

**Distinguished  
Kiwanians**

**Verdia Noel**



*"...We are not winding down, we are gearing up..."*

In Governor's Bill's inspiring words to divisions on his official visit as he moved around the district: "we are not winding down, we are gearing up!!"

The Distinguished Kiwanian Program allows for each New York District Kiwanian to be recognized. To accomplish this feat, we must satisfy six of the criteria listed below including the first criteria between 10/1/2011 and

9/30/2012 shall be awarded a Distinguished Kiwanian Pin, a certificate and have his/her name listed on the New York District web site.

Today, begin to narrow your "to do" list down to the following items and begin your checklist of accomplishments. Ask yourself if you have:

- Sponsored one new member or brought back a former member.
- Worked on two Club Committees.
- Attended or participated in a Sponsored Leadership Program Activity.
- Participated in the Governor's Project or the First Lady's Project.
- Supported Kamp Kiwanis financially, donated items from their "Wish List" or attended the Kamp Clean-up Day.
- Supported the Kiwanis International Foundation's Eliminate Project.
- Supported the Kiwanis Interna-

tional Foundation or NYD Kiwanis Foundation.

- Attended the Governor's Official visit to your Division.
- Attended one Interclub or one Division Council Meeting
- Participated in one Young Children Priority One service project or supported your local Children's Hospital or KPTC.

Lt. governors, please encourage club presidents and secretaries to hand out the distinguished Kiwanian forms (available on the district web site, [www.kiwanis-ny.org](http://www.kiwanis-ny.org)) at club meetings, division meetings and special projects where members may be gathered.

Mail, email, or fax your forms before Sept. 30 to the New York District Office, 120 Mushroom Boulevard, Rochester, New York 14623, Fax : (866) 669-7689, e-mail: [districtoffice@kiwanis-ny.org](mailto:districtoffice@kiwanis-ny.org).

**Membership  
Growth**

**Kim  
Scharoff**



Summer is upon us and many think that this is the time that we slow down and take a bit of a break from Kiwanis. I would argue that now is the perfect time to bring in new members to our clubs. It costs less than \$20 for someone to join now and then they are assessed the full dues in October (the start of the next administrative year).

I believe that bringing individuals interested in learning more about Kiwanis to a service project is the best way to

show someone what Kiwanis is all about. They get the chance to participate in service and meet others in Kiwanis. This way, when they come to a club meeting, they have already met some people and do not feel as uncomfortable.

Do you know of any alumni of our Service Leadership Programs who live in your area? Invite them down to see what your club is doing and ask them to join. Alumni have the first two years of both their district and international dues waived. Can you do the same for their club dues? Can the club pick up the fees for the magazine, liability insurance and ESK for them? These individuals should already have an idea of what Kiwanis is about and are looking to get back involved with our Family. Maybe think about starting a Satellite Club with these individuals.

Has your club thought about corpo-

rate memberships? This is a great way to bring in school districts, banks, restaurants and other businesses/large organizations into our membership. A specific individual is indicated as the contact but anyone from the corporation can come to the meetings and projects. For example, if a bank joins and the manager is the main contact and then the manager is transferred, the new manager can replace him or her as the contact person without the bank having to pay the dues/new member add fee again.

We are only just beginning to grow in membership and need to go into the final stretch of the administrative year strong. If I or any member of the Membership Committees can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me. The best way to reach me is at [kscharoff@gmail.com](mailto:kscharoff@gmail.com).

**Aktion Club**

**Debra  
Rothman**



New Orleans was absolutely wonderful this year with the addition of the Aktion Clubs. Although this is the second year that Aktion Clubs have held a convention, last year the convention was held in Indianapolis. DPG David and I were invited to an ice cream social on Wednesday afternoon to meet and greet Aktion Clubbers from around the globe.

Later in the day I volunteered to work the SLP booth in the exhibit hall; playing a game with convention attendees about our Sponsored Leadership Programs. It gave me the opportunity to speak about Aktion Clubs while meet-

ing Kiwanians from all over the world. I finally got to meet Stephanie Speaker of the West Seneca Aktion Club, who had also attended the Aktion Club convention last year. She had a wonderful time attending the forums and could not stop speaking about how much it meant to her to be a member of an Aktion Club.

Stephanie is working with Paul Synor of the East Aurora Aktion Club in planning a Western NY Aktion Club Conference. Four active Aktion Clubs in Western New York, Buffalo, East Aurora, Niagara County and West Seneca have formed a committee to plan a regional conference this fall. This Planning Committee includes at least one advisor and one member from each club and has had seven meetings since last September. The purpose of this conference is to bring together Aktion Club members to share the projects that they have undertaken and/or completed, encourage ideas for future ones and meet

other members and advisors in the region. A tract will be provided for Kiwanis Club presidents in the region to learn how to develop an Aktion Club in their community. A Keynote Speaker, Darren Jackson, who is a Special Assistant to the Director of the WNY DDSO, will address "Good Citizenship in the Community". Musical entertainment will be provided by Sujeet Desai during lunch and at the closing networking session by the band "Beats Me".

This First Annual Regional Conference of the Aktion Clubs of Western New York - "Taking Aktion!" - will be Saturday, Oct 13 at the Hearthstone Manor, 333 Dick Road, Depew, NY 14043 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$25 per person and includes a continental breakfast as well as lunch. For further information contact Paul Synor at 716-652-4061.