:**

District Convention, Desmond Hotel, Albany

**Governor**

**Joseph Aiello**



Spring has finally arrived, and it's time to plant the seed for growth!

We've had a dreadful winter and now it's the time to come together and work toward our goals. Let's go out to our communities and spread the Kiwanis name. We had a Mid-Winter Conference which was electric -- tons of energy between members. There was a buzz of Kiwanis excitement, and so many motivational speeches. Our keynote speaker, Richard Caster, was outstanding. I'm thrilled to report the workshops were filled to capacity and the weekend socials were fun-filled and truly entertaining.

The district opened its arms and embraced all new members and first-timers. Our goal was achieved by watching our extended family working side by side and enjoying every moment. We had more than 400 guests during the weekend and I want to thank everyone for attending and making it so successful.

I have been very busy with all my Governor Visits, and each one has been more special than the last. I have met with so many of our presidents (from upstate to downstate New York) and I was inspired by their new ideas, amazing projects and past and future events.

I urge all clubs to invite your sponsored youth to your meetings, events, and projects -- have them join in on a project with you. They are our future.

The Circle K convention was full of energy and motivation -- that's how all our conventions should turn out. I wish them every success. We all must strive to reach our highest limits. The only possible way we can do this is by being positive, believing in your own abilities, and in the Kiwanis name.

A few quick reminders. For those who

have not completed their background checks please do so as soon as possible. And for all the clubs who haven't collected (or paid) dues, please tend to that straightaway. Please remember that all your monthly reports should also be up to date. Thank you kindly for taking care of these business type matters in a timely fashion--sincerely and much appreciated.

On a more serious note, it saddened me to hear the news of our Mary Jean Sprague's passing. It's a terrible tragedy to lose a family member. She will always be part of our lives each and every day. "MJ" always believed in Kiwanis and our youth. We will continue to serve Key Leader and continue in her memory. We will miss you "MJ" and we send our Kiwanis heart-felt sympathies to her family.

On a much happier note, I am truly in awe of all the work we have accomplished and continue to do but my ONLY regret is that we are still the best kept secret. We should not be a secret any longer! I urge all clubs to post articles in your local papers, like/add us on Facebook, Tweet about Kiwanis on Twitter, social media, Kiwanis web and ESK. We need to be heard. We should not be doing such hard work to bring in new members through the back door. Be proud of the Kiwanis -- lead them through your front doors! I urge all of you to grow like we've never grown before. We have incentives programs -- make use of them. I am here to help you. The growth team is here for you. Spring has sprung, and the warmer weather is upon us, so go out and about and shout out the Kiwanis name. It's time to be the BEST in North America. REMEMBER ... it's all about the CHILDREN!

And speaking of warmer weather, it's that time again to prepare our children to attend our Kamp. Please make every effort to support our (flagship) Kamp Kiwanis. I would like to see our Kamp filled to capacity this upcoming Summer 2014 session. If you are unable to send a child to Kamp, make a donation to Kamp Kiwanis. Please do what you can -- we all have resources to draw

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upon so I urge you to do whatever you can. I also ask you to take the time to visit the Kamp. Once you've seen the children having the time of their lives, I know you will jump on the summer Kamp band wagon and give these children a once in a lifetime opportunity. It can only happen through your continued support of this spectacular project. Make it your summer goal!

Okay ... so here's the statistic. We are now Number 3 in growth in all of North America, but it's time to be Number 1. How can we accomplish that? What are we going to do? As your governor, I can tell you how! We are going to work really hard (while still having fun) to reach our goal of 1,000 new members and FINALLY close the back door. We are the best show in town. I want all of us to never lose focus of our mission statement: building bridges for the children of our future.

In closing, we are about to prepare for the District convention. We have so many surprises in store for you. A great keynote speaker, fantastic hospitality suites and so much more. I urge everyone to attend the convention Aug 14-17th at the Desmond in Albany. I am truly looking forward to seeing all of you there.

I want to thank all of you from the bottom of my heart for all your support this year thus far. I applaud you for your continued support and I encourage you to give yourselves a round of applause for a job well done.

**International  
Foundation**

**DPG David  
Rothman**



Thanks to Kiwanis programs, people of all ages become the most engaged members of their communities.

Your annual gift to the Kiwanis Inter-

national Foundation helps. Our Foundation provides direct financial support for Kiwanis Service Leadership Programs, which range from K-Kids for elementary students up to Circle K International for college students. It also funds programs for the Aktion Club, adults with disabilities.

The KIF also extends your impact to the lives of children around the world. These programs, projects and initiatives are all possible because of your support. Ensure that the mission of Kiwanis is carried out and carried forward. Please give today, it also goes

towards your club reaching distinguished status.

A simple way to support the KIF is with Skip A Meal. April is Skip A Meal month. It's simple just hold your meeting at its regularly scheduled time and collect the funds as if you are eating but serve light refreshments. Take those funds and forward them to the KIF. For more information log onto [www.kiwanis.org/foundation](http://www.kiwanis.org/foundation).

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## Child Protection

Jim Mancuso



### Are There Cylons Among Us?

If you are a fan of science fiction, you know of the television series "Battlestar Galactica", originally aired in the 1970s and was remade in the early 2000s. The show's original plot was that a race of humans (living on a fictional planet called Caprica) created the Cylons, which are machines, who have now decided to war with their human masters and wipe out the race. The Cylons conduct a devastating strike and the survivors on a fleet of space ships, lead by a military ship (kind of like an aircraft carrier in space), called a "battlestar" named Galactica, leads the surviving humans, as part of a "ragtag fugitive fleet" on a trek to find legendary humans who live on a mythical planet called "Earth".

