On December 15, 2005, Governor David Rothman took Debra and her mother Florence out to dinner to celebrate their shared date birthday along with both their family members. Governor David was planning to propose marriage and everyone was in on the surprise except for Debra.

The challenge began with Governor David trying to figure out how to get the cake pictured above, out of his car to the waiters without notice. Along comes DPG Peter Mancuso’s brother Jim through the restaurant doors to help. After exchanging greetings, Governor David pulled Jim aside and told him the plan and asked for help. Jim went to the Governor’s car and got the cake into the restaurant unnoticed.

Continued on Page 3
“We know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called in accordance with His purpose.” – Romans 8:28

To those who have touched our lives: As we enjoyed the season of celebration of the birth of Jesus, we were so grateful for the blessing of family and friends and the caring and concern they have shown us since the devastation brought upon us by Hurricane Katrina. In these difficult times, communities have grown stronger and we have made many new and lasting friendships. So, while we are saddened by the destruction of our beautiful Gulf Coast, we are a truly blessed family. As God’s Word says, God takes care of His children. And He did just that through the generosity of others.

Since August 29, our lives have been greatly changed. Immediately following the storm, we spent a few days in Louisiana where we were able to regroup and find some direction as to what God would have us do to. After much prayer, we returned to Long Beach where Adam returned to his job at BellSouth and I worked with our church’s recovery effort.

At first, we stayed in a “tent city” established through BellSouth where the people were wonderful in providing for all of our needs. They not only cared for adults but also kept an ever-watchful eye on our children who grew to love them all. After a couple of weeks, we were able to move into a large camper that belonged to a friend from our church. We remained there for about six weeks before we were able to rent a three bedroom, two bath duplex here in Long Beach.

After three months, our lives have finally returned to “normal.” Evan and Christen have gone back to school and are both doing quite well. Both will be celebrating birthdays this month and their major objective is to have a “cool” birthday party. Seth is suffering through the “terrible two’s” a few months early! Of course, we were excited about Christmas, but Evan said all he wanted for Christmas is “his two front teeth!”

Our lives will never be the same not only because of the storm but also because of the love, caring, and compassion of others. Your gifts of money, clothes, toys, and other personal items have made our life so much easier. You enabled us to come out of one of the most difficult times of our lives with dignity and thankfulness. Your love, support, and prayers have sustained us through these months and we rely greatly on your continuing to pray for all of us. We will continually seek God for direction and are excited to see what He has in store for us.

Mid-Year Basket Raffle Being Held by Rebecca Ovadia, Raffle Chair

This year, as in the past, we will be holding a basket raffle at the Mid-Year Conference at the Hudson Valley Resort Feb. 23-26, 2006. The success of the raffle year after year is truly a shining achievement for our District and for all of our generous Kiwanians within. This year Kamp Kiwanis, the Pediatric Trauma Centers at Albany, Buffalo, North Shore University Hospital, and the Syracuse Children’s Hospital will be the recipients of money raised by the raffle.

We are requesting at least one gift basket from each Division in the District to be raffled off at the February conference. Of course, we will be happy to accept as many baskets as are donated. This is a great opportunity for you to showcase the uniqueness of your Club or Division and to highlight the product native to your area.

We hope to create some excitement and fun at our weekend at the Hudson Valley Resort and in the process raise much needed money for our Kamp and Pediatric Trauma Centers.

If you have any additional questions about the basket raffle, please contact me at <WoodsideKiwanis@verizon.net> or at 516-462-5890. I look forward to meeting you and the fruits of your labor in February.
Governor David and First Lady Debra Visit Ontario Division

New York District First Lady Debra Fuchs and Governor David Rothman were honored recently at their official visit to the Ontario Division. Pictured above left to right: First Lady Debra, Governor David, Ontario Lt. Governor Ron Kern and Ontario’s First Lady Gale Kern enjoy the special evening.

The Kiwanis Club of EASTWOOD-EAST SYRACUSE, Ontario Division – Governor David and First Lady Debra were the honored guests at the Oct.15th Ontario Division Meeting, held at Cucina di Amore in Liverpool. He spoke to the club presidents and secretaries before the dinner meeting. He emphasized the importance of being a mentor to both young people and seniors.

Past Lt. Governor Virginia Eppolito and Distinguished Past Governor Joe Eppolito presented the Lt. Governor’s banner to Lt. Governor Ronald Kern and Eastwood-East Syracuse President Ernie Wase.

Reports were given by Key Klub LG Hillary McDonald, and Int’l Trustee Mary Phillips. The evening was special for the Governor and our First Lady. Thanks to Ontario!

Proposal

Continued from Page 1

Since it was First Lady Debra and her mom’s birthday, she was not surprised when a cake came to the table – except this cake had no candles and a very important message inscribed on top, “will you marry me?” Happily, she said “yes.” First Lady Debra and I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy year. Additionally, we would like to thank everybody for their hospitality and gifts during our official visits.

I am very proud of the many service projects that our clubs have done so far this Kiwanis year. We grow through service. The New York District has shown just how great we are with the many donations of food, clothing, furniture, sanitary goods and monies to those areas stricken by the many hurricanes that have hit the United States.

It has been brought to my attention that some clubs that should have been billed for their dues during the first billing cycle did not receive their invoices. Kiwanis International has informed me that there was a computer glitch with some of the invoices. Please check to see if you received and paid your invoice if you were in the first billing trimester, and if not please contact Kiwanis International immediately for a copy of the invoice. The second billing trimester cycle bills should be in the mail to you at this time.

I want to thank IPLG Jean Andrick, LG Chester Mellius, Jr. and everyone involved with the building of our newest Kiwanis Club, the Kiwanis Club of Cambridge in the Van Rensselaer region for their hard work. Additionally, I would like to wish the club well and I will see them soon during their Charter Night. During these winter months, I urge you to speak with members of the T.A.G. team to discuss new club building and re-building. Now is the time to develop your growth plan. The members of the T.A.G. (Together Achieving Growth) have the tools necessary to achieve your goals. Additionally, we have some very successful Young Professional Clubs that can be contacted to ask for their assistance in attracting members under 39 (Project 39).

First Lady Debra and I recently returned from an International Council meeting held in Orlando, Florida. We attended many workshops and listened to guest speakers and planned for the future growth of our organization. As we were getting ready to return to New York, I learned that the Governors from France and Belgium and there spouses were going to be visiting New York City the coming week. On January 9, 2006 I had them picked up in the city and brought out to Long Island to attend two divisional meetings that evening. Along with the first family, we attended the Long Island South Central Division and Long Island North Division council meetings were everyone was warmly greeted. My thanks to Governors Edmund Ott from France/Monaco and John-Paul Thomas from Rensselaer division for there hard work.

We are happy to report New York District’s first couple will be planning a wedding, First Lady Debra said, “yes.”
The Kiwanis Club of BENSONHURST and BAY RIDGE, Brooklyn — recently held its 16th Annual Children’s Christmas Party. This year was the largest turnout that the club had ever had. Many were nervous that Santa might not have enough Christmas presents and stockings for each child, but then they remembered that Santa always had enough presents in his big red bag for all the good girls and boys.

The beautiful Tiara ballroom at the El Caribe Caterers, decorated with red and green tablecloths and many colorful balloons, made the room festive for the children and their parents. The children were entertained by and danced with King Henry and his friends, Elmo, Shrek, Sponge Bob, Dora the Explorer, and Oscar the Grouch.

Bensonhurst and Bay Ridge enjoyed seeing the photographs that club member and photographer Jerry Bertuna took of the children enjoying all the activities. Many happy dollars and thanks were raised for Jerry for taking time to create these photo memories of the families and the children.

The club extends thanks to all those whose made donations to help make the children’s Christmas party a continued success. Thanks to Willie Basso, the co-chairman for doing a great job and for the beautiful balloons, President Silvio for the Welcome Banner, Neil Noto, the newest member who donated Burger King crowns and action figures, and Frances DeFranco for doing a super job on the Christmas Flyers.

