As we begin this new year of Kiwanis, let us thank the previous year for a job well done. Thank you Immediate Past Gov. Forbes Irvine and First Lady Helene Irvine for leading our district with compassion and thoughtfulness. Thank you to the entire Kiwarnergy team for supporting our district foundations, as well as many other service projects. I am humbled and thrilled to be given the opportunity to lead the great New York district this year.

International President Jane Erickson likes to say, “we have the ability to leave a positive handprint on our communities and the children of the world!” That is certainly true here in the New York district! Whether it’s having a baby shower in our communities for our warm beginnings project, or educating our young people on the perils of bullying or having a NARCAN training, New York district is there for our communities.

Back in May, I introduced Gio’s 3 "C's" - Community, Children and Club. To a Kiwanian, the club is where it all begins, through the club we help our communities and we help the children of our communities.

Since it all begins at the club, my number one emphasis will be membership. Let’s ensure that New York Kiwanis is around for another 100 years. I am asking that each member of Kiwanis bring in just one new member this year. Just imagine the impact that would have on your club alone. All those helping hands at service projects or fundraising. What a difference that will make.

The Governor’s Project this year will be having a service project for either Juvenile Diabetes Research or Autism. As well, I would like to continue the programs that Gov. Forbes began last year: anti-bullying, drug prevention and having student athlete hearts checked. These issues are too important to not continue to keep them at the forefront of our communities.

Welcome and congratulations are in order to David Morse, David is now The Formula Chair for the New York District. Any questions regarding the formula can be sent to David directly at slapshot1371@optimum.net.

There is much work to do in our communities, while we can’t solve every issue, by working together we certainly can make a difference. We can be that positive handprint that President Jane speaks of.

International President Visiting District on Dec. 1

Save the Date! International President Jane Erickson and First Gent Gus Erickson are being honored at a dinner hosted by the Kiwanis club of Howard Beach.

This event has limited tickets, and will be on a first come, first served basis, so get your tickets early.

The event is Dec. 1 at 7 p.m. at the Roma View in Howard Beach. Price is $60 per person. All attendees are being asked to bring an unwrapped toy, so that the New York District can distribute them in Jane’s name.

This event will be sold out, no tickets will be available at the door. All checks should be made out to Howard Beach Kiwanis and can be sent c/o Dino Bono 164-15 84 Street, Howard Beach, NY 11414.

2016-17 District Leadership

Pictured is the 2016-17 Board taken after they were installed at the District Convention in Buffalo. Included are the district’s officers and lieutenant governors.
Kiwanians believe we can improve the world. I know I do. I also know that when you realize that every new member of Kiwanis touches the lives of approximately 200 children a year, you start to understand the importance of bringing our message and mission to more people in our communities.

Fact: the NY District has built 15 clubs in the last three years of the Formula, making the district number five for growth out of the 30 North American districts. We need to continue this effort and bring Kiwanis to more individuals than ever before.

The Formula team has partnered with Gov. Steve Sirgiovanni to promote new membership, open new clubs and assist any clubs in need. Our wish is each New York District member invites and follows through with ONE new Kiwanis member this year. ONE! I believe I can bring in ONE new member. I believe you can too.

I am honored to have been asked to chair the Formula for the district through Sept. 30, 2018. The position is a wonderful opportunity and challenge worth taking. I say challenge because it is no secret that the district needs new members. New membership will be easy problem to solve. If each New York District Kiwanian brings in ONE new member this year, we will double the our membership, problem solved!

Over the next few weeks you will notice restructuring of The Formula team. We will also offer training at the Mid-Year Conference and the district convention for New Club Openers and Club Counselors. DPG Joe Eppolito will continue as the New Club Opener vice-chair. Kiwanis International has implemented a new incentive program called Kick Start. Every time you sponsor a new member to a new or existing club between Sept. 25 and Nov. 30, you receive an entry for a drawing to win two round-trip airfare tickets! Your entries will be recorded through the club secretary dashboard (if the new member joins an existing club) or through the club opening tool (if the new member joins a new club). The more members you bring in the more chances you will have to win tickets. Other incentives are being considered and will be shared with you when it is available.

