Kiwanis Int'l Proposes Major Revenue Changes in Nashville

**Simplifying Dues**

Despite a time of global economic difficulties, planning and stewardship have positioned Kiwanis International in a strong financial condition. To help ensure that continues, the Kiwanis International Board is proposing Bylaws amendments that aim to simplify the dues-collection process and sustain financial stability.

A key task force of Kiwanis members studied Kiwanis International’s revenue sources for the past year with a goal to provide the necessary flexibility to address changing needs while maintaining accountability to clubs and members. The International Board considered the group’s recommendations and will forward four suggestions as proposed Bylaws amendments to the House of Delegates at the 2009 International Convention in Nashville, June 25-28. A fifth recommendation does not require Bylaws changes. The proposals include:

1. Develop an online billing system for annual club fees and new-member enrollments integrated into Kiwanis International’s member database. Members would be able to update their own information 24/7, and club secretaries can process rosters and pay fees online, all via secure methods, though they would still have the option to mail paper copies if preferred. This aspect is key to the proposal, but does not require a Bylaws change to implement.

2. Publish a common annual billing cycle of October 1 to September 30. This would simplify the process by eliminating the confusion of staggered payment dates based on when each club organized.

3. Replace the word “dues” with “annual club fee” when it relates to what clubs pay to Kiwanis International. Members owe “dues” only to their clubs, while clubs pay an “annual club fee” to Kiwanis International.

4. Replace the current flat “new-member add fee” with a “graduated enrollment fee” schedule that decreases each month from a starting point of $62 (the same amount currently charged for membership dues, magazine subscription, and liability insurance combined) down to $6 at the end of the year.

5. Eliminate individual magazine fee waivers for spouses. Even though Kiwanis credits clubs $8 for each waiver, Kiwanis still pays $5 for each magazine not mailed in fixed costs that cannot be waived (staffing, article purchases, etc.) Members who do not receive benefit of this waiver absorb the costs.

These recommendations are designed to streamline and modernize the dues and fees collection process, use technology efficiently for members and staff, and simplify club reporting requirements, making the jobs of club secretary and treasurer easier.

An informational brochure has been prepared with additional information, which is available via http://community.kiwani.org/media/p/519175.aspx. Presentations are also scheduled at many midyear conferences to discuss the key questions and answers. Kiwanis leaders are also encouraged to e-mail their questions to feedback@kiwanis.org.

Empire Club

Joe Eppolito

International Foundation - Fulfilling * One Child and One Community at a Time

Have you ever realized that each club giving to the Annual Club Gift Campaign, that club helps fulfill our Kiwanis International theme & motto? As of mid-June, the clubs in the New York District have amazingly given over $14,000 to date compared to that same time last year’s total of over $5,000.

Clubs that give to the AGC Campaign earn 10 points towards Distinguished Club Status and is often the “ tipping point " on whether or not the club reaches that distinction. More clubs need to make that donation, not just for the points but for the fact that the money is used for disaster relief, Key Leader, Sponsored Youth education, and grants to clubs. A percentage of the funds gets returned to our District in the way of a reimbursement for our annual breakfast recognition for Table of Honor, Husson, Heritage Society, Husson Ambassador, Kaiser and Empire Club recipients at our District Convention.

I encourage all clubs to give to the Annual Club Gift Campaign, consider awarding a Husson, Table of Honor or a Husson Ambassador to a deserving Kiwanian or outstanding teacher in your community. The money will be used to help children all over the world.

As New York District Chair for the Kiwanis International Foundation, I am amazed at our District’s generosity. Let’s step it up a notch * in our Annual Club Giving. In spite of our great giving so far this year, it is hard to believe that we are 27th out of 30 North American Districts in total giving and 20th out of 30 North American Districts in per Kiwanian giving ($1.70).

Let’s summon up some competitive juices and move up the ladder for our District to be recognized as a leader in this area.

Feel free to contact me @ 315-449-3000, ext 358 or email me @ JoeEppolito@AOL.com

Van Rensselaer Kiwanis Clubs Receive Awards at MidYearConvention

Van Rensselaer Kiwanis Clubs received Awards at the Annual Kiwanis Convention. The Kiwanis Clubs of Sand Lake, Hoosick Falls, Rensselaer and Troy received Distinguished Club awards. These Clubs in addition to the North Greenbush Club received a Public Relations Award.

Governor Elect David Booker, left and the Van Rensselaer Division attended the New York District Mid-Winter Conference. Van Rensselaer Kiwanis Clubs of Sand Lake, Hoosick Falls, Rensselaer and Troy received Distinguished Club awards. All these Clubs in addition to the North Greenbush Club received a Public Relations Award.