Through the magic of Netflix, I have been watching the remade series of Battlestar Galactica (I can only hope my brothers forgive me as it is considered sacrilegious in the Mancuso family not to be up on scifi shows like this!). In the remake, done in 2003, the Cylons now look, act, smell and do everything else just like humans (they were depicted only as silver robots in the 1970s). Some are exact copies of humans and are therefore unrecognizable as Cylons. Worst yet, "THEY HAVE A PLAN", as the series tagline goes.

So, what does this all have to do with Kiwanis and the topic of Youth Protection? - in a word "grooming." What is grooming? It is term used in relation to describe techniques child abusers use to get close to their victims. Now, I am not for a second saying that Kiwanis, especially in the New York District, has child abusers within our ranks. But, the simple fact is that we cannot tell and just like the Cylons, they may seem just like everyone else, having known them for years. The child abuser's plan is to hide in plain site, build relations with children and those around them to avoid detection. Having all of us think and say "he or she could never do that" - considering the child abuser beyond reproach.

This is how The National Center for Victims of Crime describes the "grooming dynamic":

"Perpetrators of child sexual abuse (CSA) may gain the trust of potential child victims and their caregivers by methodically "grooming" them. This

process begins with identifying potential victims, gaining their trust, and breaking down their defenses. These grooming tactics are often directed at potential youth victims as well as the adult caregivers-parents, other youth-serving professionals, and the community-at-large. After gaining access to children and youth by achieving this trust, the perpetrator initiates some kind of contact that s/he finds sexually gratifying. This sexual contact may range from voyeurism to rape and other forms of child sexual abuse. Grooming helps the offender gain access to the victim, and sets up a relationship grounded in secrecy so that the crime is less likely to be discovered.

"Perpetrators of child sexual abuse are often individuals known to the family; they may be acquaintances, influential members of the community, trusted friends and even family members. Sometimes the offender is known to the family through association with an organization or activity in which the child or youth participates, such as school, a community club, sports team, recreation center or camp.

"One reason that the perpetrator is able to exploit the child is because he or she holds the power in the relationship based on age and experience, size and strength, and adult status. A perpetrator may manipulate and use those power differences to gain the youth's trust and confidence, and/or to create fear that enables the perpetrator to coerce the child or youth. (Note that this is not common in all cases of CSA; in many scenarios, there is NO trust at all, only coercion and fear.)"

So, how do we protect our children from falling prey to "grooming"? By another word, "awareness". We must educate ourselves to recognize the signs of child abuse and as part of that - grooming. Again as per the The National Center for Victims of Crime, here are the "grooming steps" which will help you to identify its signs:

- Identifying and targeting the victim. Any child or teen may be a potential victim. Some predators may be attracted to children and youth with certain characteristics or may target youth with certain co-existing factors-such as vulnerable parents-to facilitate the crime.

- Gaining trust and access. The perpetrator may observe the child and assesses his/her vulnerabilities to learn how best to approach and interact with the child. Perpetrators may offer the victims special attention, understanding and a sympathetic ear, and then engage the child in ways that eventually gain their friendship and trust (they may play games with victims or give them rides, provide them with gifts and/or special treats).

- Playing a role in the child's life. The perpetrator may manipulate the rela-

tionship so that it appears he or she is the only one who fully understands the child or meets the child's needs in a particular way. A perpetrator may also exploit a youth's empathy and convince the young person that s/he is the only one who understands the perpetrator and reinforce that the perpetrator "needs" the child or youth.

- Isolating the child. Offering the child rides and/or taking the child out of his or her surroundings is one way that the perpetrator may separate the child from others and gain access to the child alone, so that others cannot witness the abuse. (Note that in other instances, perpetrators have been successful in molesting victims without detection while other adults were in the room.)

- Creating secrecy around the relationship. The perpetrator may reinforce the special connection with the victim when they are alone or through private communication with the victim (such as letters, emails or text messages), and strengthen it with admonitions against telling anyone, lest others be unhappy about it. The perpetrator may threaten the victim with disclosure, suicide, physical harm to the child or loved ones, or other traumas if he or she tells.

- Initiating sexual contact. With the power over the child victim established through emotional connection coercion or one of the other tactics, the perpetrator may eventually initiate physical contact with the victim. It may begin with touching that is not overtly sexual (though a predator may find it sexually gratifying) and that may appear to be casual (arm around the shoulder, pat on the knee, etc.). Gradually, the perpetrator may introduce more sexualized touching. By breaking down inhibitions and desensitizing the child, the perpetrator can begin overtly touching the child.

- Controlling the relationship. Perpetrators rely on the secrecy of the relationship to keep it going, and to ensure that the child will not reveal the abuse. Children are often afraid of disclosing the abuse. They may have been told that they will not be believed, or that something about the child "makes" the abuser do this to them. The child may also feel shame, or fear that they will be blamed. Often, the perpetrator threatens the child to ensure that s/he won't disclose the abuse.

The subject of child abuse is ugly but one we must face up to if we are to protect our children. Another word we should all get used to is "vigilance". Make sure to educate yourself and help to educate your club's membership as well. You can find a vast array of information on youth protection and child abuse on [www.kiwanis.org](http://www.kiwanis.org). And, also remember to always try to be both aware and vigilant in order to both serve and now protect our children.

# Art Show to Promote Autism Awareness

On Sunday, June 8, from 3-5 p.m., there will be an art exhibition reception entitled "Perspective" featuring the creative work of approximately 70 young artists with autism through the combined efforts of the five Kiwanis divisions on Long Island and the Art League of Long Island.

The event is part of this year's Governors Project, Autism Awareness.