In closing I would like to thank DPG Joe Aiello for his commitment and work as Formula Chair the past three years. Do you believe you can change the world? Do you believe you can bring in ONE new member? I Believe!
It is hard to believe that the 2015-16 administrative year has come to a close. Helene and I are humbled by the generosity and hospitality bestowed upon us this year. It was truly a journey of inspiring memories and inspiration that each and every member of this great District is a part of. The 2015-16 year was led by the "The Best Class of Lt. Governors Ever" and looking back it seems impossible that 18 months have passed since we met in Utica for our training weekend.

I will always remember the look on their faces after hours of training when Helene and I asked our board to have a couple of "conversations" in their divisions, their clubs, their presidents and, most importantly, with you -- to talk about and to get out into the communities you serve so well -- to get student athletes’ hearts screened, and thanks to Long Island North Lt. Gov. Jeane Egan we got hundreds of students checked. We asked you to talk about prescription pills and heroin. Thanks to the Massapequa Club, the New York District is in the forefront of this scourge on society and our kids. We asked you to get involved in bullying because no child should go to school afraid or intimidated. Under the leadership of Keith Cummings, children throughout this district are becoming upstanders and not bystanders.

We asked you to get "back to basics"; to emphasize service and support our foundations, KTPC, Pediatric Lyme, Emergency Disaster Relief and Kamp Kiwanis -- and you -- each of you -- responded in an overwhelming positive fashion. Our foundations are flourishing and able to provide the much needed assistance that is the core of their mission. That is a direct reflection on one person -- YOU -- on behalf of our Foundations - THANK YOU. Please continue to support them. We asked you to have baby showers for your local hospital or organization that supports mother-baby and did you ever. Helene and I are overwhelmed by the reception to the First Lady’s Project throughout this district and throughout Kiwanis International. Helene thought that a few hundred babies would go home with something rather than nothing. In reality, thousands of babies have benefitted from "Warm Beginnings". Again, a direct result of your generosity, enthusiasm and dedication. Please accept a heartfelt thank you on behalf of these mothers and babies.

Lastly, we asked that you support our Sponsored Leadership Programs and your response was outstanding. Our Key Club and Circle K are robust and our K-Kids, Builders Club and Aktion Clubs are being revived and new clubs are starting throughout the District. None of this would be possible without YOU because without YOU there is no US and without US that child would not be served.

So from our family to the entire Kiwanis family Thank You. It was an honor to serve alongside of you this year. We look forward to seeing you all and remember "helping a child may not change the world, but helping that child changes their world".

We are forever grateful.

Greetings and Congratulations to all of the new Kiwanis Club Presidents and Division Lieutenant Governors. I would like to thank you for taking on this great responsibility and wish you much success in your administration.

I want to thank all the Kiwanis Clubs and Divisions that financially supported our trip to the International Convention this past July. We had two candidates for International Trustee and one for International President. While Clifford Young was not elected president he was elected as an International Trustee along with Daniel Suh. The other candidate for Trustee, Gisselle Rodrigues-Benitez, was not elected but will be back as a special assistant to Governor Matt.

I would like to tell you that all four of our District Officers were awarded Distinguished status.

The following Key Clubs were recognized as Diamond Level Distinguished: North Shore HS, The Bronx HS of Math & Science, Norwood-Norfolk HS, Carle Place HS, Hunter College HS, and Ogdensburg Free Academy. Finally, North Shore HS won First Place for their Single Service Project.

The fall is a busy time for your Key Club lieutenant governors. They will be running Fall Rallies where they will be training the officers from the clubs in their divisions. Please encourage your Key Club officers and advisors to attend these when offered.

