A busy schedule is ready for the participants in the 2011 New York District Mid-Year Conference which will take place Feb. 24-27 at the Holiday Inn on Wolf Road in Albany.

Kiwanians will be treated to a Comedy Show on Friday evening that’s designed to provide some fun and to raise some money for Kamp Kiwanis.

Doors will open for the comedy show at 9 p.m. on Feb. 25, with the show starting at 9:30 p.m. The show is for adults 18 years of age or older.

All of the money raised from ticket sales, $15 for one or $25 for two, will be used to send children of active-duty deployed military personnel to Kamp Kiwanis. A portion of the cash bar also will be donated to Kamp Kiwanis.

The weekend will feature a variety of educational programs, including new club building for lieutenant governors, a leadership session for presidents and secretaries, and a variety of forums.

Friday night’s dinner will feature the district’s Sponsored Youth.

On Saturday night the dinner will be dedicated to honoring Booker’s Builders, the team of Past Gov. David Booker, who was governor in 2009-10.

Several annual events will once again be featured, including District Board and Foundation Board meetings.

Those planning to attend need to register for both the hotel and the conference. Forms have been mailed to clubs and are available on the district web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org.

A third form is needed to order tickets for the Comedy Show.

The Basket Raffle is an annual attraction at the Mid-Year Conferences.

Clubs, divisions and others are welcome to donate baskets which are then raffled off.

This year, Governor Mike has designated the proceeds of the Basket Raffle to send Kampers to Kamp Kiwanis.

You are encouraged to bring to the Conference a basket of items representative of your area. Each year we have seen baskets of food, chocolates, wine, liquor, toys, business items, books, sporting goods, and other items. Be creative, have fun and let’s raise lots of money so that we can help more children around our District.

Please inform Basket Chair Rebecca Ovadia or Co-Chair Herman Ovadia if you are bringing a basket. You can reach Rebecca at woodsidekiwanis@yahoo.com, Herman at regoroff@yahoo.com or by calling (516) 432-5690.

Registration forms for the conference have been mailed to clubs and are on the district web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org.

See Page 4 for more information including the tentative schedule. Check the district web site for schedule updates and additions.

Governor
Michael Malark

As we start the new year we are bringing in members but we must keep working to get our membership up.

Our success is going to be in Membership Roundups, members inviting potential members, friends and acquaintances to club meetings, so please keep it up.

We also have many clubs striving to attain Charter II strength (25 members). Clubs that are under 15 members should strive to bring their membership to 15. Clubs that are at 15 members should bring their membership up to 20.

Clubs that are at 20 should achieve charter strength (25). So far Glen Cove in Long Island North has reached charter strength.

Think 39 is a great way to energize your club with younger members and new ideas. Membership has been our goal and as your governor I want to thank you for your support.

You have also supported the Governor’s Project with its many different options which has also lead to membership, community service, Kiwanis awareness and education.

As we strive to achieve our goals we should remember that we are a service organization and work to make our Kiwanis Clubs the best Service Organization in our community.

Remember it’s not I, it’s not me, “It is we”, who should be striving to make our clubs stronger with more members and more service in our communities.

Let’s work together to achieve our goals.

As Einstein implied, “If you always do what you always did, you only get what you always got.”

New members mean new ideas, more hands to strengthen our clubs and the district.

I would like to thank all of you for your energy and hard work in making the New York District one of the best in the world.

We hope to see you at the Mid-Year Conference.

I would like to thank and congratulate Long Island North for bring in our first new club, “Great Neck Peninsula.”
Kiwanians are like the "yeast" in society, making a discernible difference. Yeast makes things rise. Without it some basic foods would be less than palatable. With it there is added value and enjoyment.

Yeast is recognized as an agitator. It can stir things up, leaving a better result when its work is finished.

Kiwanians infuse society, acting as agents of wholesome change. They should not be isolated as a remnant but should be everywhere as leaven, as yeast.