The club would also like to thank Santa (name, of King Henry’s) for making an early visit to deliver presents to all the children who attended the Bensonhurst and Bay Ridge Kiwanis Children’s Christmas Party.

Please make every effort to visit our Sponsoring Youth Clubs. Our keynote speaker for the conference will be Dr. Frank Saracino, retired superintendent of schools from East Meadow, N.Y. who still works as an advocate for education. Saracino will speak about mentoring and the No Child Left Behind Program which is supported by Kiwanis International.

Lastly, please keep the dates of May 5, 6 and 7th open for a special treat. Our International President Steve Siemans and his lovely wife Barbara will be making their official visit to the New York District. They will fly downstate on May 5, 2006 and visit the Pediatric Trauma Center at L.I.J.- North Shore University Hospital. That evening many downstate divisions will host a dinner in the International President and First Lady’s honor. The next morning we will fly to Syracuse and then drive to Kamp Kiwanis, where the District Foundation will host Kamp Open House. International President Steve will address those in attendance and help make ready the Kamp. From there we will drive to the Finger Lakes, where a dinner will again be held in their honor. International President Steve is a wine connoisseur and will be able to sample the grapes from the region. The next morning we will tour the area before returning home. I want to thank everyone involved with the planning for his or her hard work.

Please remember that, Together we can and Together we will, nothing is impossible!

Ben Bay Kiwanis Holds 16th Christmas Party

The Kiwanis Club of Bensonhurst and Bay Ridge, Brooklyn Division, created a Christmas Party that brought joy to many kids and their families.

First Lady Debra Fuchs

Partners Project

I have been overwhelmed by the response of those of you that I have met during the past three months who have conveyed to me the desire to start an Aktion club. It is so heart-warming to know that so many of you are interested in this year’s Partner’s Project. Governor David’s and my ultimate goal is to form several Aktion clubs for the 2005-2006 Kiwanis year. Many of you have asked for information regarding what an Aktion club is all about and how to start one. Besides going to the Kiwanis international website to download information, you can contact your local chairpersons. The downstate chairperson.

Continued on Page 5

2005-2006 KIWANIS PARTNERS PROJECT

AWARD REPORTING FORM

1. Build an Aktion Club Date

2. Hold a fundraiser for the disabled
   ie: United Cerebral Palsy, AHRC, Down’s Syndrome, Multiple Sclerosis
   Date

3. Participate in the Special Olympics
   Date

4. Volunteer at a group home for the disabled
   Date

5. Sponsor a Physically Challenged Little League
   Date

6. Volunteer in a respite
   Date

7. Volunteer at a Ronald McDonald House
   Date

8. Provide equipment for the disabled
   ie: swing/wheel chairs
   Date

9. Mentor the disabled
   Date

10. Read and spend time with disabled children
    and/or children with long term illnesses
    Date

11. Sponsor a disabled child to Kamp Kiwanis
    Date

12. Visit an assisted living facility for disabled
    individuals &/or senior citizens
    Date

13. Organize activities for the disabled
    Date

14. Sponsor a Locks of Love project
    Date

Must complete four of the above criteria or build one Aktion club during the 10/01/05-
09/30/06 administrative year. Please forward any articles to both myself and Maureen
Neuringer at the ESK for publication. Please send completed application to:

First Lady Debra Fuchs, 84 Madison Avenue, Island Park, NY 11558

Kiwanis Club of
Division
Date
Club President
Signature

Club Secretary
Signature

For additional information contact: First Lady Debra Fuchs, 84 Madison Avenue, Island
Park, NY 11558 <Blueyes1255@aol.com>

Rothman

Continued from Page 3

Belgium/Luxembourg and their wives Elaine and Alix, respectively, for showing just how
   global an organization we are.

Our Mid-Winter Conference is approaching fast. I want to thank everyone involved in
   it’s planning for their time and hard work. Thinking “out of the box” and looking to
   increase attendance, we have planned some special events at the conference. As part of
   our kick-off to the International Convention in Montreal, we will be hosting a guest chef from the
   Culinary Institute in Hyde Park. The chef will perform a cooking demonstration for all to
   enjoy. Additionally, at this time, we are trying to finalize plans for a wine tasting to take
   place in conjunction with the guest chef. Our finance committee has worked very hard trying
   to keep our budget in check with he lower

   International President Steve Siemans and his
   lovely wife Barbara will be making their official visit to the New York District. They will fly
   downstate on May 5, 2006 and visit the Pediatric Trauma Center at L.I.J.- North Shore
   University Hospital. That evening many downstate divisions will host a dinner in the
   International President and First Lady’s honor.

   The next morning we will fly to Syracuse and then drive to Kamp Kiwanis, where the District
   Foundation will host Kamp Open House. International President Steve will address those in attendance and help make ready the
   Kamp. From there we will drive to the Finger Lakes, where a dinner will again be held in their
   honor. International President Steve is a wine connoisseur and will be able to sample the
   grapes from the region. The next morning we will tour the area before returning home. I want to thank everyone involved with the
   planning for his or her hard work.

   Please remember that, Together we can and Together we will, nothing is impossible!

   • • •
Kiwanis Family at Work in Merrick

The Kiwanis Club of MERRICK, Long Island South Central Division — helped the holidays begin by dipping into the bounty of more than 20 local families, residents of Regina House, and parishioners served by the Sacred Heart and Cure of Ars churches’ food pantries when members of the Kiwanis Club of Merrick delivered bags filled with food, toys, and turkeys to the Sunday before Christmas.

Kiwanis President Iliene Dixel praised the cooperation of local businesses and food drives the previous two weekends; despite some inclement weather, the Kiwanis carts outside the Stop ’n’ Shop, Kings and Associated supermarkets were filled to the brim. The toys were collected at the Merrick and North Merrick elementary schools.

After 20+ Kiwanians, members of the Calhoun High School Key Club, and Merrick Avenue Middle School Builders’ Club sorted the thousands of pounds of food, they worked their way through the “warehouse” assembly line, filling the bags and preparing them for delivery. Then, like elves, they gathered up the food and toys, added lots of good cheer, and delivered them — and the hope for a happy holiday — to their neighbors.

The article that follows, written by 13-year-old Amanda McLoughlin, a member of the MAMS Builders Club and daughter of Kiwanian Tammy McLoughlin is the best explanation of the Kiwanis “family” at work.

A Little Help Goes A Long Way

As my mother, Tammy, my brother Connor, and I surveyed the mounds of food donated by Merrick citizens in the Food for Those in Need Drive, I was huged by Doug Mills, last year’s Kiwanis President who is so close to my family, he is practically my uncle. Prez. Iliene Dixel was there as well, directing the flow of volunteers — for there were a lot of us; two dozen Kiwanians, about ten Key Clubbers, three children of Kiwanians, and my brother and I, who belong to Builders’ Club. Yet there was quite a lot of work to be done.

The event got underway as a few Key Clubbers and 1-numbered bags. Once all the paper bags had been double-bagged with plastic ones and opened up, we formed a human assembly line to stuff them with food. Working quickly to get the job done and also to try to keep warm on this cold Sunday morning, we completely filled all 240 bags. All of the leftover food and turkeys were to be delivered to the Regina House, a local home for unwed mothers, and food pantries at Sacred Heart Church and Cure of Ars.

Once the bags were lined up in rows across the Kiwanis parking lot, Kiwanian drivers were given the addresses of the families that would be receiving the holiday packages. It was the first time my mother had ever done a delivery. We loaded up six bags of food, one turkey, two bags of toys, and two garbage bags full of toys. As we drove to the family’s house, I was full of apprehension. Though each family had been called in advance, what if they were offended? What if they were too proud to accept the food and toys, and we had to go back? What if the children started asking questions that the parents did not want to answer about why we were giving them food?

I could not mull over these “what if” thoughts for very long, for we soon reached the family’s house. My brother and I hung back by the car as my mom walked up to the door, one bag of toys in hand. She knocked, and when the door was answered, my mother simply said, “I have a delivery from Merrick Kiwanis.” The woman at the door looked sort of shocked, and as we carried bags from our car to her front stop, she just kept repeating “Thank you” and “This is so much,” and “Wow.”