November is also Kiwanis Family Month and Key Club week is Nov. 7-11. Kiwanis clubs should be looking to partner with their Key Clubs on fundraisers, projects and activities. At the very least plan to invite your Key Club officers to one of your November meetings and have them report on everything they have been doing. I know you will be impressed with these outstanding students!

The latest information on district events is always available on the district website, www.kiwannis-ny.org.

Empire State Kiwanian
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The report from District Foundation leaders on activities at Kamp Kiwanis were positive.

Foundation Treasurer David Vail said the Kamp has received $155,000 in six grants. The Kamp had 620 kampers, the most in several years.

When a plea went out early in August for support so 31 additional kids could attend Kamp, within 48 hours 20 of them were taken care of and the other 11 have been paid for since, he reported.

Board President Sal Anelli praised the foundation board members for their direct efforts at the Kamp. He reported on several unusual expenses this year, but said they continue to position the Kamp for the future.

Clubs and Divisions were honored for the number of children they send to Kamp. The club that sent the most was Peninsula, which sent 55. They were followed by East Meadow, 36, and LaGuardia, 27.

The division that sent the most was Queens West, 78, followed by Long Island South Central, 72, and Long Island Southwest, 70.

Kamp Director Rebecca Clemence reported they had 64 adults and 820 children at Kamp. There were 32 in the teen program, and 12 kampers required 1:1 staffing. Thirteen percent of the kampers had special needs, and 31 were the children of active duty military personnel. There were 34 staff from 13 countries.

Three candidates, including two incumbents, were elected to three-year terms on the Foundation Board of Directors. Elected were incumbents Herb Chan, Michael Siniski and newcomer Keith Cummings.

During the House of Delegates, Stephen Sirgiovanni was elected Governor for 2016-17, and Candace Corsaro was elected Governor-Elect for 2016-17. They ran without opposition.

Delegates also approved 10 amendments to the district bylaws. The amendments, which were required by Kiwanis International, were textual in nature and no debate occurred on them. They were approved in a unanimous voice vote.

The delegates also approved four resolutions:

- Honoring the Convention Honorees, Massapequa Kiwanis, Keith Cummings, anti-bullying chair; Jeanne Egan, pediatric cardiac screen chair; and Martin Toombs, ESK Editor and Webmaster.
- Thanking the convention planning committee, including Sara Vona, Kim Scharoff, David Rothman, Eric Paul and Hank Baker.
- Thanking Kiwanis International President-Elect Designate James Rochford, the counselor to the district, for his participation in the convention.
- Noting the awarding of the Gerald P. Christiano Award to John Vogel of Buffalo. A 50-year member of Kiwanis, Vogel was honored for his work in his club and his division, with the Niagara Frontier Camp Kiwanis Committee, and for other community service.
Buffalo Kiwanis member John Vogel, right, was presented with the Gerald P. Christiano Award for his service to Kiwanis and his community. With him is Past International President Jerry Christiano; the award’s permanent trophy is on the table at left.

The convention honorees with Gov. Forbes Irvine and First Lady Helene Irvine. From left, Keith Cummings of the Richmond County club, for his work on the anti-bullying campaign; Jack DeSantis of North Central, Staten Island, for his work as district Finance Chair; Long Island North Lt. Gov. Jeanne Egan of the North Shore, Long Island club, for her work on the Governor’s Project promoting heart exams for school athletics; Michele Geresi of Richmond County for her work on anti-bullying; Helene Irvine, Forbes Irvine, ESK Editor/Webmaster Martin Toombs of the Seneca Falls-Waterloo club, and two representatives of the Massapequa club, President Diana McDonough and Theodore Heim. Massapequa was honored for its work raising awareness of heroin and opiod addiction.

Kiwanis International President-Elect Jim Rochford speaking to the delegates.

Lt. Gov. Jeanne Egan, left, makes a presentation from the 2015-16 lieutenant governors to the Gov. Forbes Irvine and First Lady Helen Irvine. The certificate reflects a donation to Kamp Kiwanis.

