

Eliminate Project

Sister Anne-Marie Kirmse



In the last issue, I ended with a promise to announce the amount of money raised by the EliMiNaTe Walk and the Craft Fair, both held in mid-July. The Walk was a huge success, raising \$10,000, and the Inlet Craft Fair and the table at the District Convention in August raised \$1200. The items that remained are being offered at a Fall Festival in East Hampton in mid-October, so more money will be raised at that event. Thank you to all who participated in both of these district-wide efforts to help EliMiNaTe MNT once and for all!

Our new Kiwanis Year has begun and we are moving ever closer to our 100th Anniversary Celebration in Indianapolis in June. We in New York can take much pride and satisfaction in the fact that we have raised over \$980,000, thus protecting at least

544,444 mothers and their unborn children. That is over half a million mothers' lives, and well over a million unborn children. Over 80% of our clubs have participated. I hope that the other 20% will come on board soon! However, we still have a long way to go. We are still trying to reach that elusive \$1 million threshold, and our goal is \$1,796,314.

For the final push, the Campaign Staff has announced several new opportunities. The first is an exciting one for those who are thinking of becoming Model Clubs. A generous donor who wishes to remain anonymous is offering 20% of a club's amount needed to become a Model Club. For example, a club of 25 members needs \$18,500 to make a Model Club commitment. They have already raised \$3,000 with two Zellers and a pancake breakfast, leaving them with \$15,750 to raise. The Matching Gift will give them \$3,150, leaving them with \$12,600 to raise over five years.

The second new opportunity is the Centennial Medal, which will only be offered from October 2014 through June 2015. It will be awarded for a donation of \$1500, which can be paid



in full or as a pledge paid over a two-year period.

It is obvious from these two opportunities that funds will continue to be received until the pledges are completed. Model Club commitments are in effect from the day they are signed until five years after that date. Thus a club which signs its commitment on February 6, 2015 would have until February 6, 2020, to complete it.

As we reflect on our blessings this Thanksgiving, let us look at the children around our holiday tables and renew our desire to help those mothers who live "beyond the end of the road" to have the joy of raising healthy children. Let us look into our hearts and see if we can do more--as individuals and as clubs. In the immortal words of the Little Engine That Could, "I think I can...I think I can...I think I can." Let me add: "I know we can!"

Chinatown Club Awards 9 Zellers, is halfway to \$100,000 Goal

On Sept. 5 Past International Foundation President Peter Mancuso participated as the Chinatown club presented Walter Zeller awards to Wellington Z. Chan and Alice Hom, principal of PS 124 (Yun Wing Elementary School).

In June, the club presented a Walter Zeller Fellow Award to Distinguished Past Lt. Gov. Al Federico Jr., Peter Chan, Past President Evelyn Yu, Amy Cao, Shu Ping Rong DDS, Michael Mui, Distinguished Past President Louis Chow and Chi Vy Ngo.

Chinatown has pledged to be a model club for the Eliminate Project, with a goal of \$100,000. The club passed the halfway mark on meeting its pledge in May.



Metropolitan Division Walks for Eliminate

The Metropolitan Division had a Walk for Eliminate on July 17, timed to occur simultaneously with the Kiwanis International Convention Walk for the Global Campaign to Eliminate Maternal and Neo-Natal Tetanus in Tokyo-Chiba, Japan.

The walk had representation from 75 percent of the clubs in the division and large attendance from the members of Key Clubs in the Key Club Division 10. The event started with a reading of an email from Immediate Past Kiwanis International President Tom DeJulio regarding the solidarity of New Yorkers walking with the Kiwanians all around the world. Each club in the division contributed \$100 to defray the costs of the event including a banner, sponsor sign, and T-shirts which were given to each attendee. The event was coordinated by Distinguished Past Lt. Gov. Sean O'Sullivan and Courtney Gallagher, members of the new All Island Kiwanis Club. The walk was led by Metropolitan Division Lt. Gov. Chris Rubano and was approximately 2 miles long.

The event had corporate sponsors and walker sponsorships. Each club is being given credit for the funds that the club raised towards the division walk. While funds are still being collected, the total amount of money raised and pledged is \$7,600, with more than \$5,000 coming from the new All Island Kiwanis Club. The \$7,600 will save more than 4,200 mothers and their future babies.