When we handed her the final bag of food, she looked to be on the verge of tears, so she was so amazed. I could hear her kids yelling in happiness from inside her house. Then she asked me the question that I will never forget: “Are you sure that this is for us? Isn’t there some more deserving family who you could help?”

That really affected me. My mom assured her that it was okay, that she needn’t worry. With that, we wished her happy holidays and walked back to our car. As we drove off, I thought about that question. The fact that someone who was going through such a rough time could be so selfless as to think of other families was just amazing. Here this person is, not doing too well herself, and she was worrying about others.

So, why did I write this article? One reason is to thank the good people of the Merrick Kiwanis Club. They all come together with the Key Club and the Builders Club each year to give families in Merrick a better holiday. They work together, laughing and joking and having a great time despite the cold, or the dust, or the hard work. They are the most optimistic and good-hearted people that I have ever met. I am very fortunate to be part of such an amazing group — for the Kiwanis members are my family just as much as my mother and father. I have grown up around them, attended almost all of their events, and become close friends with most of them.

So I suppose that I should be thanking my parents as well, for instilling in me the idea that in order to be a good person you need to help others. I have gotten to experience Kiwanis from a very early age, and I am a better person because of it.

Finally, and undoubtedly most important, I wrote this to show all of you that a little help goes a long way. Every person who donated to the food and toy drive have made the holidays a better experience for a family in Merrick. Each forty-cent can, each dollar, each minute that each volunteer spent helping add up to an amazing thing. As a town we must help our own citizens, for if we do not, we cannot thrive.

My parents taught me that no matter how you’re doing in life, you must think of others as well. We need to remember that, especially in such a hate-filled world as the one we live in today. We would all be better people if we took that lesson to heart.

Editor’s Note: Thank you Amanda for sharing your feeling about this experience. It was a very moving account of the day. Thank you Merrick for sharing this and all you do.

Alzheimer’s Project

Steve Haller

DO YOU WANT A WONDERFUL SERVICE PROJECT THAT CAN INVOLVE YOUR ENTIRE K-FAMILY???

If your answer to this question is yes, read on.

Each year the Alzheimer’s Association hosts Memory Walks across the entire State of New York. To the best of my knowledge, there are only seven divisions who have clubs actually participating in one way or another. They are Bronx-Westchester South, Brooklyn, Finger Lakes, Genesee, Long Island North, Long Island South Central and the Long Island Southwest. I must make mention of two divisions that have made a total commitment to the Alzheimer’s Association Memory Walk in their communities for the last two years: Bronx-Westchester South led by DPLS Sister Anne-Marie Kirmse and the Long Island South Central Division led by DFP Maurice Cassano. On any day of the week, you can find Key Clubbers and Kiwanians working together handing out tee-shirts, cutting bagels, serving food, putting up sponsorship signs, and collecting pledges from K-Family donors.

If your club or division supports the Alzheimer’s Association in anyway please send me an email at stevenh@minutemanpress.com so I can get a true handle on who is involved. These K-Family volunteers either give a donation of money, volunteer their services, which is what Kiwanis is all about, or form a team of four or more people who have sponsors and they walk the walk.

All the money raised in the walk in your community stays in your community and helps the many support groups, care consultation, services and educational programs they offer to the patients and their families afflicted by this terrible disease.

I will be sending an email to the presidents in the next couple of months (through the district office, with the help of Gerald Payanoff) listing all the memory walks around the state, that are usually held in early September. I sincerely hope that our K-Family will respond.

State Senator Charles Fuschillo (left) and State Assemblyman David McDonough (right) joined fellow Kiwanians Alan Aronson and Tammy McLoughlin in choosing just the right toy for each child on the Kiwanis Santa list.

First Lady Debra

Continued from Page 4

son is IFLG Peter Mienkenkorte (516 546-3277) and the upstate chairperson is PLG Kathy Peris (607 734-7723).

Included in this addition of the ESK are the requirements and reporting form for this year’s Partner’s Project. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call me. I hope that you all had a happy and healthy holiday. Please complete four of the projects described on the front and forward the completed form to: First Lady Debra Fuchs, 84 Madison Avenue, Island Park, NY 11558.

It takes a village of Kiwanians members — and generosity of Morkians — to help the less fortunate in our community have a more joyful holiday.

Empire State Kiwanis

February 2006

5
Hi everyone! Hope you’re holidays were filled with a lot of joy and good feelings as a result of all the work you do in Kiwanis, but more especially, all the fun you have had giving back to your local communities.

This Chair is a new one – kind of like the Grim Reaper, which I had originally thought to call it because there has always been this underlying feeling that a lot of people are leaving Kiwanis for all of the reasons we seem to think are happening but there has never been a record of these reasons, so this year, we’re tabulating to see the real picture.

Each month I have sent out Oct and November so far I have e-mailed or mailed to each club President a request to advise me of why they deleted members on their roster and if possible, to give me the name/phone number of those individuals so we can try to get a better understanding of our District and its objectives for growth. For example – are we recruiting the right kind of Kiwanian, one that has our same values/commitments to our local communities?

Are they joining for the right reasons, not just to add another club onto their personal resume?

As of the end of December, I have received several responses that I would like to share: 1 member left for financial reasons, 2 have moved, 2 have passed away, 1 for family obligations. While the records show we have lost approximately 140 members, these are relatively low response levels, so I need your help in asking your Club President/Club Secretary to please respond so we can track the statistics. The records are also showing some of the clubs who have lost members are actively gaining new members – great job! Secondly, if you find members are moving out of the area – great job! Secondly, if you find members are moving out of the area – great job!

I always ask Kiwanians to remember how they were inducted and how their orientation was handled. The older members have many storied tales of that date–many would have done it differently. It took man of the older members a while to determine what Kiwanis was and their role in this new club and adventure.

Also, newer members have been more fortunate. Ki has prepared tremendous amounts of literature--tapes, seminars-all designed to make this essential moment in the new member life significant. We now have speakers who would visit, tapes to listen to, and many ‘how to’ brochures etc, all readily available.

I encourage the club president to petition their LT Governors to have a divisional meeting set aside to have this matter explored and centered by a ‘speaker’ who can make the presentation successful.

Continued on Page 10

Merrick install Female President

llene Dixel, 42, has become the first female president of the Kiwanis Club of Merrick. She was installed on Sunday, Oct. 2 in a ceremony marked by joyful anticipation of the future and the celebration of a rich past.

Erwin Stern Celebrates 50

The Kiwanis Club of EASTWOOD-EAST SYRACUSE, Chemung Division – recognized Erwin Stern for 50 years of membership at a recent meeting of the Ontario Division. DPG Joe Eppolito reminded everyone that Erwin has served the club and community through the years by participating in fundraisers and service projects. Erwin also led the club to 50 continuous years of Inter Clubs (Round Robbins) and served in a variety of positions, most notable as President in 1988. DPG Joe presented a “Kaiser” blazer, a medallion and a plaque to Erwin, as everyone celebrated the achievements of this fine Kiwanian.

Erwin Stern Honored With Hixson

I was asked by Governor David to act as District chairperson for this important operation. Fortunately I had this assignment before with one of David’s predecessors so I have good experience.

Unfortunately it is a frustrating assignment. In my travels around the bottom half of the state, I have not seen much improvement in the club approaches in ‘how to treat’ the new member and how to acquaint them with Kiwanis. Each club within every division has a variation of how they do this vital aspect of a new member’s life.

I always ask Kiwanians to remember how they were inducted and how their orientation was handled. The older members have many storied tales of that date–many would have done it differently. It took man of the older members a while to determine what Kiwanis was and their role in this new club and adventure.