Stephen Sirgiovanni, right, being installed as 2016-17 Governor by Past International President Jerry Christiano.

Candace Corsaro thanks the delegates after her election as Gov.-Elect for 2016-17.
The Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Center Foundation’s 21st annual Black and White Ball took place on Sept. 9. This year, record numbers of more than 350 people came out in their finest black and white attire and danced the night away.

The 2016 Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Center honorees included a prestigious group of Kiwanians who have worked tirelessly to support their clubs and our children. They included: Mannie Corman, Brighton Beach Coney Island; Celeste Farrell, Fordham, Kevin Kamper, East Meadow; Crispen Hale, Massapequa; Leonard Buddy Antonelli, Massapequa; Michele Geresi, Richmond County; Tina Ma, Douglaston; Jian Huai Yu, Douglaston; Shan Ching Chang, Douglaston; Veronica Witherspoon, Rosedale-Laurelton; Debbie Kueber, Glendale; Glenn Rudzewick, Maspeth; Sandy Flandina, The Islips, Bayshore and Mary Ann Carey, Ozone Park.

KPTC DPG Joseph Corace presented New York District 2015-2016 Governor Forbes Irvine the President’s Award. Governor Forbes has worked throughout his Kiwanis term to help support our New York District Foundations and the important work they do.

Governor Forbes, Dr. Steve Perrick and Kathy Behan Heim received a Diamond level KPTC Fellowship Award. Sandy Liew of Douglaston received a second level KPTC Fellowship Award. Juan Na Hannah Chen had the high honor of receiving a third level Diamond KPTC Fellowship Award.

Two New York District Kiwanis clubs with friends and family purchased Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Center Kits. The kits will be given to organizations in their individual communities to provide assistance to responders who treat smaller children in need of smaller sized equipment.

The Kiwanis Club of Five Towns was out in full force to honor the memory of Al and Rita Bevilacqua who were avid supporters of the KPTC Foundation. President Tom Cohen introduced the Bevilacqua children who were proud to help present a scholarship award in their parents’ name to Nicole Hallett. Nicole was away at college and her siblings gladly accepted for her.

David Cummo, Bob’s son, and daughter-in-law Gail recognized Robert Cummo, past New York District Key Club Assistant by presenting the 2016 Robert Cummo Scholarship Awards to Marisa Flaherty, Alexa Forberg and Maheen Nasir.

Guests saw a newly produced video of children recently treated at Cohen Children’s Medical Center thanking Kiwanians for supporting the Level One Pediatric Trauma Hospital.
The KPTC Foundation at Cohen Children’s Medical Center was named a Million Dollar Donor after it donated $32,000 to support the Hospital’s Distracted Driving program.

This most recent donation follows a $100,000 donation which celebrated Kiwanis International’s 100th anniversary.

For over its 20 years, the KPTC Foundation has financially supported the Pediatric Trauma Center at the hospital which began as North Shore Hospital, became North Shore-LIJ and now operates as Cohen Children’s Medical Center under the umbrella of Northwell.

In the early years the focus of the hospital was to improve treatment. Our funds supported the purchase of medical equipment and the training of first responders and hospital personal on the specific needs of pediatric trauma patients. In the later years, the hospital’s focus has shifted towards prevention.

The refocusing on prevention led to the creation of the KPTC Service Leadership Committee. The committee’s members became trainers for the Safe Kids program under the supervision of the hospital’s health educators. The committee has expanded the Safe Kids program through the use of a bike riding robot and a working traffic light and a second robot that teaches swim safety. These teaching materials were provided by the generosity of the Joey Foundation.

To date, the KPTC Service Leadership Committee has trained nearly 100 Key Clubbers and Circle Kers to present the Safe Kids curriculum and presented the program to more than 1,000 elementary school students.

The KPTC Foundation’s newest partnership with Cohen Children’s Medical Center targets high school students and distracted driving.