That's the Kiwanis difference. Kiwanis means moving out with a transforming message of power. It is an active implanting of the love of God in the lives of individuals and societies. It is the way to elevate life and to improve and enhance the human situation and experience. That's the Kiwanis mission.

To fulfill such a mission there obviously must be implementors.

So, what is a Kiwanian? Given our first understanding of the Kiwanis difference -- that it relates to introducing a certain leaven into life -- on the negative side we can say a Kiwanian is not a person restricted to a single profession. Kiwanis service is not restricted to the exclusive province of the board or a particular committee. Speaking positively, Kiwanis service can be and ought to be performed by each and every member of the club.

A Kiwanian is everyone who serves as a consequence of being profoundly moved to share the love of God in their heart. Such service obviously can be anywhere; it can take many forms. But it is service, and it springs from lives moved and touched by love.

Service is the witness to love, and the Kiwanian is identified by that love. He or she interprets his or her activity in that context, openly, unashamedly, and joyfully. Organized or spontaneous service effort at its best is characterized in these terms. It is an expression of loving service, people to people, anywhere in the world.

Is there still a need for the leaven in society which the love of God brings and a need for individuals everywhere to live on the basis of that love?

Only the cynic would deny such needs. Most people would admit that there is plenty of room for the Kiwanis difference, meaning the transforming power of God and his love. It indeed has validity for our day. No other ingredients in the human situation have proved capable of saving and helping us.

This ingredient is needed now more urgently than ever before. Kiwanians ready to make the Kiwanis difference are the people of the hour. So, share that love inside and outside of your communities. Make the Kiwanis difference. Be the yeast that makes the world rise. Share the love.

DeJulio Appointed Counselor to District

Kiwanis International Vice President Thomas DeJulio has been appointed counselor to the New York District. DeJulio replaces International Trustee Jim Jennings, who participated in the district’s convention last August, because Jennings has left the International Board.

DeJulio previously served as counselor to New York when he was an International Trustee.

The roles of board counselor to districts, as well as the role of International Committees, are currently being evaluated for their effectiveness.

Counselors act as consultant, communicator and cheerleader.

DeJulio will be presenting a “Face the Nation” workshop Feb. 26 at the district’s Mid-Year Conference.

How do ticks survive and find their hosts? Most ticks go through four life stages, egg, six-legged larva, eight-legged nymph, and adult. After hatching from the eggs, ticks must eat blood at every stage to survive. Ticks that require this many hosts can take up to three years to complete their life cycle, and most will die because they don’t find a host for their next feeding. Ticks can feed on mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians. Most ticks prefer to have a different host animal at each stage of their life.

Ticks find their hosts by detecting animals’ breath and body odors, or by sensing body heat, moisture, and vibrations. Some can even recognize a shadow. In addition, ticks pick a place to wait by identifying well-used paths. Then they wait for a host, resting on the tips of grasses and shrubs. Ticks can’t fly or jump, but many tick species wait in a position known as “questing”.

While questing, ticks hold onto leaves and grass by their third and fourth pair of legs. They hold the first pair of legs outstretched, waiting to climb on to the host. When a host brushes the spot where a tick is waiting, it quickly climbs aboard. Some ticks will attach quickly and others will wander, looking for places like the ear, or other areas where the skin is thinner.
Adolescence is possibly the most critical, pivotal time in a person's life. This is the time period when Kiwanis can be the difference: the difference that builds self esteem, develops positive leaders, provides the incentive to resist peer pressure and helps build and direct the future of the adolescents in your community. Those are the things a Builders Club will bring to your Junior High/Middle School and your community.

Middle and Junior High students believe they are adults and can do anything, only no one gives them a chance to prove it. They are too young to have a job, too young to drive, too old to have a babysitter, but have a lot of time and energy. They need an opportunity to channel their time and energy into positive things, and become the people we all will be proud of. As Kiwanians, we can give them that opportunity through a Builders Club. WHY would any club not want to start one? You can secure the future of your Kiwanis Club by providing the Kiwanis Experience now, to the youth of your community. Start a Builders Club and provide the experience that builds a serving heart, a desire to help others, self esteem and, a link to your Kiwanis Club. You can do all this, or...you can let the opportunity slip through your fingers and enable drug dealers, drugs, peer pressure, computer games and the internet to be the effective influence in the future of the adolescents of your community.