Art will be on display from May 28-June 8, giving a wonderful two-week opportunity for artists with autism to showcase their work and to receive well-deserved recognition.

Suffolk West Lt Gov. Doris Mellina met with Art League of Long Island Executive Director Charlee Miller who enthusiastically agreed to host the

The reception will be from 3 to 5 p.m. June 8 at the Art League in Dix Hills.

exhibition.

Lieutenant governors Ann Torcivia, Long Island South Central; Russ Burcheri, Long Island North; Nancy Baxter, Long Island Southwest and Lorri Schneider, Suffolk East, have jumped on board and will be reaching out to schools and organizations within their divisions to seek art submissions from middle school and high school students for the event.

Each division will select up to 14 pieces of "hangable" art within specified

size guidelines. Every exhibiting artist will receive a certificate of appreciation presented at the reception by the Art League.

The Art League is at 107 E. Deer Park Road, Dix Hills, one and a half blocks from Exit 42 N/S on Northern State Parkway.

If you would like to become a sponsor for this event or need additional information, please contact Mellina by calling (516) 967-2375 or by e-mail to dfm1125@aol.com. Refreshments will be served.

A suggested \$10 donation is requested and there will be raffles during the event. All proceeds from the event will benefit Gov. Joe's Autism Awareness Project.

## Governor's Project

Kevin Kamper



Welcome to spring and hopefully the warm weather has settled in. Did you know that April is National Autism awareness month? The United States recognizes April as a special opportunity to educate the public about autism and issues within the autism community.

Also in the news the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has released their latest report on Autism. The report indicates that 1 in 68 chil-

dren are identified with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. This is an increase of 30 percent compared to the report from 2008. Check out this link <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/index.html> to learn more about this report and for more information on diagnosis and treatment.

Thank you to the clubs who have submitted their governors project forms. For those who have not done so there is still time to do so. Please send the forms back to my email address of knkamper@gmail.com. There have been many creative projects done. Some examples have been:

The Kiwanis club of Long Beach hosted a popcorn stand for a carnival for Autism Speaks.

Westfield-Ripley had a chicken and biscuit fund raiser for Autism Speaks

The Yonkers club donated money to



the New York Creative Arts Therapy Services.

The Salamanca club donated to a local autism classroom and sponsored an informational table at their

health fair.

Mapleton donated money to the Bridge to Youth Foundation providing a stress free atmosphere for families with special needs.

For those downstate, check out the art exhibition titled "Perspective" featuring the work of approximately 70 young artists with autism. (See the details above.)

Thank you for all of your support. Continue the great work.

## Historian

PIP Jerry Christiano



New York District Kiwanians can be very proud of the accomplishments of many of our members! Let's start first with the first President of Kiwanis International, George Hixson, who served two years. This happened before New York became a district! And we have a past governor, Jack A. Tetamore, 1972-73, that personally knew George Hixson!

Our first elected International President was Anton "Tony" J. Kaiser of the Farmingdale Kiwanis Club. Tony served as president the 1987-88 admin-

istrative year. Gerald "Jerry" P. Christiano was elected International President and served the 1996-97 year. Following Jerry, was Thomas "Tom" E. DeJulio, being elected 2012 and serving as our International President for the 2012-13 year.

An interesting note to our history is, I served as lieutenant governor of the Genesee Division when Tony Kaiser was District Governor in 1971-72. Tom DeJulio was Governor of the New York District in 1996-97 when I was the International President.

We are one of the districts that presently have three living Past International Presidents!

The New York District can also be proud that we have four Kiwanians who have been elected president of the Kiwanis International Foundation, starting with Past Governor (1969-70), Louis "Lou" L. Theiss, Jr., serving as Foundation President in 1992-93. Next was

Past Governor William "Bill" L. Martin, serving the 2001-02 year, followed by John "Jack" J. Harten, Governor (1984-85), serving as Foundation President 2010-11. Now, brings us to Past Governor (2003-04), Peter J. Mancuso, who served during the 2012-13 year. Very impressive achievement by these talented Kiwanians!

In closing, we also had another achievement that very few districts are able to accomplish. That is having a Kiwanis International President, Tom DeJulio, a Kiwanis International Foundation President, Peter Mancuso, and the Circle K International President, Josephine Lukito, all serving at the same 2012-13 year!!

I hope you find this bit of New York history interesting!



# Achievements Recognized at Mid-Year

Recognition for public service and organizational achievements abounded at the 2014 Mid-Year Conference in Albany.

Fourteen lieutenant governors for 2012-13 were honored as distinguished for the year, with five of them receiving the additional accolade of Super Distinguished.

Many clubs also were honored as distinguished or received Achievement Awards for their efforts during 2012-13. For a full listing of the Achievement Awards, see the district web site, [www.kiwanis-ny.org/1314/achievement.htm](http://www.kiwanis-ny.org/1314/achievement.htm).

Above left, Immediate Past International President Thomas DeJulio thanks Immediate Past Gov. Albert Norato Jr. for his efforts during the year; applauding at left is Gov. Joe Aiello.

Above right, participants at Mid-Year assembled packages which will be sent to members of the military as part of this year's First Lady's Project.

On Sunday morning, a special meeting of the district's Eliminate Project volunteers took place to plan for the district's final push to support the effort to eliminate Maternal Neonatal Tetanus.