Distracted driving is the number one cause of trauma for high school and college aged students. Six US teens die each day from motor vehicle accidents.

Therefore, when the hospital asked for the KPTC Foundation’s help with implementing a distracted driving program, the foundation went all in.

The foundation committed $32,000 to fund the program, and made a commitment to replace that money within five years.

The KPTC Foundation will provide the funds for three distracted driving simulators and the required software. We will also buy containers for safe storage and transport. The KPTC Service Leadership Committee will fundraise for a fourth simulator which will be used by the committee.

Once the simulators arrive, the hospital’s health educator will train the KPTC Service Leadership Committee members on their use. Educational research has shown the power of peer to peer teaching. Having teens (Key Clubbers and Circle Kers) teach teens about the dangers of distracted driving not only gives the hospital’s health educator a cadre of assistant teachers, it also adds the power of peer to peer instruction.

Once a fourth simulator is purchased, the plan calls for the hospital and KPTC Service Leadership Committee to share the simulators so that four simulators can be brought to a high school to allow greater flow of students through the simulator and on to other distracted driving learning stations.

You will see several new KPTC fundraisers plus a series of fundraisers from the KPTC Service Leadership Committee:

- Letters seeking donations have been mailed to club presidents and lieutenant governors. Limited Edition pins will be provided for every $20 in donations.
- Oct. 29 Joey Foundation Family Halloween Party Levittown Hall 2-6 p.m. Tickets are $20 per youth and $30 per adult. For tickets contact Torcivia, (516) 822-5966.
- Nov. 6 KPTC Service Leadership Committee’s Pancake Breakfast at Westbury Applebees. For tickets and details contact Santer at rs2wld@aol.com.

KPTC Foundation President Joe Corace presents $32,000 check to Cohen Children’s Medical Center to support Distracted Driving Program.

Five Towns Presents $18,000 in Scholarships

The Kiwanis Club of the Five Towns proudly announces $18,000 in scholarships presented to three local high schools this year.

The Club awards scholarships for: community service, music, academics & financial need.

This year we increased our awards to include scholarships presented to students recommended by our Key Club Advisers and the HS Principals, in an attempt to increase participation by the school’s administration.

Here is a list of our award winners:

**Lawrence High School**

- Key Club Scholarship, Taylor Luck and Tamara Gonzalez; Principal’s Award, Harris Feldman and Marcel Frederic; Dale Sarro Music Award, Serge Byakov; Elaine Essex Education Award, Jadzia Wray; Community Service Award, Arthur Chen; Giacomo Campanile Award, Stephanie Diaz; Joseph Mandelbaum Holocaust Awareness Award, Gabrielle Levey; Jimmy Nathanson Athletic Award, Nick Ramirez.

**Newport High School**

- FTK Community Service Scholarship, Ashley Ruta; FTK Shore Shore Foundation Scholarship, Evelyn Gitsin; FTK Giacomo Campanile Scholarship, Gianni Preziuso.

**Lynbrook High School**

- Key Club Community Service Award, Michell Cantanno, Stephanie Milillo, Kaela Rothstein, Samantha Woll.
- Key Club Adviser’s Award, Libby Berman, Carly Tansky.
- Principal’s Award, Ivley Marshall.
- Giacomo Campanile Scholarship Award, Michelle Cantanno.
Kamp Kiwanis Day at Citi Field

Aug. 27 was Kamp Kiwanis Day at Citi Field for a game between the New York Mets and the Philadelphia Phillies. Before the game, the entire crowd got to learn about kamp as foundation and district leaders made an appearance on the field.


District Contact Information Changes

In addition to the annual change in elected leaders, other changes are taking place for the 2016-17 Administrative year.

Along with the appointment of Richard Hall as the new District Secretary, the district office has moved and has a new address, PO Box 428, Glen Cove, NY 11542, and a new telephone number, (516) 671-1786.

