



Secretary/Treasurer

Ann Sewert

Congratulations to Governor Don, First Lady Marlene and District Convention Chair Joe Battista for a well run District Convention at Turning Stone. Secretary Justin and Joanne and LG Fred Jaynes and others from the Central Division and the District also contributed to the success of the Convention. It was a pleasure to host International Trustee and Counselor Don Sanker and his wife Bev and I thank all of you who made them feel so welcome.

We are proud of the accomplishments of the members and leaders in our Sponsored Leadership Programs that were highlighted at their International Conventions. CKI Advisor John Keegan was the recipient of the coveted “Circle of Service Award” which he certainly has earned. What an honor to have the Key Club and Circle K International Presidents from the New York District! Congratulations Kia and Kristen and we wish you well as you light the path for the future.

Speaking of International Presidents, Dave Curry honored our District with a second visit this year beginning in the Ontario Division and then coming to the Finger Lakes and Genesee Divisions for the Membership Round-ups. Governor Don and Membership Growth Chair (myself) Ann Sewert were be very pleased with the number of new members that were reported. It was exhilarating to participate as President Dave inducted 34 members into Kiwanis from the Finger Lakes (17) and Genesee (17) Divisions on August 21, 2008.

Each of us has the challenge of maintaining this new level of membership. We must make sure that these new members stay involved and that we focus on what we do best – providing service to others in our community and throughout the world! I am up for the challenge and I hope you are too!

Sammis Gets Legion of Merit

Kiwanis Club of **HUNTINGTON**, Suffolk West Division – at a recent club meeting presented a special award to Marge Sammis. Sammis was honored with 20 year Legion of Merit Award for her many years of dedicated service to Kiwanis and the children of the world. Marge has served as Huntington Board Member for many years.



Pictured above, left to right: President Tom Monks, Legion of Merit recipient Marge Sammis, and PP Gerry Asher.

Report of the International Trustee

Growth

Pursuant to the "Flexibility Amendment" passed by the House of Delegates in San Antonio in 2007, KI has approved "piloting" two membership initiatives: Company-based Kiwanis clubs and Club Satellites.

Company-based Kiwanis Clubs:

A Kiwanis club can exist within a large business or company, paying an annual club "franchise" fee of \$2,500 for up to 35 members. Upon Board approval, Districts will receive one-third of this fee. Pilot company clubs are presently being formed at a large law firm in midtown Manhattan and at a Walmart Distribution Plant in Indianapolis. The Board sees company-based clubs as an opportunity to expand Kiwanis and its "house" brands of Service Leadership programs to a new audience of volunteers not bounded by or limited to a geographically defined community.

Club Satellites:

A Club Satellite can be opened in areas that may not be able to sustain a club of charter size. Members of Club Satellites can be added to the rosters of thriving "classic" Kiwanis clubs which serve as "host" to their one or more satellites established in schools, hospitals, other non-profit agencies, and other appropriate entities/locations. The Board also sees the potential for Club Satellites established in response to requests for charter revocation of small, struggling clubs (less than 10 members) whose members wish to retain their membership in Kiwanis but who may not be able to regularly travel to and actively participate in their host club meetings. The members of Club Satellites will be expected to pay the annual club dues established by their host Kiwanis club but are expected to continue to perform Kiwanis service within their own orbit of operation. Members of Club Satellites may have a common interest, community, hobby, or single-service focus (i.e., K-Kids or Key Club sponsorship). The Board sees Club Satellites as an opportunity to expand and/or retain a Kiwanis volunteer presence in more areas.

Finance

Despite the declining stock market and significant loss of investment income, KI should end FY 08 with a surplus thanks

primarily to tighter budget controls, aggressive oversight by the Board's Finance Committee and its Independent Financial Advisor, staff reorganization, and significant savings in KI Board expenses. The Board also approved a balanced budget for FY09 with more than \$250,000 in new initiatives. As a member of the Finance Committee this year, I and the Board reviewed proposals presented to it by a special Revenue Task Force, headed by Trustee Don Sanker. The Board will be approving significant changes to the current dues structure and collection process which will require bylaw amendments to be presented at the Nashville 2009 convention. Likely included among them will be the elimination of the "new member ADD fee" to be replaced by pro-rata dues collection, and the restoration of the one fixed annual date for payment of International and District dues, to replace the current "three-part" dues collection process. I was invited to join this Revenue Task Force to provide continuity of service and advice in these important financial areas, as well as to develop recommendations for the KI Magazine Fund and International Convention Fund.

Leadership

The KI Leadership Development Committee which I chaired this past year began developing competency-based curriculum for all levels of Kiwanis leadership, including on-line training and E-learning opportunities. I have been invited by KI President Don Canaday to continue work in this area on the International level, supporting staff in its efforts to unveil these new tools and resources to Presidents-elect next Spring. Over the next two years, I was also asked to lead with Past Distinguished Governor Pat Hawkins of the Indiana district the International Committee on Service Leadership Programs. Its objective is to strengthen and expand Kiwanis branded programs serving youth and young adults.