The following 2012-13 lieutenant governors were honored as distinguished:

- Warren S. Golden, Bronx Westchester South \*
- Bill Pringle, Finger Lakes
- Frank Romeo, Genesee
- Al Teetsel, Hudson River
- David Morse, Hudson River West \*
- Jim Mancuso, Long Island South Central \*
- Ethel Gilloon, Long Island Southwest
- Forbes Irvine, Metropolitan Division \*
- Ron Parent, Niagara Frontier North
- Nodia Chambers, Queens East
- Verdia Noel, Queens West \*
- Richard Fancher, St. Lawrence
- Lorri Schneider, Suffolk East
- Gordon Harris, Suffolk West

\* Super Distinguished

## New Club Building

**PG Joseph Eppolito**



Kiwanis International has embarked on a Campaign for Growth that all Districts will be involved in an intense manner for the next five administrative years (including the balance of this year).

We are in Region #1 along with the Michigan, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New England Districts. Training

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will take place in Pittsburgh, PA on May 30-31.

Governor Joe Aiello and Governor-Elect Eric Paul are both committed to growth, especially in the area of New Club Building. Having been involved in Membership and New Club Building for more than 25 years, I am the District Chair for Campaign for Growth.

We have chosen 27 New Club Building chairs (one per division) and 54 New Club Building counselors (two per division) to attend the training along with the 2014-15 Lt Governors.

We must break the chain of downward membership, once and for all. Twenty-five years ago we had 14,000 members in the New York District and now we are at about 7,500. New Club Building can be the catalyst for growth in all of our divisions. We have had positive growth in only four years

since 1989. Revitalization of other clubs in divisions can also occur as well.

We are asking for your help to work with these teams of dedicated Kiwanians to help REBUILD NEW YORK! We can do this TOGETHER!

Membership IS on the rise this year. Let's keep it going! Through March 31st we are a POSITIVE 349! We have two new clubs already built with several under construction. Sponsoring clubs will be asked to work with a new club for 2-3 years in order for the new club to mature.

We will be publishing the members of our Campaign for Growth Team by division very soon. We ask you to be part of the solution to growing our district. More Members = more service to the children and communities that we all serve!

# Batavia Kiwanis Commits to Long Term Project

Four years ago the Kiwanis Club of Batavia decided it needed a long term project for the club, one that would fill an important need, unite their membership and associate the club with something that the community would want to support for years to come.

When the Batavia Kiwanians learned that their county's Justice for Children Advocacy Center (JFCAC) was paying \$18,000 per year to rent an older two story home in the Batavia and that their grant funding was dwindling, they knew that they had found the perfect project -- funding the acquisition of a permanent home for the JFCAC.

The Justice for Children Advocacy Center provides services for children from Genesee, Livingston, Orleans and Wyoming (GLOW) counties who are alleged to have been sexually or physically abused. Services for these children include forensic interviews, medical examinations, victim advocacy and counseling, all of which allow every child's voice to be heard in a caring and compassionate setting. The JFCAC affords families of child victims comprehensive services without having to navigate the confusing web of multiple human service and governmental agencies on their own.

The JFCAC serves the entire GLOW region and provides services at no cost to victims. The center relies solely on grant funding and donations to support its work. As awareness of available services increases, the number of children served by the center grows and the center is increasingly challenged to accommodate these needs. As grant funding diminishes, the importance of reallocating funds such as those budgeted for rent is ever more important, so that these dollars can be used instead to provide direct service to children.

For the past three years, the Kiwanis Club of Batavia has held the Bidding on a Brighter Future Gala and Auction to raise money for the project. This event involves a major effort by the members of the club than in the first three years has raised \$120,000. They plan to continue doing this until they have raised the funds necessary to complete the project.

The Kiwanis Club of Batavia has also reached out to fellow Genesee Division clubs and they responded with enthusiastic support due to the recognition that the JFCAC serves children in the geographical areas of their own clubs. Clubs from Brockport, Byron, LeRoy-Pavilion-Stafford, Livonia, Mt. Morris, Nunda, Pembroke-Corfu-Darien, Warsaw and York-Leicester all began to consider ways to contribute to this effort. Several clubs earmarked their annual fund raising campaign profits to donate, some clubs donated items and



The crowd gathering at the 2013 Gala.

services for the Gala, while other clubs purchased tables at the Gala and became sponsors of the event. The warm embrace from their local clubs has made this a collaboration that has unified these clubs in a new way and rekindled the true spirit of Kiwanis while increasing club memberships through its compelling, common purpose.

Everyone in attendance at this great annual event has had a great deal of fun during the dinner and auction, as the club has strived to offer unique, quality items through the live, silent and basket auctions. The club hopes and expects that this event will get bigger, better and more successful each year. You can join the Kiwanis Club of Batavia and their fellow Genesee Division Clubs in supporting this very worthwhile cause by placing an ad in this year's Gala Dinner and Auction program, becoming a sponsor of the event, donating a basket or other item (large or small) for the auction, attending the Gala on Saturday, Sept. 13, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. at Genesee Community College in Batavia, New York or by sharing the event information via Facebook, email and other social media.

The event planners can be reached at (585) 815-5234 or [info@biddingonabrighterfuture.org](mailto:info@biddingonabrighterfuture.org).

## Risk Management

Stephen Bernheim



We of Kiwanis have been very fortunate in that one of our mottos is that "we build bridges for children to the future," and to that end we support numerous organizations, including Key Club, Circle K, Aktion Club, Builders Club, K Kids, Bring Up Grades, Terrific Kids, and K Leader. To this end, we are proud of the accomplishments of these organizations and proud of our clubs that participate and sponsor these organizations.

Although we have this pride, and al-

though we do this wonderful work, situations in the world sometimes cause us to think of the people that we put in charge of these organizations and it is our hope and prayer that these people are above board and free of criminal backgrounds.

In the near future, each club will receive information from Kiwanis International. It is important that each club which sponsors one of these youth organizations utilize the background checks on the people in charge of the organizations. It is a must that our name and principles could never be compromised. If I can be of any help to you in figuring out these applications, please feel free to call upon me.