The e-mail address for the district office remains the same, districtoffice@kiwanis-ny.org.

Many new committee chairs also have been appointed. See the listing on the district web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org, for the details.

E-Mails from the District to Kiwanians

For the past few years, the district has been using e-mails from Constant Contact as a way to communicate quickly with Kiwanians around the district. The system allows the district office to pinpoint e-mails to specific audiences, such as one division or all club presidents.

The e-mail addresses in the system are the ones maintained by club secretaries in KiwanisOne, where secretaries do all the member updates and monthly reports. If an e-mail address is missing or wrong there, you will not get the e-mails targeted for you.

Club secretaries can help by making sure they have the most up to date e-mail address for their membership and then making sure those addresses have been entered into each member’s record on KiwanisOne.

If you have any questions about this process or difficulties, contact the district webmaster, Marty Toombs, at webmaster@kiwanis-ny.org.

Anti-Bullying Essay Contest

The District’s Anti-Bullying Chair, Keith Cummings, has announced an anti-bullying essay contest for students in the state 16 and under.

All students 16 and under in the state are eligible to participate. The winner will receive a $200 gift card and a trip to Albany with their family. Entries are due by April 30, 2017.

More information is available on the district web site.

Port Chester-Rye Brook Presents Scholarships

On Aug. 2 the Kiwanis Club of Port Chester-Rye Brook presented six high school scholarships for $1,000 each to: Leonard Pietrafesa, Mesha Iqbal, Alfred DiLeo, Danielle Winchester, Steven Hernandez and Shannon Maguire.

The presentations took place at the club’s annual picnic. The event also was used to collect school supplies that will be donated to the Council of Community Services to be distributed throughout the community to those in need this fall. The raffle raised $60 and along with a $30 donation, 17 knapsacks will be donated to the Neighborhood Preservation Company.

The club also donated $1,095 to the Rye Brook DARE program to fund the continuing education of our youth and the Anthony Zimbaltti Special Citizens Camp also benefited from our fund raising of $300.

Club Receives Grants

The Central Adirondack Kiwanis Foundation has recently received $2,000 in unrestricted grants.

The Kiwanis club’s foundation got $1,500 from the Adirondack League Club Community Fund, and $500 from the James E. Nunn Memorial Foundation, Inc.
The Kiwanis Club of Minisink Valley held its annual Scholarship Dinner at Destefano’s Olde Erie Restaurant where 23 $1,000 scholarships were presented by President Lew Lain. Scholarship applications were available to graduating seniors meeting certain criteria, and were evaluated by our Scholarship Awards Committee.

The winners were: Allison Laquidara, Jillian Dolce, Andrew Neidnig, Dylan Czubak, Mikayla VanDervoort, Morgan Ratynski, Arthur Aeberli, Jennifer Borek, Dalton Chu, Danielle Clifford, Danielle DeVries, William Eger, Jessica Fritzsch, Luke Hanson, Bridget Kane, Emily Lung, Laina Michel, Grace Murray, Emily O’Conner, Katherine Peters, Alexandria Sasso, Tara Travers, Zack Vreeland.

The annual summer bowling and pizza party hosted by the North Shore Kiwanis Club for the Mighty Roslyn Warriors Aktion Club took place Aug. 14. North Shore Kiwanians Julia Salat, Gary Craner and Larry Benedetti and the 12 members of the Roslyn Warriors attended this gala event.

The North Shore Kiwanis Club has accepted a donation of infant clothing from Eddie and Susan Tawil and their assistant Janet Rosenberg, who have been extremely generous with their contribution of beautiful outfits to help needy infants as part of the 2015-16 First Lady’s Project, Warm Beginnings.

The cooperation between the club and the North Shore Inn (also known as the Glen Cove Soup Kitchen) has helped make this contribution possible and other community service projects as well.

The North Shore Key Club won first place in the Single Service Project category for their project, “Compassion in Action”. The prize was awarded at the Key club International Convention in Atlanta in July.