Other Important Information:

The Board voted Geneva, Switzerland as the site for the 2011 International Convention (July 5-10, 2011).

Respectfully Submitted,
Thomas E. DeJulio
Kiwanis International Trustee 2005-08



District Convention Report

Joe Battista

“WOW what a time we had.” Now that the District convention is over, I can kick back and reflect. I have surveyed over 35 kiwanians from different divisions around our district to get their views, criticisms, and comments on the convention. Their response was the opening phrase to this article. We had set out over four years ago to bring new venues to our district convention, and I am glad to report “we have succeeded.”

The convention began with the opening ceremony of the Oneida youth welcoming us in their traditional wardrobe and dance which was nothing less than amazing. Turning Stone Resort and Casino staff was exceptionally helpful and courteous to all.

This year's convention had 517 Kiwanians and guests registered with the district, a number we haven't seen in some time. The Veterans Luncheon was an awesome tribute to our men and women in uniform – not even the little rain shower could dampen the marching band and color guard from making an impressive entrance. Thanks to Al Federico and Bob Calabrese for their work on making this tribute to our Veterans a memorable one. Golfers expressed the beauty of the serene grounds of the course they played on. Friday evening, we all had the opportunity to share some Hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and conversation with the Convention Honorees Jim and Mary Yochum at the Shenandoah Club House.

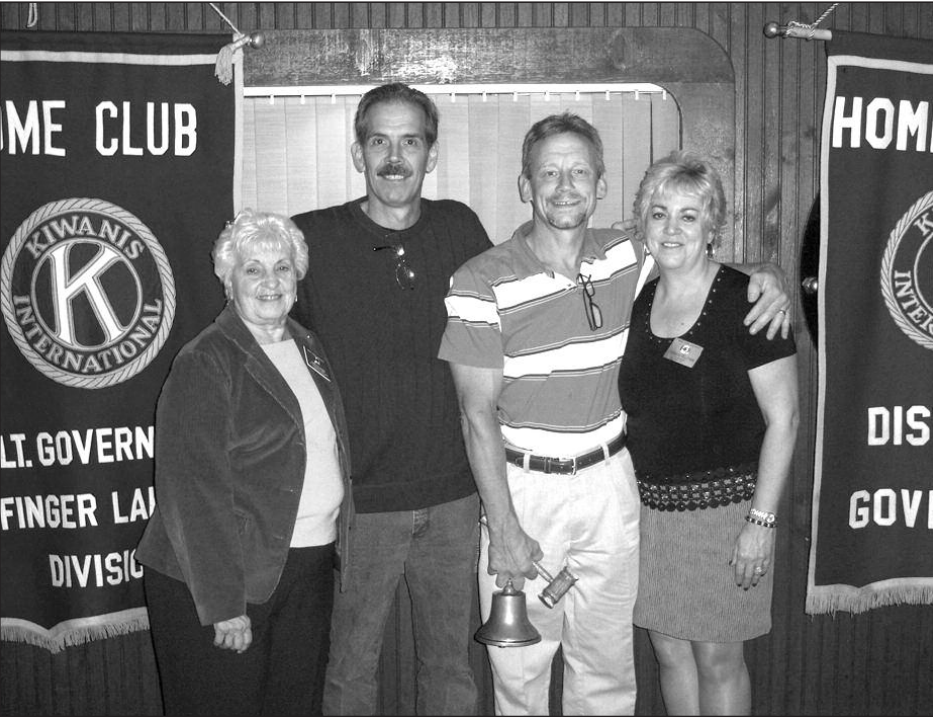
The forums were a little tight on space, but we managed to get by. I was impressed with the tables for our papers in front of us for the general sessions. What a time was had by all at the Governors Reception and Dinner Party! I commented before time, “you will see food here that we had never seen before at a convention dinner.” The raw bar, the hors ‘d oeuvres, the filet minion with crab-stuffed shrimp, and lastly, who could forget the bananas foster desert, were all delicious.

I greatly appreciated all those who had commented on how beautiful the facility was, how exceptional the staff was, how amazing the food was, and oh yea, it was a great convention!

A special thanks to the Central Division and Lt. Gov. Fred Jaynes and First Lady Nora for all the help and preparation in making this convention spectacular. For those kiwanians who had missed this one, District Chair Melanie will produce one just as amazing in Albany, so see you there.

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

Webster Club Starts a New Year



Pictured from left to right are Lt. Governor Carole Bubb, Immediate Past President Tom Servis, President Ron Kampff, and Governor Doreen Pellitteri. This marks the first time that the Webster Club will have both the Lt. Governor and Governor serving in the same year. Congratulations and good luck to all Kiwanians across New York State!