New Member Orientation

Sherman Named Kiwanian of Year

The Kiwanis Club of CORTLAND, Chemung Division – honored Rachelle Sherman with a plaque naming her as the New Kiwanian of the Year. She was recognized for her outstanding dedication to Kiwanis. During 2004-05, Rachelle enrolled a new member, chaired the preparation of the booth for the business show case, prepared the vehicle and signs for the dairy parade and is the counselor for the SUNY Cortland Circle-K. For the year 2005-2006 she has accepted the position as Secretary.
Membership Growth
T.A.G. Team
Together Achieving Growth

T.A.G. Team Chairman
Mike Malark
(H) 518-765-4392

T.A.G. Team Coordinator
Ann Sewert
Chernung Division
(H) 315-331-2129

T.A.G. Team and Membership Growth
Raymond Pfeifer
Finger Lakes – Genesee
Niagara Frontier East, West and North
(H) 315-589-3251

T.A.G. Team
Adirondack/ St. Lawrence Divisions
Lucien Plante - 315-328-5215
Bronx-Westchester South/Queens East
Divisions
William Riebrock - (H) 718-297-6218
Brooklyn/Metropolitan Divisions
Eric Shviman - (B) 718-868-0229

T.A.G. Team
Capital Division
Jean Andrick - (H) 518-686-4188
Central/Ontario Divisions
Joseph Eppolito - (H) 315-652-5940
Hudson River/Hudson River West/Hudson
Tri-County/Susquehanna Divisions
Raymond Scully - (H) 914-481-4360

Long Island North Division
Peter Mancuso - (P) 516-461-7624
Long Island South Central/Suffolk
East/long Island West Divisions
Janice Seyfried - (H) 516-826-6344
Long Island Southwest Division
Gregory Abbate - (H) 516-867-6970
Mohawk/VanRensselaer Divisions
David Barker - (H) 518-674-0461
Queens West Division
Edward McGowan - (B) 718-651-7360
Southwestern Division
Marie Lewis - (C) 716-640-4018

Five Towns Installs New Officers

The Five Towns Kiwanian Club recently installed their new officers for 2005-2006. The event was held at Golden Restaurant in Gibson, New York. Long Island Southwest Lt. Governor Jim Reed installed the new officers. Councilman Anthony Santino from the Hempstead Town was also on hand to congratulate the new officers. Left to right: Vice President Anthony Campanile, Long Island Southwest Lt. Governor Jim Reed, Councilman Anthony Santino, President David Vines, and Treasurer Marty Schwartz.

Syosset/Woodbury Holds Successful Bowl-a-Thon and Raises $500 for KPTC

Ken Robinson Esq., President of the Syosset/Woodbury Kiwanis Club hands a check for $500 to DPLG Jerry Rudnick, President, Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Center at North Shore. The monies were raised by the Syosset/Woodbury Kiwanis Club at their first annual Bowl-a-thon for the KPTC.

In the New York District, there is at least one community in each of the 28 divisions that does not have a Kiwanis Club, that should have one. Building new clubs is the only way that Kiwanis can help those communities help the children. Kiwanians can help make the community a safer place for the children to live. We can build our sponsored youth programs in the schools which will teach the children community service and leadership skills. We can build an Aktion club in the new community for disabled individuals. We can fill the communities food pantries, build play grounds, serve meals to senior citizens, provide Christmas for needy families, or sponsor youth sports, BUT FIRST we must build the club.

Martzolf Chosen Kiwanian of the Year

The Kiwanis Club of MARILLA, Niagara Frontier East Division – was honored recently to have long time Kiwanian George Martzolf chosen as the Kiwanis Club of Marilla’s Kiwanian of the Year. The award was given to him by NFE Lt. Gov. Angelo Polisano from Elma. George was chosen for this award because of his many hours spent in the betterment of the club, which in turn helps them to serve the community. George had a very successful Presidency within the past few years, during which he brought the “Comfort Doll” Project to the club. He also along with David Wyzykowski, took the helm of the Mother’s Day Rose Sale; he refurbished the “President’s” Plaque, and helped with many other maintenance projects of the club’s equipment.

George was the liaison for the “Welcome” sign rebuilding with the Boy Scouts, and he took the time and patience to untangled the many strings of lights for the Christmas Trees! He said, “I did this alone away from women, children, and those with good hearing.” The club is very appreciative of all of their hard working members, and this year especially for George Martzolf.
The Kiwanian Clubs of ITHACA, and CAYUGA, Chemung Division – It was a rare honor, indeed. Mimi was speechless. On Friday, September 30, 2005, Miriam “Mimi” Melegrito - Palmer was recognized with the prestigious Hixson Fellowship Award for her significant commitment to Kiwanis and the children of the world. As the award was presented to Melegrito was met with a standing ovation and applause by fellow Kiwanians who admire her commitment to service.

Melegrito admirably served as the Lieutenant Governor for the Chemung Division for a year, and this was her final divisional meeting. She has been a member of Ithaca Kiwanis since 1988 and served as the first female President; she has been a member of Cayuga Kiwanis for five years, where she served as Charter President.

The Hixson Fellowship was presented to Melegrito by members of Ithaca Kiwanis and Cayuga Kiwanis and their sponsored youth programs: Cornell University Circle K, Ithaca College Circle K, Ithaca High School Key Club, and Spencer-Van Etten Key Club. These organizations made a contribution in her honor to Kiwanis International for the

During February, members of the Kiwanian Clubs of Ithaca and Cayuga were the beneficiaries of the New Cassel Kiwanian program. These organizations made a contribution in her honor to Kiwanis International for the

Seaford Receives Mentoring Grant for School District

The Kiwanian Clubs of NEW CASSEL, Long Island North – distributed hundreds of toys and gifts to children in New Cassel and the Westbury area during this past 2005 holiday season. Club member Art Marano assumed the role of Santa, and over 100 delighted girls & boys in the New Cassel Head-Start Program were the beneficiaries of the New Cassel Kiwanians’ generosity. Everyone had a great time in the spirit of the season.

The Kiwanian Clubs of SEAFORD, Long Island South Central Division – recently received a legislative grant through Senator Charles Fuschillo for $1,250 which has been made available to the Seaford School District to help support the mentoring programs. Mentoring is the project that New York Kiwanian Governor David Rothman has chosen for this year’s Governor’s project for Kiwanians throughout the New York District to support.

Mentoring of the students in Seaford takes many forms. There are adult-student mentoring partnerships, as well as student-student partnerships, where high school students work with middle school and elementary school children. Many of these high school students are Key Club Members.

The available funds have been used to purchase some valuable DVDs, DVD players, and some other supplies, such as board games (Chess sets, Scrabble sets and Connect Four sets), which are often referred to as “icebreaker” activities by our mentors.

During February, members of the Kiwanian Club of Seaford will be working with students in the mentoring program. Superintendent of Schools George Duffy thanks Kiwanis for their donation to this program and also for the support the Seaford Kiwanian program.

Lt. Governor Melegrito Receives the Hixson Fellowship Award

Governor David has asked me to co-chair along with Joe Wuest, the district committee on Pediatric Lyme Disease. It is both my honor and privilege to serve Governor David and our great New York District. Pediatric Lyme Disease is an on-going program that was started when I was Governor brought to my attention by Joe Wuest.

The Lyme Disease Project was set up to help pay for treatment of this disease. Most insurance companies DO NOT pay for its treatment, and might I add that, the treatment is very expensive. It is funded through donations from clubs or individuals to the Pediatric Lyme Disease Fund. To date we have paid out about $50,000 for treatment to doctors and/or hospitals for kids with Lyme Disease.

Lyme Disease, is caused by bacteria usually transmitted by the deer tick. It is a scary possibility to consider for New York State residents who enjoy spending time outside during the summer months. Lyme disease may affect the brain in many ways. The most common is a disturbance in thinking (cognition). Other symptoms that occur frequently include headache, mood swings, irritability, depression, and marked fatigue.