The reputation of Kiwanis can never be sullied and this small exercise in seeing to it that the people who we put in charge of the organization do not pose a threat is worthwhile.

## East Meadow Sponsors New K-Kids Club

In February a new K-Kids club at Meadowbrook Elementary School in East Meadow had a celebration of its new charter.

Participating in the event were members of the sponsoring East Meadow Kiwanis Club, Long Island South Central Division Lt. Gov. Ann Torcivia and District Gov. Joe Aiello.

The new club's president is Isabella Petz.

## Eliminate Project

Sister Anne-Marie Kirmse



There is a lot of excitement in the Kiwanis world right now!

We have raised \$50 million to eliminate MNT from the world. This means that 27.7 million mothers and their future children will be protected from that dreaded disease. And, we have done this as volunteers-using our free time, our creativity, our elbow grease, and our money to achieve this milestone.

So, for the part you have played in this, give yourselves a pat on the back!

However, we still have a long road ahead of us. There are several new opportunities that I want to share with all of you. First of all, through the generosity of Vincent Stanley who left the New York District EliMiNaTe \$50,000 in his will and Linda Christiano who was instrumental in arranging this bequest, we are able to offer a matching gift campaign.

Mother's Day Zellers will be offered for \$625, and Kiwanians may give this Zeller in honor of their mother or any other significant woman (living or deceased) in their life. The matching gift of \$625 from the Stanley bequest will be added, thus saving 690 lives. What a beautiful tribute to those who gave us life and/or who nurtured us along the way.

Please note the following guidelines: This offer is limited to the first fifty matching gifts. The Zeller must be paid in full by check or credit card between April 1 and May 31 and applies to new Mother's Day Zellers only. Previous donations cannot be used for this award. There is a form on the district website, and if you cannot access it, your EliMiNaTe division coordinator, lieutenant governor or I can send you one.

The matching \$625 will be applied to the donor's club, so a total of \$1,250 will be added to the club's total giving. Talk about a win-win situation! An added benefit is that these Zellers may help some of our clubs become Model Clubs.

There is also a new multi-year giving program. Kiwanians may pledge \$5,000, \$10,000 \$15,000 over a five year period. A gift of \$5,000 over five years



comes to \$20 per week. Previous donations (e.g. Zellers) will be added in. Not all of us can afford this, but some of us can. Please look into your hearts and think of all those mothers and babies you will be saving. Then use the regular donation form.

For those clubs who have not given anything as yet, please consider becoming a "100 Baby Club." Can your members donate a total of \$180 and save 100 lives? I am sure that there is no club in our District that cannot do at least this much.

And last, but by no means least, please work on finishing your handmade baby item for our Craft Sale in July. I received many lovely items at Midwinter, but most of you will be sending your items in later. They need to be to me by June 30. Please contact me for mailing instructions: kirmse@fordham.edu.

## K-Kids Club Commits to Bronze Level Support

At its first regular meeting of 2014, the Bowling Green K-Kids welcomed Eliminate Project Speakers Bureau Member NYCKI DPG Rickie Santer. Circle K Distinguished Past Gov. Rickie was invited to make a presentation on becoming a Model Club after the K-Kids earned Gold Club status in the Global Service Society at the SLP Level in 2013.

Following his presentation, K-Kids President Aline Asarian asked for a motion to have the club commit to achieving achieving Bronze Level Model Club status at the Kiwanis Level. The motion was quickly made and seconded. The discussion focused on the members' desire to continue supporting the Eliminate Project and wanting to change the world. The vote was unanimous to take the next step and commit to being a Bronze Level Model Club at the Kiwanis level.

To be a Bronze Level Model Club in the Global Service Society a Kiwanis Club must commit to donating \$350 per member to the Eliminate Project over the next five years. All previous donations are counted towards the club's total. The Bowling Green K-Kids has 34 members which means they require \$11,900 to meet their new goal. Bowling Green has already donated \$7,000 and leads the world in donations from a K-Kids club.

With \$600 in funds ready to send in to the Kiwanis International Foundation, the K-Kids need to raise \$4,300 more to achieve their goal. K-Kids Treasurer Tara Connolly hopes that by dedicating all the proceeds of the club's annual Talent Show to the Eliminate Project, the club may surpass its goal before the end of this school year.

In its report to their sponsoring Kiwanis Club, the K-Kids included a "Challenge Dollar" to East Meadow Kiwanis President Jim Smith and his club.

"If 9, 10 and 11 year olds can become a Bronze Level Model Club at the Kiwanis Level, we challenge you to do the same



**Bowling Green K-Kids President Aline Asarian signs the Eliminate Project Commitment Form.**

or even more," dared K-Kids President Aline.

Bowling Green's Faculty Advisor, Lt. Gov.-Elect Rich Santer is very proud of his club.

"My K-Kids members are passionate about helping eliminate MNT from our world. They have thought this through and have a plan. They set achievable goals, exceed them and, move on to set an even higher goal," he explained.

"I think these kids have a system that can encourage more Kiwanis Clubs to step up to be model clubs. You don't have to start by committing at the Gold Level. Start by committing at the Bronze or Silver level, achieve that level and then commit at the next level if your club can," Santer continued.

## Marketing & PR

Jim Mancuso



The good news is that it is "never too late to start."

I encourage you, if you have not done so already, to form a club Public Relations and Marketing committee. Let's get the Kiwanis word "out there" about all we do for our communities and to drive membership!

Getting "out there" is easier to do than you think. In fact, there are many free ways of doing so.

