The Kiwanis Club of YORK-LEICESTER, Genesee Division – celebrated their 40th anniversary on June 9, 2007 with a celebration party at Hillcrest in Pavilion. Among the guests were, NY State District Governor- J. Donald Herring and his wife Marlene, Past Lt. Governor Ann Holevinski and her husband Robert, and Past International President Gerald Christiano. Certificates of Honor were presented for 25 years of service to Edward Deuel and Richard Moose, for 30 years of service to Louis Scura and Charlie (Dutch) Varley, for 35 years of service to William Raffe, William Kane and James Matthews, and for 40 years of service and chartering member Gerald Christiano. Also the club presented its 24th George F. Hosson Fellows award to William Guthrie. This award represented the clubs involvement in Kiwanis International sustainability of universal salt iodization (USI) program which has helped children throughout the world.

Herring
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situation for any community. I’m sure you all understand that if we as Kiwanians believe in what we do, then we must do all that we can to insure that these great service activities continue into the future.

So, how do we stop the pattern of lost membership and turn it around so that we show growth? I propose to you a relatively easy plan. If every Kiwanian President would accept the goal for his/her club that you will end your year with at least a plus one (+1) in membership we will grow by nearly 300 members. As I said at the start of this discussion, this will not happen unless you make it happen. That means that time must be spent during your meetings on the question of membership and planning how this increase will come about. This must be done starting with your next meeting. If it is left until too late in the year it may not happen. Lieutenant Governor Joe Weiss of the Suffolk East Division has devised an excellent plan that Presidents can use to insure that this issue is discussed. He calls this plan the M.I.F. program. He suggests that in all Kiwanis meetings time should be spent on M.-Membership, I.- Information, and F.- Fun. If your meetings are Informative, include membership planning, and the members have fun then they will enjoy the Kiwanis experience. This of course, will allow for greater retention of current members and an increase in new members. You should talk to LT. Gov. Joe Weiss for more information on M.I.F. However gaining 300 members is not enough to do our part to achieve the goal of one million (1,000,000) members by the one hundredth birthday of Kiwanis in 2015. We must do more. I have asked the T.A.G. Team Chair Ann Sewart to undertake the addition of twelve (12) new Kiwanis Clubs in the District. By the time that you read this two will have already been formed; one in Albany in the Capital Division thanks to Mike Malark, and one in the Niagara North Division at Wheatland. Thanks for this club go out to Tom Beachy and Colin Smith. We have ten (10) more to go. This will be the task of the T.A.G. Team. I am sure that Ann will be working hard to introduce these new clubs to us. We are also offering several contests for new member sponsors. These contests are explained in another part of this issue of the E.S.K. All in all we must do a better job in the area of growth. This plan, that I speak of here, when achieved, will produce the addition of six hundred new members, and we will not have lost the 400-500 members that we have been losing for an overall gain of at least one thousand (1,000) members. We can do it!!! It must be the commitment of every Kiwanian to bring in a new member this year Join the “Dream Team” honor roll by sponsoring a new member now.

More Service with More Members

The second goal (dream) for this year is more service being undertaken at the club level. This of course ties in with growth. The more Kiwanians there are to provide service the more service will be performed. New Kiwanians will also bring a wealth of new ideas and ways that service may get to those children that are in need. As many of you know I am personally committed to spreading our New York service to children all around the world. I therefore urge each Kiwanis Club to donate five dollars ($5.00) per member to the Kiwanis International Foundation. This is a small donation from each club, but it will make a major impact on needy children around the world. We make a great impact on the children of our communities, let’s expand our horizons and make a great impact on the children of the world.

Embracing Diversity

The third and last goal (dream) for this year is to embrace diversity in all of our Kiwanis activities. Diversity is a very broad term. It suggests that we do things in a different fashion than we have done them in the past. Our embracing of diversity can take many forms: we can be more diverse in our membership recruitment, we can exercise diversity in our service activities, and in our normal club meetings. I have asked the District Diversity Committee under the direction of Janet Banks and Carl Johnson to identify ways that diversity can be exhibited in our normal Kiwanis activities. I have also asked them to take the leadership in building a new Kiwanis Club that will showcase the essence of what diversity means in our Kiwanis Lives. The Governor’s Project will also be an exercise in diversity. In as much as diversity means different things to different people the same is true of Kiwanis clubs. I am asking any Club who undertakes and completes a self-defined diversity project will earn a Governor’s project banner patch. I would like to see every club in the district proudly display the Governor’s diversity award.

Walk for a Child’s Dream

I want to thank all of you who took part, or will be taking part, in the Walk for a Child’s Dream. As most of you know International President Dave Curry and First Lady Eva were in the New York District to take part in a 10K walk at Kemp Kiwanis. This walk took

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The Kiwanis Club of ELMIRA, Chemung Division – Mike Wayne presented a $2,000 check to Diana Rumsey, Director of Major Gifts of the Food Bank of the Southern Tier, as part of the year end ceremonies of his two year term as President of the Elmiran Kiwanis. According to Wayne, “Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time. There is no more important responsibility that we have as individuals and as a Kiwanis Club than to help those in need, and by supporting the Food Bank we are assisting those who are struggling to meet the most basic of needs - feeding those who are hungry or those who need help in providing adequate nutrition for themselves and their family.”

The Kiwanis Club’s gift was designated as $1,000 to the Food Bank’s “Back Pack” program and $1,000 to the Kids Cafe at the Woodlawn Youth Center and the Southside Community Center.

“We truly want to make a difference in a students’ life then we should do all we can to make sure that they have access to healthy and well balanced meals. While many students are well nourished while in school, our support of the Back Pack and Kids Cafe programs will help extend this assistance after school and through the weekend,” Wayne said. The Elmiran Kiwanis Club, which was founded in 1919, is the third largest Kiwanis Club in New York State.

Elmira President Mike Wayne, right, presents a check for $2,000 to Diana Rumsey from the Food Bank of the Southern Tier.

Troy Kiwanis Welcomes Members

The Kiwanis Club of TROY, Van Rensselaer Division – Lauren Rankey was inducted into the Troy Kiwanis. Ms. Rankey was sponsored by her mother, Cheryl Rankey.

Timothy Maki of Averill Park was also inducted into the Troy Kiwanis. Mr. Maki was sponsored by James Prout. Mr. Maki is the assistant director of facilities at the Sage Colleges.

The Kiwanis Club of TROY, Van Rensselaer Division - Lauren Rankey was inducted into the Troy Kiwanis. Ms. Rankey was sponsored by her mother, Cheryl Rankey.

Pictured above from left to right are: Karl Cote, Lauren Rankey and Cheryl Rankey.

Pictured from left to right are: James Prout, Timothy Maki and Karl Cote.