Kiwanis Membership Grows Toward Million-Member Goal

Kiwanis International membership totaled 260,701 in 8,241 clubs as of September 30, 2006. This figure represents an increase of 11,413 members and 124 clubs compared to final figures as of September 30, 2005. The count for 2006 reflects all reported member adds and deletes during the year and all new clubs organized.

This is great news for Kiwanis and for all those we serve,” says International President Nelson Tucker. “This gain is the first measurably progress toward our goal of one million members by 2015, the 100th anniversary of Kiwanis.” Club delegates adopted the million-member goal at the 2005 International Convention.

Positive growth was achieved in all four regions of the Kiwanis world: North America, Latin America, Asia-Pacific, and Europe.

“Our commitment to regional growth plans, positive organizational messages, Kiwanis-branded service, K University, and membership growth (TAG) teams are examples of how we are building momentum,” says CEO/Executive Director Rob Parker. “We firmly established a strong foundation and must continue our commitment to achieving a million members by 2015.”

The final figure for each club, division, and district on September 30 will be the official starting figure for 2006-07. Clubs can add and delete members at any time during the Kiwanis year, as well as when the club roster is submitted to each club at the time of annual dues billing. However, member adds and deletes during the year will not change the October 1 starting figure.

Clubs only pay dues for members report- ed on their corrected club roster, while annual growth achievement is measured by the September 30 final figure each year. To maintain accuracy and avoid confusion, it is important for clubs to report member adds and deletes as they occur. New members should begin receiving Kiwanis magazine as of the month they are added as possible, so they can become informed about the organization they have joined.

San Antonio Beckons Kiwanians

Welcome to a new Kiwanis year of Service. While we have all been working to assure that the business of Kiwanis continues with- out interruption, it is fitting that we take the time to thank “Dave’s Diamonds” for all the work they have done to make sure that our clubs are working hard to make our commu- nities better. THANK YOU, PG DAVE AND YOUR BOARD OF DIAMONDS!

Secretaries for 2005-06 should be sure that your club’s Annual Report has been com- pleted. There is still time to get that informa- tion in. Our District’s achievement committee uses the information in the Annual Report to make our determinations of many Annual District Awards. Filing is “easy” as you can do the report directly on the Web. Just go to www.kiwanis.org and choose, under mem- ber services, “Forms” which should take you to a web page where you can just “click” on Club Annual Report and allow you to enter the club’s year of service activities.

Governor Joe Corcoran and his team have put together a most exciting program for this year, one where we can honor all those “Everyday Heroes” in our communities. There are 6 parts within the traditional Governor’s Project this year, that each of our clubs can use to highlight people in our communities that truly make a difference. You can get all the up-to-date information on each of these initiatives on our web site (www.kiwanis- ny.org) along with all the instructions, forms and press releases to make your local club “Shine throughout the community.”

Now, this year is our “web – based,” monthly reporting system (KiwanisOne). This system is so very easy to use and incorpo- rates the Club Annual Report as you submit your monthly activities. That monthly report, though not a “paper” or “e-mail” version, is still due by the 10th of the month. For clubs that have secretaries with no computer, please allow another member of that club to input the data for the secretary. The secre- tary would fill out the traditional form and give it to their member that can go to the web and file the report. The advantage of this reporting system is that the Governor and your Lt. Governor will have full access to more useful information than in the past AND you will not have to file an Annual Report if you file on the web all year long. There is sub- stantial help around the District, as we have assembled a District Information Technology committee headed by PLG Mike Sinisik. And, of course you can call the District Office (315-735-3463) or me (1-800-419-8898).

Speaking of our website, please note the absolutely wonderful job that continues to be done by our Webmaster North Towers. All of the current club information should be cor- rect on available on www.kiwanis-ny.org. Continued on Page 4

In Raising the World’s I.Q., the Secret’s in the Salt

New York Times reports on IOD progress

On December 16, a New York Times head- line informed readers, “In raising the world’s I.Q., the secret’s in the salt.” In an extensive report from Central Asia, reporter Donald G. McNeill Jr. reviewed the progress made in eliminating iodine deficiency disorders and noted that Kiwanis International has played an important part in the worldwide campaign. “The 1990 World Summit for Children called for the elimination of iodine deficiency by 2000,” he noted, and the subsequent effort has been led by the International Council for Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders “along with UNICEF; the World Health Organization, Kiwanis International, the World Bank, and the foreign aid agencies of Canada, Australia, the Netherlands, the United States and others.”

Largely out of the public eye, they made ter- rific progress: 25 percent of the world’s popula- tion can now access uniodized salt, which was the furious opposition by 1950s conservatives widespread suspicion of iodization. “In some nations, iodization becomes tarred as a government plot to poison an essential of life — salt experts compare it to the furious opposition by 1950s conservatives to fluoridation of American water. “In others, civil libertarians demand a right to choose plain salt, with the result that the iodized kind rarely receives the poor. Small salt makers who fear extra expense often lobby against it. So do makers of iodine pills who fear losing their market.”

“Rumors inevitably swirl: iodine has been blamed for AIDS, diabetes, seizures, impo- tence and penis wishing. Iodized salt, according to different national rumour mills, will make pickled vegetables explode, ruin caviar or soften hard cheese.”

Kiwanis IOD grants have been used to fund public education programs to convince par- ents that iodized salt is safe and vital to their children’s mental and physical development. As part of its $37 million endowment cam- paign, the Kiwanis International Foundation plans to raise $1.5 million to help sustain the IOD program and ensure that our extraordi- nary investment is protected through close monitoring and preventative measures with UNICEF and other worldwide partners.

In January/February 2007