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Minisink

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Shivani found the election process daunting but well worth the effort. Jasmine also ran for office to get more involved. She feels she is the same person as before but feels enriched in having done something useful. She has found her term in office exciting, especially seeing the functioning of the organization at the higher levels and realizing all that Key Club can accomplish.

Both girls are active in other extracurricular activities. Shivani is a member of the Drama Club, Thespian Society, National Honor Society (President), and participated in the Odyssey of the Mind competition.

Jasmine is a member of the Chamber Choir, Mixed Chorus, Drama Club, and swims the freestyle and backstroke on the Swimming Team. She baby sits in her spare time. Jasmine plans to attend college in New York State and Psychology and in Circle K.

Shivani is a member of the Honor Society (President), and participated in the Choir, Mixed Chorus, Drama Club, and swims the community college. Her college plans include continuing studies in philosophy and Psychology and in Circle K.

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With members like Shivani and Jasmine it is no wonder that the Kiwanians of Minisink Valley have a special swagger at division and district meetings.

Syosset Members Honor Ralph Quick as Kiwanian of the Year

The Kiwanis Club of GENESEO, Genesee Division – recently held a recognition night for the Administrative Year 2005 – 06. Ralph Quick was honored as the Kiwanian of the Year. Ralph Quick is a 31-year member and a Past President of the service club and a recent member of the Board of Directors. In addition to working on all the club’s service projects, as usual, Ralph was a counselor to the East Aurora Aktion Club

for the family of New York State Trooper Joseph Longobardo, who was killed in the Southern Tier while pursuing t ’ Ralph Phillips. And last holiday season, they held festive goods sale in front of the Jubilee store on Grey Street.

They earned $280," recalled Bach. "They immediately went into Jubilee to buy turkeys, then took the turkeys to FISH, including the $8 in change leftover from buying the turkeys. They are just wonderful people.”

Jan Kowena of East Aurora, who works in banking, said she joined Kiwanis to be of service to the community. She is an Aktion Club volunteer. “It’s absolutely amazing to see what Aktion Club members contribute to the community,” she said. “They truly enjoy helping others. They feel satisfaction, knowing they contributed or helped the community.

“They have something to offer, but sometimes they are not given the chance. Aktion Club gives them that chance.” Aktion Club members also find time to socialize and have fun together. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Iron Kettle restaurant on Olean Road. The club’s recent February meeting was a special Valentine’s Dance held at the Aurora Senior Center.

“People get up, they do karaoke,” said Wheeler, who was at the dance. “They have such a great time.”

She praised Don Bach’s efforts in bringing Aktion Club to East Aurora under the Kiwanis Club’s sponsorship. He devotes a lot of time to this, and he has the wonderful support of his wife, Carol. But he’s far too humble and wonderful a man to take credit for any of this.”

She said members appreciate him, too. “At the installation dinner in October at Christ the King Seminary, at the end of her speech, Aktion Club President Michelle Napierala said ‘We love you, Don Bach,’ and she had tears in her eyes,” said Wheeler.

I Bach steadfastly avoids the spotlight and deflects compliments. For him, it’s all about making your community a better place to live—no matter what disability you have. “We’re all in this together,” he said.

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In 2007, we have two amazing Key Leader events taking place. The first of these events is May 18 – 20 at Camp Stella Maris in Livonia. At this event, our lead facilitator will be Forrest Perry who has a wide background in experiential leadership. We have a number of student facilitators signed up for the event. What we need now are students. This is where you as Kiwanians need to get involved. Please encourage your clubs to sponsor students.

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\textbf{Syosset Welcomes Governor}
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Governor Joe Corace’s major project this year encompass six main areas of service in which each Kiwanis club can participate together with the Sponsored Youth Organizations: The Every Day Hero Award, Sports Project, Health Awareness, Family Day, Scouting and the Senior Project. Each club president has a complete analysis of the program for implementation.

The program is indeed, a golden opportunity for Kiwanis clubs to jointly work together with their sponsored clubs. Many members of our youth organizations have considerable experience in these areas of service. Undoubtedly, their participation will enhance the size and success of the projects and significantly demonstrate the Ki-Family working together to make our communities a better place to live.

The Key Club and Circle K Conventions are now rapidly approaching: Key Club Convention, Kitchener’s Country Club, March 16-18, Circle K convention, Hotel Utica, March 23-25. A few reminders for Sponsoring Kiwanis clubs:

Make sure elections of club officers are held prior to these conventions so that the newly elected officers can attend and gain the benefit of the various forums and work shops available to them, including the training of club officers.

Support at least one third of the hotel cost of two delegates or alternates. It is possible, also support the Faculty and Kiwanis advisors. Very often they are called upon to serve as chaperones. Let’s remember that they play a vital role in the success of the Sponsoring Youth Program.

Kiwanis LT. Governors: It’s imperative that you contact your counterparts the newly elected Key Club and Circle K LT. Governors as soon as possible. They need your assistance and expertise to begin the new year. An early start will lead to greater success.

ATTENTION KIWANIS CLUBS WITH LIMIT-ED MANPOWER: Your sponsored youth club is an excellent source of manpower. Don’t hesitate to involve them in your club activities. Fortunately this year, you have a golden opportunity to involve them in the Governor’s Project that recommends six areas of service in the communities. Our young people today are extremely intelligent and possess exceptional talents. However, they need our support, guidance, and encouragement. The future of our country is at stake — the Golden Opportunity is now — don’t let it escape.

\begin{center}
\textbf{Genesee Members Honor Ralph Quick as Kiwanian of the Year}
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Above (l to r): Immediate Past President Ron Pollock, Kiwanian of the Year Ralph Quick, and President Matt Griffis.

President, Co-Chair of the Membership and Education Committee, and chaired the very successful annual Chicken Bar-B-Q fundraiser project in late August. Ralph is an excellent example of service to community.

Syosset Club members, Long Island North Division – recently hosted Governor Joe Corace (second from left) at the It’s Greek to Me Restaurant. Above, PLG Steve Berheim, Governor Joe Corace, Syosset member, PLG Woody Ryder, LLG Roger Strangolo, LG-Elect Lawrence Benedetti and DPLG Jo Greene.

\begin{center}
\textbf{Upcoming Key Leader Events!}
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The cost per student is $160. All registration is completed through the website www.key-leader.org. One thing you might be able to do is get local business to sponsor students as well.

If you or your club is interested in supporting the Key Leader program but do not have a student to sponsor, you can donate money for the program. A check should be made out to New York District Kiwanis Foundation and sent to the Foundation. The Foundation is allowing us to use it as a means to collect money. If your club is interested in sending a student but do not have the funds, please contact me and I will try to make arrangements for the student to attend.