

It's springtime! Flowers are starting to bloom, the leaves are starting to sprout on the trees and there's something refreshing about this time of year. Let this season become a re-awakening of our spirits. Feel refreshed and start acting upon those New Year's resolutions we made!

Perhaps you wanted to exercise, plan more time with family and friends, book summer vacations, get ready for the up coming graduations, weddings, communions, confirmations and other family fun events.

Feels like so much to do, yet so little time? No! Now is the perfect time to start anew and begin to think about growing our Kiwanis family. It's the ideal time to begin to plan for your club's open houses. Start getting those creative juices flowing with refreshing new ideas to bring in new members. Spring is growth, and no time better than the present to plant new seeds and spread the wonderful word about Kiwanis.

Yes, we give back to our community, but we need to do more. The only way to continue to help those in need is to bring in new members to do the great work we must accomplish. The FOR-MULA is the answer! We have clubs that need to re-build so please support these clubs. Show them how it's done to become strong again. The answer is simple ... to make a real difference in our communities, we need more members. Strength is in numbers.

We have new clubs opening but, unfortunately, we have clubs closing simultaneously. Why? Are we too busy? Why are we losing members? As mentioned earlier, we have our own resolutions to fulfill, family functions to attend, but why can't we prioritize? Why can't we put those less fortunate ahead of our own needs. We can do it all. By learning to be more selfless, and put others first, we have the ability to bring some of that wonderful springtime restoration to our communities. The only way to succeed is by bringing in new members, not losing them. We need Kiwanis to grow and thrive, especially now, today, this spring.

Look at our Key Club, and Circle K. They have thousand plus members. They take the initiative and make huge strides by creating and executing terrific projects and events. They have what it takes, and so can we, if we find the time to make the effort. In doing so, we will expand in leaps and bounds but it takes hard work, education and commitment. Let the FORMULA TEAM help you to not only reach your goals, but surpass what you think you are capable of. Let Kiwanis be a priority, and what you get in return is priceless! The children and their families need us. Don't let our communities down. Don't look back, spring ahead. Let's not lose members, let's water our seeds big time, and grow, grow, grow.

As our Governor keeps telling us ... GO BACK TO BASICS. Let's do it strong!

Love It, Share it, Live it.

New on the Web Site

Be sure to frequently check the district web site for the latest information on upcoming events as well as much more on various events around the district.

The following items have been recently posted:

• Distinguished Divisions, Clubs and Kiwanians for the 2014-15 year.

• Updates on club Centennial Celebrations.

• Links to information on the Toronto Convention.

The Empire State

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Castleton K-Kids Raise \$7,521

The K-Kids club of Castleton Elementary School, in Castleton-on-Hudson, has raised a record total of \$7,521 for the American Heart Association at its annual Jump Rope for Heart event.

Forty-three K-Kids club members participated in this fun annual tradition that was held Feb. 23. Key Club members from Maple Hill High School also joined in the fun and twirled ropes and created games for the participating K-Kids.

The Castleton Elementary School K-Kids club and Maple Hill High School Key Club are active clubs in their respective schools and community and are sponsored by the Castleton Kiwanians.

2015-16 Events

May 12-14, 2016:

Kamp Kiwanis Work Week and Open House June 25-28, 2016:

Kiwanis International Convention, Toronto

Aug. 17-20, 2016:

District Convention, Adams Mark Hotel, Buffalo