Think about it! It's time for (the other) New Year's Resolution. Let's resolve as Kiwanians to make the difference in the lives and future of these kids. Let's Build and become involved with our future, a future you'll be proud of. Start a Builders Club! You'll be glad that you did. If you need help in doing this, contact me, Joanne Underwood at 91 Jewel Street, Rochester, NY 14621 or (585) 342-7657.

Among my many Kiwanis treasures is a now dog-eared and somewhat dilapidated copy of a Commemorative Souvenir Journal celebrating the 25th anniversary of the New York District Foundation in 1994 (which made 2009 the 40th anniversary of our Foundation and Kamp Kiwanis, certainly a defining moment in the proud history of our great District worthy of special note).

For New York Kiwanians, especially those of a certain age, the pages of the Souvenir Journal constitutes a wonderful trip through fond memories and nostalgia. We are very much in indebted to the then-Foundation Historian Past Lt. Gov. Jim McGrath for his comprehensive and inspiring 25-year history of the foundation included in the journal. My thanks as current District Historian go to Jim for his history, titled "It's Kiwanis' Best Kept Secret". There is so much interest in the journal that it cannot all be described in this brief article.

To begin with the 25th anniversary year and the journal were dedicated in memory of the much loved 1985-86 first lady of our district, Janis Calabrese, who had suddenly and tragically been taken from us. Past Gov. Bob Calabrese, a dedicated and most generous supporter of Kamp Kiwanis and now Honorary Foundation Board member, expressed profound gratitude for the dedication in the pages of the Journal.

Also in the journal is a valuable piece titled, "Kiwanis International and the New York District" by the late Larry A. Hapgood, our 1952 District Governor and then Associate Secretary emeritus and long-time Kiwanis International historian and scribe. According to Jim McGrath's history, the genesis of our foundation is to be found in 1966 District Gov. Thomas T. Pierce's appointment of a committee to investigate the feasibility of establishing a sleep-away camp for underprivileged boys, which in due course resulted in 1968 Gov. Stephen H. Hart (currently the dean of our past governors) and his board proposing the creation of a District Foundation to accept and run an existing camp which would be donated to the district by the Rome Kiwanis Club and soon thereafter conveyed to the newly-formed foundation. The rest, as they say, is history.

Steve Hart served two years as founding president of the foundation before being elected International Trustee and ultimately vice president of Kiwanis International. During the following 40 years Steve, now an honorary Foundation Board Member, was succeeded for varying terms as foundation president by Don Miekam, Vic Peretta, Bob Kilburn, Tony Kaiser, Jack Tetamore, Jerry Christie, Jack Hurten (now an honorary board member), John Gaglione, Lindy Marrazzo (now foundation presidentemeritus) and our current president, Sal Anelli. Especially notable for top flight dedication and staying with the project for several years during the kamp's crucial developing stage were Jack Tetamore as president, the late Don Miekam as secretary and the late Lou Theiss as treasurer, and years later the late John Gaglione and Lindy Marrazzo, which of whom served with extraordinary dedication for many years.

Among the high ranking 1993-94 Kiwanis International officials whose congratulatory members are included in the journal are International President Arthur D. Swanburg, President-Elect Ian Perdiau, Treasurer-Designate Jerry Christiano, Past International President Tony Kaiser, then-current District Gov. Dutch Craumer and then-Founding President John Gaglione.

U.S. Government officials whose messages appear are President Bill Clinton, New York Senator Alphonse D'Amato and New York Gov. Mario Cuomo.

Most moving, however, the journal also includes no fewer than 112 pages of heartfelt message of tribute to Janis Calabrese from Kiwanis family clubs and members, a virtual catalogue of district notables of the day.

