

Secretary/Treasurer

J. Don Herring

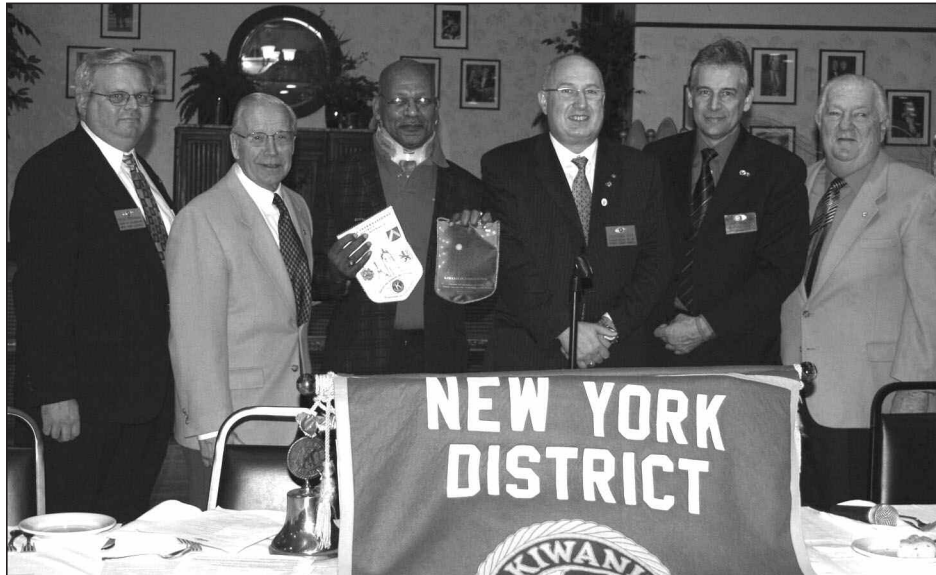
We recently enjoyed a great Mid-Year Conference. The forums and other meetings were well attended and proved to be very informative. The Mid-Year Conference is a time for us to evaluate how we are doing toward the goals we made at the beginning of the year. It also provides an opportunity to rethink and reshape our actions for the rest of the Kiwanis year. Now both the rethinking and the reshaping have been completed. We must now get to work and make all those good things happen. The original purpose of the Mid-Year Conference was to provide Club Presidents and Secretaries with needed information and training so that they could complete their year with success. I believe that this is still happening. Just look at those present who were able to provide insight and knowledge to the rest of us. There were: fourteen (14) Past Governors, twenty six (26) Lt. Governors, twenty two (22) District Chairs, and sixty six (66) Past Lt. Governors, all with a wealth of knowledge to give to those who might need it. It is these people who are in a position to help other Kiwanians learn what it takes to run a successful Kiwanis Club. On the other hand there were Fifty one (51) Club Presidents, eleven (11) Presidents elect, eight (8) Vice Presidents, twenty nine (29) Secretaries, and seven (7) Treasurers who were in attendance gathering information, both formally and informally about how to make their clubs better. I am sure the results will pay off and our clubs will be better because of the Conference.

Now is the time for us to switch our thoughts to the upcoming International Convention. As you no doubt know, this year's International Convention will be held in Montreal, Canada from June 28, 2006 to July 2, 2006. Registration forms (if you need one) are available at www.Kiwanis.org. The opening session of the Convention is scheduled for 1:30 PM on Thursday June 29th. On that same evening at 8:00 pm there is a planned "Spotlight on Broadway" show (\$25 advance, \$30 on site). This should be a excellent production. We are in the planning stage of a New York Breakfast on Friday morning June 30th at 8:00 am. This will be followed by the District Caucus at 9:30 am and the District Board Meeting at 10:30 am. The first House of Delegates session will be at 1:30 pm that same afternoon. The second Delegate session will be held on Saturday July 1 at 1:00 pm. The closing session will be that same evening at 7:00 pm.