The spirochete, which causes Lyme disease, (Borrelia burgdorferi), can invade the central nervous system within days to a week of initial skin infection, as a result it disseminates through the blood stream. The majority of people who are treated early with antibiotics do well and incur no long term problems. People who are not treated until later in the illness may have a more complicated course.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

New Cassel Kiwanians Gives Hundreds of Holiday Gifts to Kids

The Kiwanian Clubs of ITHACA, and CAYUGA, Chemung Division – It was a rare honor, indeed. Mimi was speechless. On Friday, September 30, 2005, Miriam “Mimi” Melegrito - Palmer was recognized with the prestigious Hixson Fellowship Award for her significant commitment to Kiwanis and the children of the world. As the award was presented to Melegrito was met with a standing ovation and applause by fellow Kiwanians who admire her commitment to service.

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NYC Young Professionals Hold Key to Your Future Day

The Kiwanis Club of NYC Young Professionals, Metropolitan Division – held on a date and at a signature projects – their second annual “Key to Your Future Day”, according to Immediate Past President Kevin Dean. The project is patterned on Circle K’s successful “Key to College Day” project where Circle K members speak to Key Club members about college, but takes it a step further. The Key to Your Future Day event is a combination of presentations, workshops and one-on-one discussions among the Kiwanians and members of its three sponsored Key Clubs. Attendance was also opened up to other Key Clubs sponsored by neighboring Kiwanis Clubs. Approximately 50 students attended the event.

The day, which included lunch for the attendees, began with remarks by Kiwanian Governor David Rothman who commended the young professionals for their commitment to his Governor’s Project “Mentoring Kids,” and advised the attendees to continue to develop their relationships with their Kiwanis sponsors and to remain active in the Kiwanis family throughout their lives. Guest speakers also included representatives from two local colleges, one also on mentoring, and the other on the college admissions process. Workshops followed on topics such as “The Key to Your Future Day: Key Club Leadership Opportunities and Life Outside Your Club,” and finally “Employment Outside Your Club,” all with the Kiwanis Family.

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The event was held in the conference boardroom with the Manhattan skyline visible in the background. The day finished with an open time of refreshments, soliciting their contributions, and seeking their feedback after the event.

Key Clubbers, Kiwanians and Guest Speakers.

Tips for Holding a Key to Your Future Day


2. Don’t be discouraged if the youth don’t seem interested. Select compelling subject matter, tell them about it early, and tell them about it often. They will come. They don’t plan ahead as far as we do.

3. Ask them to participate. Ask your questions, involve them in the planning, solicit their contributions, and seek their feedback after the event.

NYC Young Professionals

Kevin Dean

What is a Young Professionals Kiwanis club? This is a question that many people have asked over the past few years. As 2005-06 Chair of the Young Professionals Committee, along with committee members Rich Hall, Alison Mandel and Diane Taranto Horan, our goal is a simple one: to eliminate the need for that question by expanding the scope of Young Professionals clubs in the New York District by at least double its current status.

First and foremost, Young Professionals are Kiwanians. A common myth is that such clubs are transitional clubs, meet only on the Internet, or are otherwise not full-fledged members of our organization, and nothing could be further from the truth. Currently New York boasts two active Young Professionals clubs – New York City and Nassau County. Both clubs were formed in 2001 and have continued to grow and perform additional service hours since their inception. The NYC club currently sponsors three Key Clubs and is pursuing co-sponsorship of two Circle K clubs, and both Young Professionals clubs are made up primarily of former members of sponsored youth organizations, including club members and officers, as well as district and international officers of both Key Club and Circle K.

Kiwanis International formed Young Professionals clubs several years ago as an outlet for generating membership interest in Kiwanis by younger citizens. Through the years it has become clear that the model is more viable in cities and suburban areas where there is a substantial enough population of young professionals for potential members. Although not always, Young Professionals members are generally just that, in their 20s and early 30s, and many of them are still in college or graduate school, or in the first jobs of their careers. Thus, although they may be extremely interested in performing service to those less fortunate than themselves, they often do not have the time or resources to belong to a more traditional Kiwanis club.

Young Professionals clubs may meet less frequently than once a week, and may not have meals with their meetings. The concept is that the club conforms to the schedules and needs of its membership (within the confines of the Bylaws of Kiwanis International) in order to maximize their ability to perform service and to promote membership growth. However, Young Professionals clubs pay dues and perform thousands of hours of service annually. For example, the NYC Young Professional club, which currently has approximately 35 members, performed over 2,000 hours of service in the 2004-05 administrative year, equating to more than one hour per member per week.

Most recently, a club was chartered in Washington, DC with approximately 35 members Continued on Page 11.
Tonawandas Hold Hold Mock Trial on G. Delwin Hervey Law Day

The Kiwanis Club of the TONAWANDAS, Niagara Frontier North Division – and the Tonawanda Youth Court celebrated Law Day, a nationwide commemoration of liberty and the law, at a luncheon at the Knights of Columbus on Main Street. The Kiwanis Club honored the 12th-grade members of Youth Court for four years of service. Tonawanda Town Judge Frank Caruso was the guest speaker. Judge G. Delwin Hervey, for who this event is named, was a Hixson Fellow and a Mayor of Tonawanda, as well as a life member of the Tonawandas Club.

L-R: Judge Caruso, resided over the mock youth court put on by the students, Nicole Pezone, a participant in the mock trial, and Mark Saffarelli, Tonawanda Event Organizer.

Plattsburgh Breakfast Participates in Dairy of Distinction Program

The Kiwanis Club of PLATTSBURGH BREAKFAST, Adirondack Division – Each year, the members of the Plattsburgh Kiwanis Breakfast (AM) Club, in conjunction with the Clinton County Cornell Cooperative Extension Agency, participate in the Dairy of Distinction Program which is a rural beautification contest. The 2005 winner is the Don-Sher Farm owned by Don and Sherry McNeil of Ellenburg Center, New York.

Plattsburgh Breakfast Club Farm of Director, and 2005 winners Sherry McNeil and Don McNeil.

L-R: Bill Gilidden, Plattsburgh Breakfast Club Board of Director, and 2005 winners Sherry McNeil and Don McNeil.

Old Cell Phones Needed

The Kiwanis Club of WEST END, Brooklyn in coordination with Our Lady of Guadalupe School are running a drive to collect old cell phones. All items that are collected will be used for the schools “Funding Factory Recycling Program.” The goal of this event is to help alleviate the waste that goes into our landfills. In addition, it helps raise operational funds for the school. Enrollment in Catholic Schools in Brooklyn is way down. In fact, several schools have consolidated forcing those to close all together. The new empty school buildings are now being sold to developers who are turning old classrooms into condominiums. For information and to make donations contact Joe Costello (718) 227-9871(h) (718) 331-4600(b).

Governor’s Project

Tricia Hook

THINK. Is there someone who has made a difference in your life? Perhaps it was a teacher, a coach, a neighbor, a clergy member or a relative? This years Governor’s project is challenging each of you to make that difference in someone else’s life.

Relevant website: <www.mentoring.org>

Expanding the World of Mentoring> Once you go to this website you may type in your zip code and the site will list agencies in your area involved with mentoring.

Places you may want to contact to set up a mentoring project:

Well known youth serving organizations such as: • Big Brothers Big Sisters, YWCA/YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, Communities in Schools, Junior Achievement, etc. • Public and private schools • Employment training agencies • Churches and synagogues • Soup kitchens and homeless shelters • Department of social services or welfare agency • Day-care agencies • Free clinics • Community Centers • Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation centers • Chamber of Commerce • and Family Court

Suggestions: (1) Have a speaker at a club or division meeting to discuss mentoring. (Do this as early in the year as possible so you can plan a club or division project). (2) Sponsor a community event in conjunction with a mentoring agency. (3) Sponsor a career day. (4) Involve sponsored youth clubs in your projects.

For further information contact: Alan Beinhacker, 1059 McDonald Avenue, Wantagh, NY 11793. (800) 232-2118 <alanbeinhacker516@aol.com> Alan Hodish, 1059 McDonald Avenue, Wantagh, NY 11793. (800) 232-2118 <alanhodish@aol.com> Tricia Hook, 11 North Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424 (585) 396-3130 <trichahook@frontiernet.net>
Cortland Kiwanians Celebrate Senior Birthdays With Style

The Kiwanis Club of CORTLAND, Chiem Division – On Oct. 19, 1993 held a "Make A Difference Day" for the residents of the Cortland Care Center. The party went so well, Cortland Kiwanians decided to make it a tradition and a party was scheduled to be held the third Saturday of each month.