The foundation's and Kamp Kiwanis' history is a proud one indeed with too many achievements to recount here. Forty years is a long time. The foundation and kamp have more than validated the vision of its founders and early supporters, and more is yet to come.

Happy New Year!

By the time you are reading this, we are all well into the New Year. So, how will this year be different? What will you do to make 2011 a better year? How will we in Kiwanis really make a difference this year?

We in Kiwanis are fortunate in that we get two New Years each year! One New Year begins October first. At the start of our Kiwanis New Year, I got a commitment from each of our Lt. Governors, to charter at least one new Builders Club in their division this year. Is your club the one that will really make that commitment a reality? I can not think of anything that can make a more powerful impact on your club and community.
Key Winners

Members who sponsor new members win Key awards from Kiwanis International thanking them for bringing in a new Kiwanian.

Members who sponsor three or more members earn a Gold Key; those who sponsor two members receive a Silver Key, and those who sponsor one member receive a Bronze Key.

The following Kiwanians in the district have received Keys for their efforts so far this administrative year:

**Gold Key Winners:**
- Cortland: Ron Van Deo; Great Neck Peninsula: Rosita George-Williams; Irondequoit: Frank Romeo, Stacey Romeo; Islips, Bay Shore: Sandy Flan-dina; La Guardia Airport: Veta Brome; Oceanside: Sandie Scholl
- Chinatown, New York City: George Cho, James Tong; Falconer: Gaylene Lindell; Gloversville-Johnstown: Francis Caraco; Howard Beach: Stephen Sir-giovanni; Kingston: Darlene Pfeiffer; Lefferts-Liberty: Queens County: An-gelo Maltaghiti; Levittown: Ann Ter-civia; Merrick: Margaret Biegelman; Ozone Park: Jonah Cohen; Richmond County: Al Federico; Salamanca: Thomas Brady; Sunnyside: Carol Masiello; Woodridge: Sue Kasofsky

**Silver Key Winners:**
ter: Ogdensburg: Larry Mitchell; Olean: Robin Browne; Parkchester, The Bronx: Milijana Radonicz; Plattsburgh Breakfast: Tonia Finnegan; Queens Boulevard: Janice Bar, Liselotte Reinenrech; Rich mond County: Glen Mancuso; Riverdale: Richard Peterson; Salamanca: Tom Brady; Sunnyside: Paula Mareisak; Tonawanda: Gerald Rott, Thomas Smy ers: Troy: Karl Cote; Wantagh: Linda Herman; Webster: Peter J. Pellittieri, Ronald Kampff; West Seneca: David Nagy; Westmoreland: Yvonne Smith; Yonkers: Frank Riti; York-Leecheste: Sally Claud

It’s a good time to meet old friends and make new ones, learn new skills at forums, talk with other club officers and get some new ideas to take back to your club.

If you haven’t signed up yet, here are 10 reasons you should:
1. The conference is at a new location, the Holiday Inn in Albany.
2. The hotel has offered to pick up at the Airport or Train Station (must prearrange for train pickup).
3. A large selection of outstanding forums.
4. Good room rates (one to four for same price per night).
5. A break from the winter blues.
6. A chance to meet and greet your International Vice President, Gover-nor, Circle K and Key Club Gover-nor.
7. Two great cocktail parties.
8. An opportunity to congratulate Booker’s Builders for the job they did during the 2009-10 year.
9. The Comedy Show which will offer a good time and support Kamp Kiwanis.
10. And just have a good time, and come back with new ideas.