The headquarters hotel for the New York District will be the Delta Centre Ville. This is a very nice modern hotel with a revolving restaurant on top. There are several overflow hotels, but you should make reservations early to stay at the headquarters hotel. Although passports are not required until December 2006, some Airlines are already

Continued on Page 6

Belgium-Luxemburg and France-Monaco Govs Visit



L to R: Governor David Rothman, Past International President Tony Kaiser, Long Island North Lt. Gov. Rev. Kenneth Nelson, Belgium Governor Edmund Ott, France Governor Jean-Paul Thomas and New York Distinguished Past Governor John Gridley.



L to R: France's First Lady Elaine OTT, France-Monaco Governor Edmond OTT, NYD Governor David Rothman, NY First Lady Debra Fuchs, Belgium-Luxemburg Governor Jean-Paul Thomas, Belgium First Lady Alix Thomas, Richard Deremer, President of Kiwanis Club of Garden City, Denise A. Thibou, President Kiwanis Club of Hempstead, LISC LG Elect Sue Martin, and SDPLG Tom Gallagher.

LONG ISLAND – Governor David invited the governors from Belgium and France to visit two divisional meetings on Long Island when he found that they would be visiting New York City for four days after their board meeting in Florida before returning to Europe. A limo whisked them from NYC to downtown Levittown, and then on to Domenico's Restaurant, where the Long Island South Central Division was holding its

divisional. Both Governor Ott and Governor Thomas spoke briefly to the membership.

Then they were both off to Paraparazzi for the Long Island North Divisional Meeting, home division of Past International President Tony Kaiser.

After dinner, there were many cordial speeches and remarks. The Governors and First Ladies returned to New York City and then made their trip back home to Europe.



Governor Elect

Joseph Corace

It's a great time to be a Kiwanian

In January, I went to Kiwanis International for my Governor's training and educational conference. I spent four days with Governor Elects from around the world and it was a very inspiring experience. Imagine an entire group of Governors, representing ninety countries, together with one purpose and one mind set, "Helping others." Throughout our conference the theme was "It's a great time to be a Kiwanian" and during those 4 days we all came to believe it. With Kiwanis' new ideas, plans and many of the stories I heard from my peers, I knew this to be true.

I came back from International and less than a month later, I was at our Mid-Winter Conference, and this one was truly special for me – I was Governor-Elect. Governor David did some new things to give this Mid-winter a different look. I liked his approach. New! Different! More enjoyable, yet educational as well.

Yes, it truly is a great time to be a Kiwanian and an even better time to be a New York District Kiwanian.

I also had the opportunity to meet with my NY District Board of Lt. Governors-Elect. We started planning our year together to lead this Great New York District. We will meet again at our Orientation in May at the "Kamp Kiwanis Weekend."

As you take the time to read this, please consider 'How can I help?' I am looking for Kiwanians like yourself, who want to be part of a winning team. So please call me at (917) 282-9498 or e-mail me at [<joecorace@aol.com>](mailto:joecorace@aol.com).

Let me share with you the feeling – "It's a great time to be a Kiwanian."

Flame Gets Green Light for Saratoga

In 2003, a unique event in the United States if not the world, happened at Lexington Center (Fulton County Chapter NYSARC Inc.) in upstate New York. That year, eleven people who happen to have autism, Down's syndrome, mental retardation, total blindness and other disabilities formed the soft rock band FLAME. Before long, this band started playing not only adequate music or good music, but great music. Because of their amazing musical skill and broad repertoire, including over 100 songs from Pink Floyd to Gershwin, FLAME has had hundreds of paid performances throughout New York State, into New Jersey and Washington, D.C. Everywhere the band plays, their extraordinary music thrills and inspires audiences, including people with disabilities and their families.

For this year's District Convention in Saratoga, FLAME will perform during dinner on Saturday, September 9th thanks to Mohawk PLG George and Karen Wells. We are all looking forward to this exciting experience.

Together We Can

MONTRÉAL

91st Annual
KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
June 28-July 2, 2006

www.kiwanis.org