One of the best and most powerful are Public Service Announcements or PSAs. These are short messages which you can produce with a digital camera (even just using your cell phone) or recorded on a computer. Once complete, they can be sent to radio and television stations, where they will be played for free!

The stations use PSAs to fill up their airwaves by donating air time. Most stations will allow you to include a contact telephone number and website address to get more in-

formation.

Here's a brief example of a PSA. The topic: the importance of getting infants immunized. Length: only 30 seconds. Scene opens with Woman #1 and Man #1 sitting by a playground. Children shown playing, camera moves over to the two adults sitting together on a park bench watching them; children's laughter in the background.

Man #1: Yeah -- I can't believe we're going to be parents! It's great, but there's so much to worry about. I think about Rachel and Danny's little girl and how sick she's been...

Woman #1: I know, it's been so sad seeing how much trouble they've had -- it's too bad they never had her immunized.

Man #1: But she's only a year old! I never even thought about immunization - when are you supposed to get that done?

Woman #1: Well, the first shots are done when the baby is about 2 months old -- then you have to go back 4 or 5 more times before the kid starts school. If they had only done that, their baby might not have had so many health problems.

Man #1: Oh, man, I had no idea. I really need to find out more about all this stuff!

Woman #1: It's okay. Your doctor or

nurse will tell you when you need to come back

A little girl comes running from the playground and climbs into the man's lap.

Woman #1: You and Tasha are already a great aunt and uncle, you know. Don't worry. You'll be wonderful parents.

Man #1: Thanks, Sis. Tasha has a checkup tomorrow, so we'll talk to the doctor then and find out more.

<Fade to black, leaving only the sound of children playing under the voiceover, with the logo, phone number and website address of a child immunization service shown onscreen. Voiceover: Immunization for your kids; talk to your doctor about it today.>

It is really just that simple. With a little bit of creativity you can adapt this example for a PSA of your own, supporting an important club message to your community.

And, don't forget about the Kiwanis Oscars. A PSA would make a great entry (submissions due July 30 and will be shown at the August 2014 District Convention!)

(Information in this article adapted from The Community Tool Box - a public service of the University of Kansas. Learn more at <http://ctb.ku.edu>.)

## Pediatric Lyme Disease

DPG John Gridley



Spring is here and summer is in the way so let's review.

Avoiding infection: stick to trails or sidewalks if possible. Avoid walking through open fields or areas of tall grass, especially fields near where they meet woods.

Wear socks, pants and long-sleeved shirts. Consider tucking the bottom of your pants into your socks and tuck in your shirts. Consider light colored clothes to make it easier to spot ticks. Use insect repellent, especially on an-

kles and pant legs. Repellent with DEET is recommended. Inspect clothing during an outdoor excursion.

After returning home, check clothing again and do a full-body inspection. If a tick is found, grasp its head with pointed tweezers and pull it off, then clean the bite area.

Ticks that are removed within a few hours usually do not pass infection to the host, so act promptly and using the Tick Kits.

Initial symptoms of Lyme infection include a growing red rash and flu-like fatigue, fever, headache, muscle ache and swollen lymph nodes. These can appear from a few days to a month after a tick bite.

Typical treatment is a regimen of antibiotics. It is effective in most people if started promptly. If not treated, patients often develop arthritis and can also suffer from serious cardiac or neu-

rological problems. So if you even think that you got bitten by a tick, see your doctor as soon as possible and demand a blood test.

As always if you know a child that has Lyme disease and their parents need financial assistance paying for treatment and/or medication, please give me or any board member a call.

Thank you to all Kiwanis members and Sponsored Youth members for their assistance in raising funds through the Brittany Fellowship, Emerald Brittany, Joseph Wuest Fellowship and other different fund raisers. Without your help we could not do what we do. What we do is help kids immediately.

Also, I would like to give a special "Thank you" to Kelly Chan the Past Governor of Circle K. Through her efforts she made a lot of young people feel better. I had the honor and privilege to present her with a Brittany Fellowship Award given to her by the Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation board members at the Circle K convention in Albany last week.

Someone once said, people will forget what you do and what you said. But people will always remember how you made them feel. Kelly Chan has made a lot of people feel good.

## Gowanda Honors 65-Year Member

It's hard to imagine waiting long for anything today, let alone to get into a club.

But Don Campbell waited three years to get into the Kiwanis Club of Gowanda.

Sixty-five years later, he remains a proud Kiwanian in a club that he describes as "the backbone of the community."

"When I joined, I had to wait about three years, it was full," Campbell recalled recently on the eve of being presented with his 65-year Kiwanis membership pin by Southwestern Division Lt. Gov. Bob Ducato

Newly installed President Vicki Cocca said at Campbell's pin presentation, "Don's presence in this group serves as an inspiration to all our members."

**Kamp  
Director**

**Rebecca  
Clemence**



As Kiwanians, you work tirelessly within your communities, raising funds to positively change the lives of children in New York. When money is raised often the most difficult decision can be how best to use these funds. The Kiwanis organization is involved in so many great projects that it can be hard to pick.

All these projects give excellent help, experiences and care to those who need it most. With some such projects it is easy to see the direct value of your funds; with others it may be a little less obvious but no less important.

At times and with complete validity people may question how a Summer Kamp experience will benefit a child, thinking; is it just a fun week away? Or does it go deeper and have physical, mental or emotional benefits that rival the great work other Kiwanis initiatives do.