**2011 Mid-Year Conference Tentative Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day and Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, Feb. 24, 2011</td>
<td>Registration .......................................................... 4-6 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VIP Cocktail Reception ............................................ 6-7 p.m.</td>
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<td>VIP Dinner ............................................................. 7-9 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, Feb. 25, 2011</td>
<td>Board Breakfast .................................................... 7-9 a.m.</td>
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<td>Registration .......................................................... 9 a.m.-4 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Board Meeting ....................................................... 9:30 a.m.-Noon</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Basket Raffle and Display Tables ............................... 9 a.m.-Noon</td>
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<td>New Club Building for Lt. Govs................................. 1-4:30 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Presidents and Secretaries Leadership Session ............ 1-4:30 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Forums ........................................................................ 1-4:30 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Honoree Reception .................................................. 4:30-5:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sponsored Youth Dinner ............................................. 5:45-7:15 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Opening Session ...................................................... 7:30-9 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Comedy Show ........................................................... 9:30-10:30 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hospitality Room ..................................................... 10:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Feb. 26, 2011</td>
<td>Past Governors Breakfast ........................................ 7-9 a.m.</td>
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<td>Lt. Gov. Elects Breakfast with Gov.-Elect Bill Risbrook .... 7:30-8:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Kamp Shower ............................................................ 9-10:45 a.m.</td>
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<td>Registration .......................................................... 9 a.m.-5 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Basket Raffle and Display Tables ............................... 9 a.m.-5 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Forums ........................................................................ 9-11:45 a.m.</td>
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<td>First Timers/Member Recognition Luncheon ................. Noon-1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Forums ........................................................................ 1-3:45 p.m.</td>
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<td>Catholic Services ..................................................... 5-6 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Reception ................................................................ 6:15-7:15 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gala Governor’s Dinner and Awards ......................... 7:30-10:15 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hospitality Rooms .................................................... 10:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Feb. 27, 2011</td>
<td>Foundation Board Meeting ....................................... 9-11 a.m.</td>
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Check the Web Site for the latest schedule updates
The East Aurora Aktion Club had a busy year in 2010, and will continue its $20,000 playground expansion project in 2011.

In March of 2010 Aktion Club Board Member Nick Benedict appeared before the East Aurora town and village boards asking permission for the club to expand the Hamlin Park playground so it could accommodate children with disabilities. Benedict told the boards that when he was growing up, he couldn’t use the existing equipment.

The club received approval to expand the playground but needed to raise the money to carry out the work. Since then, more than 100 community groups and individuals have donated more than $20,000 toward the effort. Equipment was purchased and installed in a joint project by the town and village, Aktion Club members and the club’s Advisory Committee. Additional items such as picnic tables and benches are still needed and the fund raising efforts are continuing to provide them. The project should be completed in the Spring.

The Aktion club was involved in several fund raising and service projects during the year. The club had a Doll and Painting raffle, a car wash and a baked goods sale. The club also is selling a 2011 calendar which features pictures of club activities. A portion of the calendar profits were donated to FISH, a local food pantry; the Independence Foundation, a local non-profit organization which develops housing of disabled people; and to help fund a scholarship for a local high school student. Pop can tabs have been collected by/from all members and donated to the Ronald McDonald House.

The Aktion Club Singers have continued to entertain residents of nursing homes and seniors by caroling during the holiday season.

Many clubs around the district conducted special events this year around the Christmas Holiday.

Above is a picture taken during a shopping trip for 50 children sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Huntington, which involves the Key Club members helping with the shopping. When the shopping is done, everyone goes to lunch.

Above, right, Bowling Green K-Kids member Danielle Hallett is excited by a visit from Santa.

At right, members from the Long Island Southwest Division deliver presents to patients at the Nassau University Medical Center. With Santa (PG David Rothman) are East Rockaway President-Elect Charles Hirschberg and Island Park President Sharon Marinelli.

### Holidays Keep Clubs Busy

Many clubs around the district conducted special events this year around the Christmas Holiday.

Above is a picture taken during a shopping trip for 50 children sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Huntington, which involves the Key Club members helping with the shopping. When the shopping is done, everyone goes to lunch.

Above, right, Bowling Green K-Kids member Danielle Hallett is excited by a visit from Santa.