The event begins with the residents admiring the birthday cake, upon which is scrolled "Happy Birthday" and the names of the celebrants. Each celebrant individually, at a central birthday table is honored by reviewing their age, birth date and city.

They are presented with ice cream and a piece of cake with a lit candle on it, and are requested to blow out the candle and make a wish.

At this point they're wished a happy birthday and all the residents sing happy birthday. The celebrants are then given the PA microphone and asked if they'd like to say anything. Most do with amusing and enlightening results.

The event is a special way to honor and recognize our seniors.

Asighieri Receives Hempstead Recognition

The Kiwanis Club of SEAFORD, Long Island South Central Division – Hempstead Town Councilwoman Angie M. Cullin and Town Clerk Mark A. Bonilla recently presented an official Town of Hempstead Certificate of Recognition to Seaford Secretary-President Elect Robin Asighieri at the 2005 Kiwanis Club of Seaford Awards Ceremony, which was held at David’s China Garden in Seaford.

Pictured above (left to right) are: Seaford President Elise Doyno, Hempstead Town Clerk Mark A. Bonilla, Seaford Secretary-President Elect Robin Asighieri, Councilwoman Angie M. Cullin, NYD Public Relations Chair Janice Seyfried of Wantagh and New York District Distinguished Past Governor Peter J. Mancuso of Bellmore.

Kiwanians “BRANDING’ AND THE NEW PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARD FOR 2005-06

We are approaching the busy growth building of part of the Kiwanis year, and public relations – “Getting the Word Out” – becomes a focal point. KI has new programs to enhance knowledge of Kiwanis by our communities. “One Can Make a Difference” – The Kiwanis Branding Campaign – can be utilized to reach new members and raise the awareness of Kiwanis in the community. The campaign will be covered in detail in the Public Relations forum at the Mid-Winter Conference in February. A sample press release for the Kiwanis Public Service Campaign can be downloaded from KI website (labeled “marketing” or public service announcement scripts”). Let’s remind our members to always broadcast the Kiwanis “brand” by wearing pins, shirts, caps, or using banners and encourage the media to broadcast our good works.

Our public relations award last year was met with a good showing of applicants. The awards and banner patches will be given at the Mid-Winter Conference. Governor David Rothman has approved another banner patch for public relations this year. Most clubs are already using many of the various media included in the criteria. The clubs will be recognized with a Public Relations Banner Patch when they promote their activities, club meetings, members, and other items of interest during the year using a variety of public relations venues. Two required elements have been added: one club newsletter/bulletin issue and one article published in the local newspaper are required items plus an additional nine (9) times during the Kiwanis administrative year, in any combination of two or more of the following categories:

- Electronic Media - (interview, news coverage, remote broadcast, commercial, PSA or scheduled program)
- Radio
- Broadcast TV, Cable TV
- Print Media
- Daily or weekly newspaper
- Electronic Media
- Electronic Media
- Direct Mail
- Business/Calling Cards
- Website/Club site
- Outdoor Signage
- Parades, fairs, festivals
- New Media: Club website
- Broadcast email
- Internal Publicity: ESK, Kiwanis Magazine,
- Club Newsletter

Please send newsletters, press releases, photos, clippings, etc. by September 30, 2006. to: Public Relations Award, N. Y. District Kiwanis, 2104 Willow Street, Wantagh, NY 11793, Tel: 516-826-6344 Email: KIWANISPR@aol.com.

Dean

Continued from Page 9

Kiwanis clubs, the success of Young Professionals clubs is tied directly to the commitment and participation of their Charter membership.

Young Professionals clubs are a great way to energize your division and even to potentially recruit younger members for your own clubs as a result. Please make a commitment to this important effort. If you or your club would like more information on Young Professionals Kiwanis clubs, are interested in potentially sponsoring one of our new clubs for 2005-06, or are aware of potential Charter members for these proposed new clubs, please contact us.

Webmaster

Marty Toombs

So you’ve got a couple members planning on attending the Mid-Year conference and another making a cross-state trip who want to visit Kiwanis clubs in the area. And you also are looking for the form to make sure one of your members gets their Distinguished Kiwanian award.

All of those problems can be solved quickly by a visit to the District web site at www.kiwanis-ny.org.

So you’re not the club secretary but are interested in the history of the district or what you can do to help your club be distinguished this year? That information is on the site as well. Search it out.

And if your interest is centered on Kamp Kiwanis, there’s information on the Kamp’s history, directions to the Kamp, information on this summer’s program, and even the information and forms needed by kampers and prospective staff. Pictures of the Kamp and activities from the summer season are a featured part of the site. The Kamp Kiwanis section of the site includes 177 pictures.

Continuing the past year some significant changes were made to the site’s underlying structure which has had the result of making the data which has been there for a few years more easily accessible. All the information regarding the district’s 297 clubs now resides in a searchable database, allowing visitors to get the information in the format they need. Using the Club Locator feature on the site lets you search according to various criteria, including Division, City, and club meeting schedules. For example, a search for “Mon” will give you a list of all the districts that meet on Monday. A list of all clubs by their organizational date, and a list of all the club web sites in the district also is available.

Club information available includes president and secretary contact information, meeting times and locations, and the club web site, if there is one. The information on the 180 people who hold district offices, including officers as well as district committee chairs, lieutenant governors and others, also has been put in a database and can be searched according to various criteria.

The club and other directory information is updated as needed, on a daily basis. (Check your club’s listing and make sure it’s correct. If not, the e-mail address to submit a correction is on the bottom of each page.)

When it comes to searching, you also can search the entire site, or just the Kamp Kiwanis portion of the site. The searches will find references on the web site, as well as any in the Empire State Kiwanian since October of 2003.

Each edition of the district’s newspaper is posted on the site as soon as it is published, before most Kiwanians will find it in their mail box, and they remain posted for later reading.

Continued on Page 13
It's Time To Reflect Upon the Safety of Our Nation and the Impact on the Youth of America

America is a great nation. In times of threat and conflict, her greatness has been defended and sustained by those who bravely fought on her behalf — the men and women of our Armed Forces. Unfortunately, today America appears divided in our effort against terrorism and the conflict in Iraq. Demonstrations on the part of many citizens and opposition to the war among legislators, have taken a significant toll on the status and image of this great nation worldwide. While our veterans fought for, and many died for the right of Americans to protest and enjoy freedom of speech, history tells us, there is a downside to protesting irresponsibly or freely expressing opinions that carry the wrong message to the enemy. Terrorists are encouraged, by public antiwar displays here at home. It sends a message that we, as a people, are not united in winning the war on terror. The lack of support is devastating to the morale of our troops who are valiantly fighting to protect our freedoms and the American way of life, as well as giving hope and democracy to the people of Iraq.

As Kiwanians, we are patriotic and believe in the traditional values that were largely responsible for the rapid growth of America both economically and militarily: Love of country, love of family, and love of God. The K-family together can make a difference. Each one of us can carry the message to our communities, friends, and most important to the legislators who now appear divided in their support of the war in Iraq.

The Circle K Speaking Conference held on November 4-6 at the Georgian Hotel in Lake George, New York, was a highly successful weekend that was both informative and fun. Annually, it’s a very important conference because it takes place in the first semester of the school year. It provides Circle K members with the opportunity to implement new service projects and activities offered by the many panels and forums. Also, the new club officers have an opportunity to attend special sessions for training. Governor David Rotham was the featured speaker on Saturday evening. He encouraged all Circle K members to work together with the K-Family. Governor David was especially pleased to hear that both Circle K and Key Club were extensively involved in “Tutoring” as an on-going project. At the closing session on Sunday morning, Past Governor Tony Polangi presented a program on Kamp Kiwanis. Circle K annually supports the Kamp. They hold meetings there and enjoy a fun weekend.