The project, which responded to the needs of the community in the wake of multiple substance abuse related deaths, focused through education, advocacy and direct aid to those in need.
Nassau County Honors Kiwanis

Long Island North Kiwanians along with Kiwanians from Long Island South Central and Long Island Southwest received a citation from Nassau County Executive Ed Mangano.

In Mangano’s absence, Nassau County Comptroller George Maragos presented the citations to Kiwanis representatives who were present for the event.

From left, County Seat DPP Helene Harris, New Hyde Park President Chrissy Olivia, North Shore DPP Doug Barnaby, and Long Island North Lt. Gov. Designate Dr. Kathy Levinson.

Aktion Club

Debra Rothman

I am happy to report that our Service Leadership Program is growing.

We have two new clubs, Lifestyles Staten Island Aktion Club and Schenectady County Aktion Club, welcome and congratulations on the chartering of these two clubs.

We now have 38 clubs and 803 members. A reminder that dues are to be paid on October 1, 2016. You can sign onto the Membership Update Center (MUC) on the Aktion Club web site. Dues are $8 per person. If you cannot get on the site to check your roster and pay the dues, please call KL.

The New York District was represented at the Toronto International Convention by me, Jaimie Neuringer, the adviser to the Brighton Aktion Club and one of their members, Pat H.

Ilyssa Fuchs from the East River Kiwanis club, Pat and I assisted at the Aktion Club TLC service project, by making up bags of food for the homeless in Toronto. Later in the day, Ilyssa and I had the opportunity to meet with Dave Dryden, the son of Murray Dryden, the founder of Sleeping Children Around the World (SCAW), which is the Aktion Club service initiative. He spoke to those in attendance at the TLC about SCAW.

The Kiwanis Convention the winners of the contests were announced and they are on their way to Kiwanis International now for judging. They include: Brighton Aktion Club, Single Service Project; Thuan Nguyen from the Brighton Aktion Club for the Foster Contest and Matthew Kamper, East Meadow Aktion Club for the Speech Contest. Congratulations to all of them and good luck with the International judging.

Visit us on Facebook at the New York District Aktion Clubs page. You will find many stories about our Aktion Club fundraisers and service projects. Check out Holland Aktion Club’s purchase of a bicycle for a member, and their baby shower. The Sullivan County Aktion Club’s participation in the Alzheimer’s Walk. New York Families for Autistic Children Aktion Club had a barbecue with the FDNY in their community and FEC/HRW Aktion Club visited the Promenade and sang to the residents.

Please contact me if you have any questions and please continue to send photos of your clubs to post on the Facebook page.

Pediatric Lyme Disease

DPG John Gridley

There are many obstacles in the diagnosis Lyme Disease, one of which is untrained doctors.

Despite the vast and increasing prevalence of Lyme Disease, many doctors are still not trained to look for it. Lack of training results in the misguided belief among many that Lyme Disease is a rare and uncommon condition.

Some doctors will tell a sick child returning from a camping trip to take some Pepto-Bismol after diagnosing them with food poisoning from camping food. Others will suggest Giardia, as a result of drinking contaminated stream water, and proclaim that the telltale bull’s-eye rash is just a harmless insect bite or an allergic reaction. Still others will recommend watching symptoms for a few weeks to see if they improve, after which time, if a child really had contracted Lyme Disease, antibiotic therapy would be too late.

If the bacteria are allowed to survive in the body unchallenged by antibiotic therapy for more than a couple days, treatment becomes much more complicated and protracted because the bacteria invade and colonize many organs and tissues. For this reason, early detection and treatment are critical, yet they often do not occur because Lyme Disease is not on the forefront of most physicians’ minds.

If you think that your child has got bitten by a tick, go to your doctor immediately and ask for a blood test but demand that they be put on antibiotic therapy, because processing a Lyme Disease test can take a couple weeks. Even if a positive result is received, it may be too late for antibiotic therapy to eradicate the infection.