At right, members from the Long Island Southwest Division deliver presents to patients at the Nassau University Medical Center. With Santa (PG David Rothman) are East Rockaway President-Elect Charles Hirschberg and Island Park President Sharon Marinelli.
At the heart of Kiwanis is our organization's service to the children of the world. Research tells us with study after study that the earlier in a child's life a service or intervention can be delivered, the greater the impact will be.

Unfortunately, Kiwanis has fewer members, our clubs have less money and our members have less time. As we struggle to do more with less, our service projects need to be directed to where they will have the greatest impact. That is with young children through Young Children Priority One (YCPO) service projects.

As Kiwanis International refocuses its efforts on young children and YCPO through the ELIMINATE project, Gov. Mike is asking Kiwanis Clubs in the New York District to follow suit. Through the New York District Young Children Priority One Achievement Report, Kiwanis clubs are encouraged to support the ELIMINATE project through contributions to the Kiwanis International Foundation and to help young children through service.

Young Children Priority One service projects help young children across a wide variety of areas. These areas include Maternal and Neonatal Health, Child Care and Development, Parent Education and Support, and Safety and Pediatric Trauma. Club service projects might include an educational fair, fund raising for a particular cause such as the March of Dimes or KPTC, providing parenting classes, or running child safety workshops.

Working on a YCPO service project also provides a wonderful opportunity for a K-Family project. K-Kids, Builders Clubbers, Key Clubbers, Circle Kers and Aktion Clubbers all share an affinity for helping young children and babies. In fact, Circle K Board members throughout the District were trained by the NYS Safe Kids Coalition to run child safety workshops and many Key Clubbers in the downstate area have also been trained in the Safe Kids curriculum through the KPTC Service Leadership committee. Therefore, I encourage Kiwanis Clubs to reach out to your Service Leadership Clubs and plan a joint YCPO service project.

As we near the Geneva launch of the ELIMINATE fund raising campaign, Kiwanis International has run several focus groups seeking responses from members about the best ways to garner support for the ELIMINATE campaign.

Kiwanis is neither a social club nor a secret or political society. It does not prescribe to a way of life for others. Kiwanis performs, through numbers, service beyond the capability of the individual by providing assistance to the aging, the needy, and to youth. The goal of Kiwanis is to improve communities by changing tomorrows today.

Whether we raise money for school projects, children's hospitals, Boys and Girls Scouts, food pantries and more, we are committed to making our communities a better place to live. You will receive great personal satisfaction while the people we serve feel a great sense of caring and heartfelt appreciation.

Please take the opportunity to join us for a meeting and see what we are all about. There is no pressure to become a member. See for yourself what the Kiwanis experience can be.

The (your Kiwanis Club) is a distinguished club in the Kiwanis organization. We are highly recognized for the service we provide and the growing fellowships in our group. I hope to have the pleasure of meeting you in the near future. Thank you for your interest in Kiwanis.

Very truly yours

(Fill in your name), Club President
It is with a very heavy and sad heart that I write this article in memoriam of a great Kiwanian, a great leader, a great man, a great husband, father, grandfather, but most of all a great friend.

On November 26, 2010, James F. Yochum left this earth to a much better world, and the New York District of Kiwanis and the New York District Kiwanis Foundation lost part of its heart.

Most of you know Jim as the finance chair of the District or the finance chair of the Foundation or as the 1998-99 New York District Governor leading his board of Jim's Giants to a great year in service. I was one of Jim's Giants and I can tell you that he always led by example.

Since then, through my involvement with the Foundation and especially Kamp Kiwanis, Jim and I grew to be great friends. In the last three years as President of the Foundation Jim and I would speak at least once a week and during stressful times, on a daily basis. He knew of my love for Kamp Kiwanis because he felt exactly the same and he used all of his finance knowledge and prowess to keep the Kamp financially sound. Jim held the Kamp very dear to his heart and would often get frustrated and when things didn't go just right, he would utter his favorite words, "don't they understand, it's about the children and how we improve their lives".

