

# Candidate for Governor-Elect: Candace Corsaro

As your governor-elect, I will go to bat for you and your clubs, to help your clubs fulfill their potential and fulfill their goals.

Membership is key to our success and I will continue to work hard to introduce, invite, and motivate people to be a part of this great organization. During my Kiwanis career I have been a Distinguished Past Lt. Gov. of the Niagara Frontier North Division in 2011-12, leading the division in growth and service. Have held numerous positions at the club level, committee chairman for membership and others, club offices including Distinguished Past President. We have built two Key Clubs, a Builders Club and worked with the team to lay the groundwork for new clubs.

At the district level, I was the sitting lieutenant governor for our Niagara Falls Convention, district chair for Women of the Year, Interclub, and the Legion of Honor/Legion of Merit committees. Also have served on the District Policy and Procedure Committee,



Youth Protection Committee, and attended many Finance and Foundation meetings. Also attended International and District Conventions and Mid-Winter Conferences. I have attended Tri-K Weekends, Circle K, Key Club conventions, Youth Leadership Seminars, Key Leader weekend and Kamp Kiwanis.

I always start with a grass-roots approach. I started the Hyde Park Business Association, formed a Block Club for the North End and served as Vice-President and Secretary of the Niagara Falls Block Club Council. I obtained more than \$250,000 in funding and managed a partnership with Niagara University, the City of Niagara Falls and the North End Block Club to build Niagara Falls' first handicap-accessible playground.

I also served as president of Niagara Falls Weed and Seed Site One, a federal program within the U.S. Dept. of Justice that works to "Weed" out criminals guilty of violence and drug abuse and "Seed" with services of prevention, intervention, treatment and neighborhood revitalization.

I have received many awards within Kiwanis, especially the Kiwanian of the Year, Kiwanis Fellow, the Anthony "Tony" Kaiser, KPTC - Buffalo Pediatric Trauma Center and the Centennial Medallion for the Eliminate Project.

My wish, both at home and statewide, is that as a team we can continue to make the world a better place by Serving One Child and One Community at a time.

I was married to Joseph Corsaro (deceased) and am the proud parent of three wonderful children, Gilbert Jr., Mellissa, Sheri Lynn, and six delightful grandchildren.

I look forward to the opportunity to go to bat for you and your clubs.

# Candidate for Governor: Stephen Sirgiovanni

Gov.-Elect Stephen Sirgiovanni will be the sole candidate for the office of Governor for 2016-17.

His father was a charter member and past president of the Kiwanis Club of Howard Beach, and he was involved with various club projects as a child. As an adult, he joined the club. In the club's 53 years of service, he and his father are the only father-son members who were both distinguished presidents of the club.

As a member of the District Foundation board, Sirgiovanni was able to raise



more than \$15,000 from the City of New York for Kamp Kiwanis. He has been active with KPTC, president of the Queens West Foundation, chairman of the Priority One Project for Youth Services

for Gov. Eric Paul, on the finance committee for Distinguished Past Gov. Joe Aiello and Gov.-Elect Forbes Irvine.

He has been a distinguished Kiwan-

ian for the past five years. He chaired the club's Irene and Sandy disaster relief effort.

As the 2013-14 Queens West Division lieutenant governor, the division's clubs inducted 107 new members, and opened a new club, East River, a new Builders Club at St. Helen Academy, and a new K-Kids club.

He is self-employed and involved with real estate investments, sales and service of electronic equipment, and food distribution services for major food companies.

# A note about the History of Kiwanis in New York

With all the well-deserved attention being paid to centennial celebrations, an historical note to clear up some confusion may be in order.

Kiwanis was founded in January of 1915, so Kiwanis International celebrated its centennial at the 2015 International Convention in Indianapolis.

The first club outside the United States was the club in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, completed in 1916. So the centennial of Kiwanis in Canada was celebrated at last month's International Convention in Toronto. An important historical note that often gets



forgotten is that the sponsoring club for the Hamilton club was our own Buffalo club.

The first club in New York State was Rochester, completed (that's the term they used at the time) May 1, 1916. Rochester was the fourth Kiwanis club in the world.

Here's the list of New York clubs celebrating centennials during 2016, with their completion dates:

- Rochester, May 1
- Lockport, May 17
- Buffalo, July 3
- Albany, Aug. 10
- Utica, Sept. 23
- Troy, Oct. 25

In the beginning Kiwanis didn't have a district structure. The formation of districts was approved at the 1918 International Convention.

On Sept. 27, 1918, the New York District was formed at an organizational

meeting in Syracuse. At the time there were eight clubs in the district: Rochester, Lockport, Buffalo, Syracuse, Albany, Binghamton, Utica and New York City.

The 1919 district convention in Elmira was small, drawing only seven Kiwanians, but 455 Kiwanians attended the 1920 convention in Utica.

So while 2016 marks the 100th anniversary of Kiwanis in New York, the 100th anniversary of the New York District will take place in 2018.

Go to the district web site,  
[www.kiwanis-ny.org](http://www.kiwanis-ny.org)  
for the latest information.