We here at camp know it does and have the privilege of seeing this every day throughout the summer and year after year as the children learn, grow and develop into young adults that they themselves can be proud of. In front of our eyes, day to day it is obvious how children are gaining from the experience. We extend an open invitation and welcome all Kiwanians to visit Kamp during the summer. In the flesh the energy of the children the passion of the staff and the growth and development of campers is undeniable. Obviously it is not always possible for Kiwanians to take the time and visit Kamp so we would like to highlight some of the ben-

## Help Wanted: Volunteer Nurses

Kamp is looking for New York State Licensed Registered Nurses to volunteer 1 week at a time for up to 9 weeks.

Please contact Kamp for more information. 315-336-4568.

efits of sending children to camp.

1. New Relationships. Not just with peers, but with trusted adults other than their parents. Just think about how useful a skill like that is: being able to negotiate on your own for what you need.

2. A Powerful Identity. This makes the child feel confident in front of others. A child may not have found that one thing they can excel at, but chances are that a good Kamp counselor is going to help your child find something to be proud of that he can do well.

3. Better Problem Solvers. Kamp helps children feel in control of their lives, and those experiences of self-efficacy can travel home as easily as a special art project or the pine cone they carry in their backpack. Children who experience themselves as competent will be better problem-solvers in new situations long after their laundry is cleaned and the smell of the campfire forgotten.

4. Fair Treatment. Camps make sure that all children are treated fairly. The wonderful thing about camps is that every child starts without the baggage they carry from school. They may be socially awkward or the child with special needs. At Kamp they will both find opportunities to just be kids who are valued for who they are.

5. Physical Fitness. At Kamp kids get what they need to develop physically. Ideally, fresh air, exercise, a balance between routine and unstructured time,

and all the good food their bodies need. Not that smores (marshmallows, chocolate and graham cracker treats) don't have a place at the campfire, but a good camp is also about helping children find healthy lifestyles.

6. Belonging. Perhaps best of all, Kamp offers kids a chance to feel like they belong. All those goofy chants and team songs, the sense of common purpose and attachment to the identity that Kamp promotes go a long way to offering children a sense of being rooted.

7. Cultural Awareness. And finally, Kamp can offer children a better sense of their culture. It might be skit night, or a special Kamp program that reflects the values of the community that sponsors Kamp, or maybe it's just a chance for children to understand themselves a bit more as they learn about others. Camps give kids both cultural roots and the chance to understand others who have cultures very different than their own.

Summer camps are part of the fabric of American lives and have been active for over 150 years in this country. Attending a summer camp has benefited generation after generation of American and continues to do so today.

What makes Kamp Kiwanis and those who choose to donate their money and time special, is that we provide an opportunity for those children who would otherwise be overlooked. We care for children who without your help could not have afforded the experience and for those with special needs who are otherwise not offered the camp experience.

Summer camps serve as a valuable part of any child's education. As Kiwanians who donate to Kamp you are helping all children within New York have access to that educational experience.

"The organized summer camp is the greatest contribution America has made to education." - Former Harvard University president Charles W. Eliot, 1922.

## Monte Carlo Night raises \$3,500 for KPTC

The royalty of the French Riviera's Principality of Monaco and a Super Distinguished Immediate Past Agent of Her Majesty's Secret Service visited Bethpage to support the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Center at North Shore-LIJ.

While ladies who challenged the beauty of Princess Grace and gentlemen more dashing than Prince Ranier tried their luck at blackjack, roulette, craps and even Texas hold'em, the lifesaving work of the trauma center was being supported.

**Empire State Kiwanian  
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The KPTC Foundation's newest fundraiser was a huge success. In addition to raising more than \$3,500, the event provided an evening of fun for all attendees. From grabbing money in the money booth to winning a trip to Las Vegas in the Texas hold'em Tournament, attendees laughed the night away enjoying hand passed hors d'oeuvres.

Those lucky at the tables or in the money booth eventually "cashed out" their chips for raffle tickets to win prizes including baskets, gift certificates, home appliances and trips to locations such as Orlando and Cancun.

The event was planned by KPTC

Foundation Director Lt. Gov. Ann Torcivia, she was unable to attend due to an unexpected hospitalization. Nevertheless, other foundation officers, directors and board members stepped in to ensure the event's success.

The hors d'oeuvres were provided by Karen's Creative Catering which is owned and operated by Nassau Unity Kiwanis President Karen Whilt. A selection of deserts that would rival the best Viennese tables were donated by Kiwanians from across Nassau County.

Special thanks goes to the Chris Auer of the Bethpage Kiwanis Club for all her help in securing the venue and working with the Bethpage Fire Department.

# New York District Kiwanis Foundation

## District Foundation

Sal Anelli



Dear New York District Kiwanians, it is spring time and every year it is a positive look at the Kiwanis year, we usually try to forget about the ugly days of winter and concentrate on the upcoming bright days of spring and the dog days of summer.

At the New York District Kiwanis Foundation, our thoughts at this time turn to Kamp Kiwanis, we start looking forward to Kamp opening weekend where we have dedicated Kiwanians and friends come to the Kamp to help get it ready for the children that attend during our Kamping season.

We would like to thank Jim Mancuso, Long Island South Central Division past lieutenant governor, who last year came up to the Kamp with a group of Kiwanians from his division and helped with this task. We are told that the "Kamp Kiwanis Bug" bit him. His experience was so rewarding that he is doing it again this year, Thank you Jim.

Of course, let's not forget all those who attend our weekend every year, we thank you and hope to see you there

this year on May 1st to the 3rd, 2014 and bring friends.

As you know in an effort to raise some very needed funds we have come up with two fundraisers that hopefully will be able to replenish some of the lost income from last year.

One fundraiser is a "Kamp Kiwanis Day at Yankee Stadium". Kim Scharoff is chairing the event and she will be sending out flyers with the date and the costs of tickets.