Jim never missed a Foundation Board Meeting no matter where it was held, he would drive from Buffalo to Staten Island for a meeting, give his financial report, which was always professionally done, and after the meeting he would get back in his car and drive back to Buffalo. I don't know how many Kiwanians would do that.

On behalf of the New York District Foundation and all its members, I would like to offer our sincerest condolences to Mary Yochum and her family and may you take solace in knowing that Jim was an honest person and a great humanitarian who always put others before himself. All of us know very well of the great sacrifices Jim made for the New York District, the New York District Kiwanis Foundation and especial for Kamp Kiwanis.

I feel very fortunate to have known Jim and to call him my good friend and at Kamp opening this year we will make certain that Jim's legacy will go on forever.

Goodbye my friend, we will miss you dearly. Until we meet again.
Our trauma centers were on the minds of many Kiwanians and K-family members this holiday season as they planned a variety of new fund raisers and continued traditional holiday fund raisers that benefit KPTC.

The KPTC Foundation is truly grateful to a group of Kiwanians from several Long Island Kiwanis Clubs called the Champions of KPTC that have been working to support the trauma Center at North Shore-LIJ. LISC Lt. Gov.-Elect Dr. Steve Perrick, Georgiana Sena, Robin Asighari, Rich Santer, Lisa Santer, Ann Torcivia and Joe Corace are looking for others interested in helping fundraise for KPTC to join the group. Those interested should contact Georgiana at Georgiporgi@aol.com.

Most recently, the Champions held a Wine Tasting at Mario's Restaurant in Farmingdale which raised more than $3,000 for the trauma center. The Champions appreciate all those who donated baskets and attended the event.

The Champions have also planned a Bingo and Baskets fund raiser April 8. In addition, Ann Torcivia has focused the fund raising effort of her foundation in memory of her son Joey on the work of the KPTC Service Leadership Committee and their partnership with the NYS Safe Kids Coalition. On Jan. 29, the Joey Foundation will hold a bowling party at South Levittown Lanes. All proceeds from the party will be used to purchase a teaching robot for our Key Clubbers and Circle Kers to teach bicycle safety.

Ann, who is a travel agent, has also arranged a KPTC Cruise to Nowhere on the Norwegian Dream Feb. 12-13, departing from the Port of New York. While the initial block of cabins is sold out, anyone interested in joining us should contact Ann at friendstravel@optonline.net.

Extraordinary support of KPTC is not confined to Kiwanis, our KPTC Service Leadership Programs also used the holidays to fundraise for KPTC.

The North Shore Key Club has been running a Pancake House Fundraiser for KPTC through January 15th at the East Norwich Pancake House 6281 Northern Blvd, East Norwich, NY 11732. For a flyer, email rs2wld@aol.com.

The WT Clarke Key Club donated a trauma kit to Governor Mike Malark for the NYD Foundation’s Emergency Relief Truck. The Key Clubbers have asked Gov. Mike to give the trauma kit to a fire department or ambulance corp at the scene of his next disaster relief mission.

The Bowling Green K-Kids, Key Clubs of Division 6 and the Adelphi Circle K have also continued their tradition of caroling for KPTC. Combined, these K-family members raised more than $500 caroling for KPTC. These funds will be donated to KPTC through the KPTC Service Leadership Fellowship program which just began issuing a brand new third-edition pin. For more information on how to donate to KPTC through this program and to see the new pin, contact KPTC Service Leadership Liaison Rich Santer at rs2wld@aol.com.

I encourage Kiwanis Clubs to support our Service Leadership Programs particularly in the efforts to fundraise for Kiwanis charities like KPTC.

In closing, I thank every club and every member who has worked to support KPTC whether you attended a fund raising event, made a personal donation, planned a club fundraiser, serve on the KPTC Foundation Board or a divisional or club KPTC chair, it is our combined efforts that save the lives of young children.

I hope that you will continue to support KPTC and save the date of May 7 for the KPTC Doo Wop Show at North Merrick HS.