



Sponsored Organizations and Programs

Tony Palangi

Sponsored Youth A Kiwanis Asset

The Key Club and the Circle K Conventions, held this past March, are now history. The Sponsored Organizations: Key Club, Circle K, Builders Clubs, K-Kids, and Aktion Clubs are looking forward to a new year, 2004-2005. At the conventions Kristin Kramer from New Hyde Park, NY was elected New York District Key Club Governor and Brian Smith was elected NY District Circle K Governor. Congratulations to Governor Kristin and Governor Brian with our best wishes for a successful year of growth and service.

Too often we forget one of the greatest assets that we have in Kiwanis, our Sponsored Youth organizations. As the new year begins for them let's renew our commitment to work at this in many ways:

Establish a line of communication through the Kiwanis Advisor. The Club Newsletter is also an excellent vehicle for communicating. Make sure that each Sponsored Youth club is on your mailing list.

Assist the newly elected officers in planning for the new year as they prepare a budget, appoint service committees and analyze service projects and activities that meet the needs of the school and community.

Share experiences with them: invite their members to Kiwanis club meetings on a regular basis and vice versa. Kiwanians should attend their club meetings.

Support them financially to attend conventions and conferences including funds for the Faculty Advisors.

Participate in joint projects with the approach of the summer season. There are many ideal joint projects which you can both get extensively involved in. Some examples are, general cleanup, maintenance projects, landscaping, fundraising for the benefit of the camp, and many other activities.

Club Programs - don't forget to ask them to address your Kiwanis Club. Members of the Sponsored Youth Organizations possess diversified talents and can provide interesting programs.

Always keep in mind that they are an excellent source of manpower, especially for the smaller clubs who lack the membership strength to implement substantial service projects.

Our youth represents the future leaders of this great land, the future leaders of Kiwanis. It's up to us to demonstrate that we care. Let's not disappoint them, because they rely upon us for support and encouragement.

In closing, congratulations to the Kiwanis Club of Glen Falls for the organization of the Warren-Washington County ARC Aktion Club. Special thanks to President Kate VanDerZee and Coordinator Ruth Bletz for their devoted efforts in the organization.

East Meadow Obtains \$5K Reading Grant For School Under Kiwanis Int'l Program

The Kiwanis Club of **EAST MEADOW**, Long Island South Central – home of NY Governor Peter Mancuso and LISC Lt. Governor Tom Gallagher, presented local school district officials with \$5,000 to support its "Read and Lead Program" at Barnum Woods Elementary

School. East Meadow Past President Andrew Langus, aided by NY State Senator Kemp Hannon, obtained the funds through a State of New York grant under Kiwanis International's Read Around the World Program.

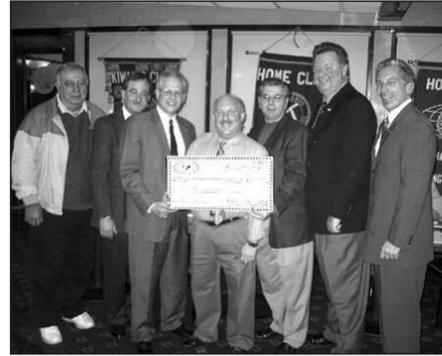


Photo Left: Participating in the ceremony were (l to r) Kiwanian/former East Meadow Schools Superintendent Dr. Frank Saracino, Kiwanian/Board of Education Member Barry Rubenstein, Board of Education Pres. Charles Goldberg, East Meadow Pres. Mitchell Skoller, Barnum Woods School Principal Peter A. Valente, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Robert Dillon, and PP Andrew Langus. (Photo by Ivan Launer)

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to get up and do something about it. Governor Peter could not have chosen a better project. We are the parents and grandparents that need to be the ones that make a difference. We challenge you to reach out and make a difference in your community and with a child. We are here to help or assist you in any way we can. Please don't hesitate to e mail or call. Thank you.

Special thanks to DPP Jim Richards of the East Meadow Club, who wrote the ESK's March/April Governor's Project column.

