

First Lady's Project

Helene Irvine



My Fellow Kiwanians, allow me to introduce myself: My name is Helene and it is with great pleasure that I serve you as your First Lady this upcoming year.

This past August while attending the New York District Convention, it was with great pride and pleasure that I endorsed my husband, Forbes Irvine as New York District Governor 2015-16.

We met in 1997 and married in 1998. We merged two households, three children, two full time jobs and Kiwanis. In that year I learned many things, two of which were what Kiwanis was (and still is) and that Wednesday nights were devoted to his club and that would never change. Throughout the years, as a family, we have supported and participated

in countless Kiwanis events and stood by his side through his numerous positions - all of which led us to this point today. He has always been a man to look up to, he has always set a great example for our children, and it is with unrelenting support that we now share with you, our family leader, your leader, Gov. Forbes D. Irvine.

In following with the Governor's Project, Kiwanis 101, "We Take Care of Our Own", supporting the camp - Kamp Kiwanis, KPCTC, Pediatric Lyme Disease and Disaster Relief, I have set out to start my own project, Warm Beginnings.

Warm Beginnings is about our most precious resources, newborn babies.

As a newborn nurse for over 35 years, there have been too many instances in which newborn babies have gone home without basic necessities. Many times over the years, Forbes has heard me talk about this issue. He brought the idea to his club, North Central of the Metropolitan Division, to have a baby shower, to which they responded and with great enthusiasm. They hosted baby showers at which guests were in-

vited to, including the recipients of the shower proceeds, nurses that I work with and my nurse managers. Other guests were from Cross Roads, which is an organization that helps young mothers after they have been discharged from the hospital.

We requested simple items: clothes, pajamas, t-shirts, socks, mittens, hats and blankets. Homemade blankets and hats are a favorite. This is my request: I ask each club to hold a baby shower. More often than not, there are organizations that assist mothers and newborns and donations are always welcomed. There is no need to pack and ship any items, this is for your club, your community - taking care of our own.

Our mission this year is to bring Kiwanis back to our home communities. Identify a family in need, support SLP's, senior and veterans. It's what we do. It is Kiwanergy.

I am looking forward to meeting and working along side of you all. Thank you for your support, hopefully I will attend a baby shower in your club or division.

President, Board of Lt. Govs.

Julie Watterson



Well, here we go again! We are off to a great fresh new start of what is going to be one fantastic Kiwanis year.

So, what is a lieutenant governor and what do we do?

Just as your club president is the leader of your club, your lieutenant governor is the leader of your division. The New York District is comprised of 27 divisions, each has a lieutenant governor. All the lieutenant governors will work closely with your district leader, Gov. Forbes Irvine, to meet Kiwanis International and New York District goals this year.

Your lieutenant governor's duties include supporting the clubs by visiting

them and coaching the presidents and secretaries to keep them informed. We will assist in strengthening your clubs by working closely with your Formula Team Division Club Counselors collaborating membership drives. We also assist with division council meetings and host the Governor's Official Visit to your division.

Your lieutenant governor works closely with the Formula Team Club Counselors to identify potential new club sites and open new clubs. They will also help to mentor any new clubs.

We educate the clubs by passing along information as it is received by Kiwanis International and the district in a timely manner. We work closely with the master trainers to offer Leadership Training and additional education as needed. We are also given the task of finding an effective lieutenant governor-elect for our division. If that is something you may be considering in the future, identify yourself to us so we can help you in the process by mentoring you. Being a lieutenant governor to your

division is a privilege and is something each and every effective club president should consider in their Kiwanis calling.

Your lieutenant governor also works with the Service Leadership Programs including Circle K, Key Club, Builders Clubs, K Kids and Aktion Clubs.

Above all, your Board of lieutenant governors wants you to know that we are all in this together and that you have all of the support you need from us. Reach out to us not only for help, but to keep us informed of what is going on in your clubs. We want to know about your upcoming important meetings, events and successes so we can celebrate, support and promote in a positive manner all year long. You and your clubs do great acts of service every single day and we want to support you in any way that we can. Your lieutenant governors are here to help guide your way through this Kiwanis year and we are looking forward to working with each and every one of the members in our divisions!

New Aktion Club Chartered in Sullivan County

The Kiwanis clubs of Monticello and Woodridge are the co-sponsors of the newly formed and chartered Aktion Club of Sullivan County.

The club is made up of adults with disabilities who are affiliated with SullivanARC, New Hope Community and Center for Discovery. Some of the benefits these members receive from participating in the Aktion Club are the

opportunity to contribute to the community, develop social interaction awareness, improve their self-esteem and develop leadership skills.

They are in the process of selecting fundraisers and picking service projects for the coming year.

Charter Night July 23 was a big celebration. The event drew Aktion Club charter member, family members and

members of the Monticello, Woodridge, Chester, Middletown and Minisink Kiwanis Clubs as well as agency advisors.

The new club's 14 members received pins and certificates.

The club conducted its first meeting Aug. 18.