Bonkers the Clown and his associate brighten up the experience. Throughout the four hours the clowns continually walked around making balloon animals for the children. Bonkers wowed the children with a 20 minute magic act in front of his audience of children and adults. He was great!

After the magic show, all the children sang Christmas Carols which hailed in the big man himself. Santa visited the children and toys were given to each child present.

The DJ kept the action going, playing Christmas songs and the Macarena, as well as the Cha Cha Slide. The food ranged from a fine breakfast to an elegant dinner with dessert bestowed to all in attendance.

The Chairmen for this event were DPP Alex Inserna and DPLG Joe Battista. Thank you to IPLG Mark Russo and LG Fran Hogan for their great insight in making this party a reality as a joint venture between two terms of office. Also a great thanks to the sponsors; Sean Cusick, PLG and board president Lindy Marrazzo, Mark Russo, Jodi’s Bar and Grill, and JR Landscaping. The event was a huge success by the smiles on the children’s faces, or was it all that food and the clowns?

Bonkers the Clown made balloon animals for the children.

Cartoon characters entertain the children.

Metropolitan K-Family Project Brings Holiday Joy to Children

METROPOLITAN DIVISION — This holiday season marked the first annual Children’s Christmas Party Metropolitan Kiwanians have begun. Over 60 underprivileged children and their parents were treated to joyous party. There were 143 children and 98 adults who came to enjoy the festivities. The children ranged in age from 2-10. These children came from the Bronx, Manhattan, and Staten Island.

The project was a joint Divisional and Key Club event. In attendance were, Curtis High School Key Club with its advisor Janet, and the newly formed Saint Joseph Hill Academy Key Club with its advisor Brian and 12 of its new-to-be inducted members.

The party was held at the Renaissance on Hylan Boulevard from 11am to 3pm. Four characters continually walking around this is when the Key Clubbers helped out and played with the children. Key Clubbers face painted and used stick on tattoo’s for the children. Bonkers the Clown and his associate brighten up the experience. Throughout the four hours the clowns continually walked around making balloon animals for the children. Bonkers wowed the children with a 20 minute magic act in front of his audience of children and adults. He was great!

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Bonkers the Clown made balloon animals for the children.

Above: DJ adds a lot of fun for children.
Left: Events Chairs DPP Alex Inserra, DPLG Joe Battista and LG Fran Hogan (seated) pose with Santa and children. Missing from the picture IPLG Mark Russo.
Roscoe Kiwanians Provide Dictionary to Students

The Kiwanis Club of ROSCOE, Hudson River West Division – for the past four years has participated in The Dictionary Project, a program with the goal of getting all 3rd graders their own dictionary.

A dictionary is perhaps the first and most powerful reference tool that a child should own. Its usefulness goes beyond the spellings, pronunciations and definitions it lists. It is also a companion for solving problems that arise as a child develops his or her reading, writing, and creative thinking abilities. Students benefit from an increased self-reliance and resourcefulness inspired by the maxim, “look it up.” The importance of using a dictionary to make sure all words are spelled correctly is emphasized. This is an opportunity for children to expand their vocabulary.

The success of The Dictionary Project has been through the tireless efforts of the people who have made a personal commitment to improving literacy and the quality of life in their community. A dictionary is an essential tool for a quality education. A child cannot do his or her best work without one. Together we can make sure that every child benefits from the power of words, because that is the only way they can become self-reliant. Reading is the most important skill of all. It is the starting point for all the economic and social opportunities this world has to offer.

Over 3,022,088 children have received a dictionary from volunteers who have participated in the Dictionary Project to provide a dictionary for the children in their community each year, so they can enjoy the benefits of a large vocabulary.

1,128,579 dictionaries were given to students in the 2004-2005 school year as a gift from people who live in their town. <www.dictionaryproject.org>

Heritage Society
Carla Ingram

My name is Carla Ingram. I am the District Chair for the Heritage Society. The Kiwanis International Foundation established the Heritage Society to recognize individuals who have named the Foundation in their estate plans.

I have been in Kiwanis for over 15 years and have served on a few committees as the chair. I am a Past Lt. Governor three times over and want to do it again some day. I am honored to be the Heritage Society Chairperson and with my background as a paralegal, I hope to do a good job.

There are several types of Planned Gifts. They are Bequests, Charitable Gift Annuity, Life Insurance, Charitable Remainder Trust, Revocable Living Trust, and Retirement Plan Beneficiary. The Heritage Society is a main source of endowment support and is needed to ensure future financial stability of the Foundation. Membership to the Heritage Society is offered to individuals who signify their intent to: provide a “planned gift” to Kiwanis International Foundation Endowment Fund or make an outright charitable gift of at least $5,000 US Funds.

My goals for this committee are to make each and every Kiwanian aware of the Heritage Society. I also want to make sure that every Kiwanian not only knows about the Heritage Society, but they consider putting Kiwanis International in their estate plans.

For more information about the Heritage Society or to find out if you qualify for membership in the Society, contact the Kiwanis International Foundation or contact me by phone number 315-268-0424 or email challenge741@yahoo.com.

Clubs Honor Members With Foundation Distinguished Service Awards

In an effort to recognize individuals for meritorious service, the New York District Foundation has developed the Distinguished Service Award. This high gloss color certificate will be personalized with recipients' names and signed by our Foundation President and packaged in a leather folder with an embossed Foundation label. 

The award can be presented by clubs once a year for one club member. The donation for this award is $150. It is a great means of honoring someone in a special way. Just fill out the coupon on the right, enclose your check payable to the NY District Foundation, and send to Maureen Neuringer, 1535 63rd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11219.

EMPIRE STATE KIWANIAN
February 2006

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Empire State Kiwanian Business Service Directory

**Title Insurance – NYC & Long Island**

**SOVEREIGN ABSTRACT CORP.**
Agent for First American Title Insurance Company of New York
1265 Richmond Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10314
Tel: 718 983-8000    Fax: 718 983-7899

**Real Estate – Levittown**

**Century 21**
3204 Hempstead Turnpike
Levittown, New York 11756
Business (516) 738-9940, Fax (516) 738-9847
Pager (516) 894-2563
E-Mail CT21HOMES@aol.com

**Thomas G. Gallagher**
Broker Associate
General Manager
Mail Office a Registered Division & Operator

**Semiconductor Grade Specialty Chemicals & Building Restoration Cleaners – Mt. Vernon**

**KEM CHEMICAL CORPORATION**

**President**

**DONALD C. CIOITA**

545 South Fulton Avenue
Mount Vernon, New York 10550
914 699-3110 FAX: 914 699-3157
E-MAIL: kemchem@aol.com

**Poughkeepsie Kiwanian Presents Gilroy Support Person of the Year Award**

Kiwanis Club of POUGHKEEPSIE, Hudson River Division – presented the Support Person of the Year Award to an employee of the Poughkeepsie City School District. This award for distinguished service is presented annually to a staff member who is not an administrator or teacher. Melissa Gilroy, secretary in the Poughkeepsie High School Guidance Office received the award in 2005.

The Kiwanis Club of Poughkeepsie also presents an award annually to students in local high schools for outstanding community service and offers a $1,000 scholarship to a worthy student from a local high school for academic achievement, community service, and financial need.

Left: Pres. Cliff Scholl gives Melissa Gilroy flowers after presenting her with the Support Person of the Year award.
Members Honored for 55 Years Service

Kiwanis Club of LINDENHURST, Suffolk West Division – President Henrietta Gardner presented Mitch Rothberg his pin for 55 years of dedicated service. Mitch is a charter member and was President in 1954. PP Charlie Harvey received his pin for 55 years of Kiwanis service at a recent club meeting. Charlie served on many club committees and is a valued club member.

L-R: Lindenhurst President Henrietta Gardner and honoree 55 year member PP Charlie Harvey.

Patchogue

L-R seated in background: Dave Woods. Standing Lindenhurst President Henrietta Gardner and honoree 55 year member PP Mitch Rothberg.