2002-2003 Club Scrapbook Awards

Clubs with 35 members or less

Winner: Gates Greece

Honorable Mention: Hempstead

Clubs with 36-75 members

Winner: Sand Lake

Honorable Mention: West Seneca

Clubs with over 75 members

Winner: North Shore

Ciota

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athletes a chance to have fun, to participate in competition among friends, to experience a certain happiness and joy. Each participant is made to feel important and essential. Families are encouraged to attend the events. Many volunteers come from the families of the athletes. Parents and care givers come to know one another and a network can develop. These networks often become support groups for the families. Much information is shared and passed along at such gatherings. Through these contacts other social opportunities present themselves. Finding play dates for developmentally disabled children is not always easy!

As important as exercise and fitness is to the concept of SO, and indeed to Peter's governor's project this year, my family benefited just as greatly from what developed as a direct result of the athletic premise of SO.

Special Olympics provides Kiwanis Clubs throughout New York State with a natural tie in for service projects. Like Kiwanis, SO functions throughout the state. SO divides the state into over 30 areas with contact persons in each. Since local events go on throughout the year, it seems like a wonderful opportunity for both Kiwanis, and Kiwanis Sponsored Youth clubs to volunteer. Since Governor Peter has made child fitness his special project, it would seem to make great sense to contact your local SO area represen-

tative to set up a project.

Many of the clubs and divisions throughout our district are long-time active participants and sponsors of SO. Your efforts are greatly appreciated by the athletes who participate, their families, the SO organization and by Kiwanis. To those clubs who have not yet participated, please appoint a SO chair to make contact with your local area SO representative. For information and local contacts at Special Olympics go to <<http://www.nyso.com>>. Doing so will create a great opportunity for both SO and Kiwanis!

In closing I would like to share my personal experience as a SO volunteer. You see, Hope participated in SO for over 20 years. During that time my family provided an extremely solid support system for her which continues to this day. We saw it that Hope received positive feedback and reinforcement for her efforts. But what gave me just as much satisfaction was working with those athletes who, through personal circumstance, did not have such a support group to provide such advocacy. It is easy for me to perform such service because I feel that if Hope's "personal circumstance" was different, I would only wish some kind person would show her such attention.

I am an advocate for Special Olympics. New York Special Olympics.

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2002-2003 Distinguished Clubs

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Niagara Frontier North (3)

Ken-Ton

Lockport

Tonawandas, The

Niagara Frontier West (2)

Elmwood Avenue Buffalo

West Seneca

Ontario (2)

Eastwood East Syracuse

Owasco Fleming

Queens East (2)

Cambria Heights

Rockaway Blvd. Golden K

Queens West (6)

Glendale

Lefferts Liberty

Lefrack City

Maspeth

Queens Boulevard

Sunnyside New York

Saint Lawrence (6)

Black River

Gouverneur

Jefferson Breakfast Watertown

Massena

Norwood

Ogdensburg

Southwestern (5)

Cassadaga Valley

Fredonia

Gowanda

Wellsville

Westfield

Suffolk East (5)

Centereach Seldon

Islips, Bay Shore

Mastics, The

Sayville

Southampton

Suffolk West (3)

Huntington

North Amityville

Northport East Northport

Susquehanna (3)

Delhi

Oakdale

Owego

Van Rensselaer (4)

Castleton on Hudson

Rensselaer

Sand Lake

Troy

2002-2003 Distinguished Divisions and Lt. Governors

Adirondack

Ron Cole

Bronx Westchester South

Don Ciota

Brooklyn

Ivan Hodge

Genesee

Dave Goodwin

Long Island North

Woody Ryder

Long Island Southwest

Ethel Gilloon

Metropolitan

George Dorry

Niagara Frontier North

Jack Hanrahan

Niagara Frontier West

Ivan Tarnopoll

Queens East

Lawrence Rogers

Check out the
New York District
Website at
www.kiwanis-ny.org