This was a great event last year and we hope to make it even greater this year, especially with the Jeter Farewell Tour. Last year, through the generosity of Governor Joe Aiello we were able to raffle off a large screen TV at the Yankee game, this year Governor Joe once again is donating a large screen LCD TV to raffle off at the game. Tickets for this raffle will be going out soon, all we can say is, Thank You Governor Joe for your commitment to our Kamp.

The other is a raffle for a brand new Nissan Altima. We will be selling 500 tickets at \$100 each. If you are interested please contact our newly appointed board member, Roger Eltringham. He will gladly send you as many tickets as you wish. The date for the raffle drawing on the ticket is incorrect and we will be sending out the correct date to everyone soon.

Our wish list is on the Kamp Kiwanis website. This is a list of items needed for the Kamping season that are some-

times overlooked, things like toothbrushes, toothpaste, band aids and many other items that are needed on a daily basis. Please go on line and take a look at the wish list items and see what you can contribute, possibly you have a friend that deals with some of these items and wouldn't mind donating some.

We would like to thank the Metropolitan Division for once again donating all of the medical related wish list items, through the efforts of one of their really great members, Louis Cazzetta. The Metropolitan division has done this on a yearly basis for the past 8 years or so.

In mentioning the Metropolitan Division, we would be remiss if we don't mention another of their great members, Herb Chan who once again has donated equipment, has gone up to the Kamp several times during this winter to do repairs and whatever is needed to be done.

Finally I would like to add a personal thank you to all those kind Kiwanis clubs and all their members throughout the district who lifted me up in a very down time in my life. On Jan. 22, my mother Giovanna Anelli passed on to what I believe to be a better life in heaven. The response I received from Kiwanis was overwhelming and let me know that we as Kiwanians care about others and each other. I will never forget what you did for me; thank you and God bless you.

## New Fellowship Options Available

The New York District Foundation has created a new award honoring a past governor, and made changes to a long-standing award in an effort to attract further support for the foundation and Kamp Kiwanis.

The new award honors Past Gov. Tony Palangi, who was governor in 1982-83. Palangi, a member of the Glen Falls club, died in 2007.

The Tony Palangi Service Leadership Fellowship provides an opportunity for any K-Family Club (K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, Circle K, Kiwanis or Aktion Club) as well as individual members. The fellowship also can be used to honor Kiwanians for their efforts.

Fellows will receive a lapel pin and certificate of recognition, and the club making the donation will receive a banner patch. The fellowship may be used to honor a Service Leadership Club. The fellowship will be presented for a \$200 donation.

All donations through the fellowship will be used to support Kamp Kiwanis.

The Kaiser Fellowship, honoring Past International President Anton "Tony" Kaiser has been part of the foundation program for many years. Kaiser was governor of the New York district in 1971-72 and was president of Kiwanis International in 1978-79.

The foundation has added additional levels to the fellowship.

The initial Kaiser fellowship requires a \$1,000 donation. Honorees receive a sport jacket, pin, and medallions. A second \$1,000 donation entitles the recipient to a Diamond Kaiser, which also includes a jacket, pin and medallions.

Diamond Kaiser fellows can now receive additional recognition for additional \$1,000 donations. The Elite Kaiser has five levels, each requiring a \$1,000 donation. Honorees will receive a pin with the number of diamonds indicated by their level.

For more information and application forms for both awards, visit the Kamp Kiwanis web site, [www.kampkiwanis.org](http://www.kampkiwanis.org).

## 2014 Kamp Kiwanis Schedule

Work Week	May 1-3
Open House	May 3
Adult Week 1	June 22-27
Adult Week 2	June 29-July 4
Child Week 1	July 6-12
Child Week 2	July 13-19
Child Week 3	July 20-26
Child Week 4	July 27-Aug. 2
Child Week 5	Aug. 3-9
Child Week 6	Aug 10-16

Visit the Kamp Web Site:  
[www.kampkiwanis.org](http://www.kampkiwanis.org)



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## Kiwanians Participate in Circle K Convention

On the weekend of March 14-16, 2014, the New York District of Circle K International held its 52nd Annual District Convention at the Hilton in Albany. Like Kiwanis District Convention, attendees had the chance to learn more about Circle K and the entire Kiwanis Family. Clubs and members left with more knowledge and inspiration to continue to serve their communities.

"This year was a special convention because of the amount of Kiwanis Family support we had. We would like to thank and recognize Gov. Joe Aiello and Gov.-Elect Eric Paul for attending, speaking, and inspiring our members," said Circle K Gov. Kelly Chan, who is completing her year as governor.

"They both left a great impression on all of our members and demonstrated true dedication to Circle K. In addition to recognizing Eric Paul as governor-elect, we also honored him with the first annual Glen Fitzpatrick Alumni Award for his continuous support to Circle K. In total, we had about 30 Kiwanians with us, which is more than we generally have in attendance. Key Club Dis-



**Gov. Kelly and representatives from Queens College and St. John's University passing the banner for the home club of the governor to Gov.-Elect Renee Girard and her Club President-Elect from Cornell University.**

trict Administrator John Goldstein and his wife, Hazel, attended their first Circle K convention and as a Governor, it really meant a lot. I know they were touched to see so many of their past Key Clubber's in Circle K."

"In addition to Kiwanis support, Key Club Gov. Paul De Santis and an outstanding representation joined us from our Circle K clubs." Kelly said. "We had

clubs come for the first time and many of them received the recognition they deserved. It was a great weekend filled with service projects, leadership sessions, workshops, speakers, a successful House of Delegates, and a very emotional farewell session. The energy throughout the weekend was incredible and we would love to see even more Kiwanis support in the upcoming years!"