Palangi

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Three Village Decorates Park for Season

The Kiwanis Club of THREE VILLAGE, Suffolk East Division – and the Key Club at Ward Melville High School recently decorated the Setauket Kiwanis Park for the holidays. The park is home for Santa when he arrives at the community’s annual “Electric Holiday Parade. This year, over 1,000 people in the community attended the event, which included tree hot chocolate and cookies.

Rotterdam Kiwanis Holds Garage Sale

The Kiwanis Club of ROTTERDAM, Mohawk Division – conducted their third annual Garage Sale. It was held at the South Schenectady Fire Dept. meeting hall. The fire department donated the use of the hall.

For several months prior to the event, three of our members, PP Dave Kazda, PP Norm Seymour, and President Jack White gathered the donated merchandise and stored it in a facility PP Jack White had made available.

The day before the sale, the merchandise was transported to the meeting hall where it was arranged by categories. The day of the sale, President Jack White brought home-made soup and meatballs, which his wife, Terri, had made. This would be nourishment for the working Kiwanis families.

Kiwanians working on this project were: Sec’y Ed Barkowski, DPP Tony Colose, PP Clem Garkowski, PP Dave Kazda, DPP Dave Keiski, Herb Kingsbury, Nancy MacLea, Henry Polgreen, Mary Regal, Treasurer Bob Reid, PP Norm Seymour, President Jack White, and spouses and significant others: Jean Brown, Ursula Keiski, Carol Reid, Carol Seymour, and Terri White.

Each year they surpassed the previous years in income received. This year they raised $1,360.

Patchoche Hold Toy Trot for Children

The Kiwanis Club of PATCHOQUE, Suffolk East Division – 130 Toy Trot participants began a 4 Mile Run in Patchogue on Jennings Avenue. Timing and officiating was done by the Bohemia Track Club. The event was sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Patchogue and the Brickhouse Brewery to benefit needy children of the community.

Each participant donated a Christmas toy besides the entry fee. The Patchoche Medford Key Club helped by wrapping the toys which are to be distributed for Christmas.

Three Village Kiwanians and Melville High School Key Club

Three Village Kiwanians and Melville High School Key Club.

JONES REPEATS AS FLORAL PARK PRESIDENT - 3 MEMBERS INSTALLED

Kiwani Club of FLORAL PARK, Long Island North Division – Maria Gridley Jones, daughter of DPG John Gridley, was recently installed for her second term as President of the Kiwanis Club of Floral Park. At the same time her mother, former First Lady Rosemarie, and her grand mother Anna Quattrocchi, were also installed. In addition Barbara Cirlincione, wife of former SDPLG Ben Cirlincione also became a member.

Photo left, L to R, Standing: Barbara Cirlincione, SDPLG Ben Cirlincione, former First Lady Rosemarie Gridley, DPG John Gridley, Anna Quattrocchi. (Rosemarie’s mom), President Maria Gridley Jones. Seated: Governor-Elect Joe Corace and Gov. David Rothman.

District Convention

Hi, as you all know the NY District Convention is being held in Saratoga Springs from Sept. 7th to September 10th.

While this is a little different than the usual August time period, I am sure this year will be a wonderful convention.

The main hotel The Saratoga (formerly the Prime) has gone through a major renovation and has upgraded significantly.

There will be many activities for Kiwanis with discounts at the stores on Broadway. Our downtown district was voted best main street in the USA in 2000. There are a variety of stores to shop all within walking distance of the hotel.

Saratoga is your ideal golfing destination, with 3 golf courses located right in the city.

Saratoga Gaming and Raceway has become another wonderful venue with it’s slots, VLT machines and serves complimentary coffee, tea, soda, juice and water while you play on the gaming floor. Parking and admission is also free. Fortunes, a restaurant in the gaming facility offers a wide variety of food and specials.

Saratoga Springs is also home to the fourth largest brewery in New York State. Ode Saratoga Brewing Co. offers tours, tastings, retail outlet and gift baskets made to order.

Family attractions include: Children’s Museum, National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame, Saratoga Automobile Museum, New York State Military Museum and the National Museum of Dance and Hall of Fame. With everything available in Saratoga Springs, we are sure to have a great convention and a great time.

Palangi

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The new year has begun and we are gearing up for a new camping season for 2006. Applications have been mailed or e-mailed to each club. Please review them and reserve your slot as soon as possible in that we are anticipating a full camp once again. Allow your children in your area to attend Kamp Kiwanis and enjoy the camping experience.

As a reminder, campers, including transportation to and from the camp, the fee is $500 per camper. Without transportation, for those living close to Kamp Kiwanis, the fee is $400 per camper. To make payment a little easier, we now accept credit cards including American Express, Mastercard, Visa, Diner’s Club and Discover.

Our work weekend this year is May 4th through May 6th. Please call either myself at 718-983-8000 or Rebecca at the camp, if you are coming. We will paint, clean cabins, fix plumbing, install carpeting, and do electrical and grounds maintenance. We accomplish many things while having good time. This makes for a great club function. There are plenty of hotels and motels to stay at for reasonable prices. Turning Stone Casino and Resort is only 30 minutes away from Kamp Kiwanis for those so inclined.

Remember, for those interested in honoring a member, you can do so in a number of ways. Our Kaiser Fellow program entails a $1,000 donation to the camp. You can buy a brick for: $125
4" X 8" - $125
12" X 12" - $500
18" X 18" - $700
24" X 24" - $1,500

You can buy an acre of property for $1,500, a bench with your club’s name for $1,500, a bench with the Merrick and North Merrick children went to camp the last week in July, along of those children to Kamp Kiwanis.” This year, I am delighted that through our fundraising efforts, we were able to send 12 of those children to Kamp Kiwanis.”

The Kiwanis Club of FLORAL PARK, Long Island North Division – sponsored two NYC children at Kamp Kiwanis in Taberg, NY. The sponsored youth are students of PS222 at PS266 in Bellerose, NY. As part of the Park’s sponsorship, the children were presented customized embroidered tote bags chock full of goodies and sundries for camp. The embroidered duffel bags, bearing the NY District Kiwanis logo along with the child’s names, were filled with towels, disposable cameras, post cards, stamps, pens, flashlights, batteries, suntan lotion and sun-screen, bug spray, markers, journals and other personal items.

Representing the Floral Park Kiwanis Club at the presentation were former 10-year Glen Oaks resident and Floral Park Treasurer Joyce Manley-Ryder, a NYC Department of Education staffer at PS266. Also in attendance was Floral Park Past President Joyce Moyse. Joyce is also a past Club Treasurer and Secretary, as well as Advisor to the Floral Park Memorial High School Key Club. Helping out were their children Megan Moyse and Barbara-Anne Ryder. Representing the staff of PS200 at PS266 were, Ms. K Bougdadious, Teacher; Ms. R. Spitzer, Unit Coordinator; and Ms. K. Navins; Teacher.

The Floral Park Kiwanis Club’s current President is Maria Jones. The club serves the Nassau County communities of Floral Park, Franklin Square, and Bellerose; and the Queens County communities of Bellerose, North Floral Park, and Glen Oaks.

The club recently celebrated its 30th anniversary.

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The Kiwanis Club of MERRICK, Long Island South Central Division – In the truest spirit of camaraderie and compassion, the Kiwanis Club of Merrick opened its heart and its pocketbook to help the Nassau County Medical Center send kids to Kamp Kiwanis this summer. In addition to the 12 children from the Merrick and North Merrick community, the club sponsored 12 children whom the NCMC club wanted to send but were unable to fund.

“A few years ago, the Nassau County Medical Center club asked us if we could help them out by adding a couple of kids to the group we were sending,” Merrick Club President Douglas Mills explained. “Some of the children recommended by the Medical Center Club may also be from our community. The criteria are that these kids have siblings who are very ill, and might need some attention or a break from the stresses and strains at home, as so much of the family’s attention is focused on the child who is ill. This year, I am delighted that through our fundraising efforts, we were able to send 12 of those children to Kamp Kiwanis.”

The Nassau County Medical Center kids went to camp the last week in July, along with the Merrick and North Merrick children recommended by the towns’ school districts.