When in areas with ticks stay in the center of paths, use a tick repellent and dress properly. The cost for the treatment of chronic Lyme Disease can be astronomical and most insurance companies do not cover it.

The Kiwanis Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation has approved seven requests for grants to help pay for treatment and/or medication this year. So if you can please honor someone in your division, club or community with a donation to the foundation in the amount of $500 for a Britanny Fellowship. If you already have a Britanny, please consider the second level Britanny, which is called the Emerald Britanny for a donation of $250. We also have something called the Joseph Michael Wuest Fellowship at a cost of $150.

The sale of these items is the only way that we raise funds to pay for the treatment and/or medication for a child. If you would like to purchase one or the other you can contact me or any member of the foundation board.

I would like to thank Past Gov. Eric Paul and Immediate Past Gov. Forbes Irvine for their support of the Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation; Gov. Stephen Sirgiavanni for his pledge of continued support of our cause, and all the Kiwanis Clubs, Circle K Clubs, Key Clubs, Builders Clubs, and K-Kids Clubs for their support.
Once again another great Kamping season at Kamp Kiwanis comes to a close and once again we reflect on the past year and look forward to next year.

This year's Kamping season was indeed one of our better years; we were able to serve the needs of 620 needy children, approximately 40 more than last year. A great deal of the reason for that was the initiative that Governor Forbes Irvine provided for all New York District Kiwanians to "Take Care of Our Own" and it worked. Gov. Forbes asked that we all look to help our own foundations right here in New York District and it worked for all of our foundations who are here to serve the children. Thank you Gov. Forbes.

Now we look towards next year, and due to the success of the past year, our new New York District Governor, Stephen Sirgiovanni has agreed to continue many of the programs from last year including the "Take Care of Your Own". We are looking forward to Gov. Steve's year and we hope to serve more children next year.

Our Kamp is looking better than ever. We replaced the Drama Hall roof with a new, long-lasting metal one. As we speak Herb Chan is renovating the two bathrooms in the administration building. Kyle Hoffman, a most generous Kiwanian from the Metropolitan Division, has started replacing the heating system in the administration building and the infirmary; all labor and material is being donated by Kyle and we can't thank him enough.

We have just signed contract with a local contractor to replace the roof on the administration building because it doesn't look like it will make through another Taberg winter. I'm sure that come next spring there will be many more unexpected expenses that will come up. This is what the Kamp is, it is a constant upkeep and improvement and thanks to all of the Kiwanians that donate in so many ways, we are able to continue to serve and change the lives of children for the better.

Our thanks go out to all the Kiwanians and friends who heeded the call this past August for the 31 kids left for sponsorships. Thanks to you, all 31 kids were able to attend Kamp and once again we can say that no child was left out. I want to especially thank the 2015-16 New York District Board of lieutenant governors for taking care of 10 of those kids, you put us over the top.

As fall and winter comes in, I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone happy holidays and have a great remainder of 2016. We'll talk next year.
On Sept. 24 the Aktion Club of Sullivan County hosted a car wash at the Sullivan-ARC location on lower Broadway in Monticello.

The club is sponsored by the Kiwanis Clubs of Monticello and Woodridge.

The Aktion Club members, along with representatives from both Kiwanis Clubs and the agency reps, warmly greeted each customer and did an outstanding job washing the cars, tires and windows with sponges and brushes, hosing them down and wiping them to a deep shine.

There was no charge for the car wash; however donations and tips were cheerfully accepted and more than $200 was raised. A special thank you goes out to Stewart’s Shop in Monticello, who donated delicious donuts and bottles of juice to the customers and car wash team and to SullivanARC maintenance staff for providing the hoses, buckets, brushes and sponges.

Club advisors got the idea to make the car wash free from the annual event staged by the Kiwanis Club of the Central Adirondacks and it’s sponsored youth organizations, and got help from Central Adirondacks member Mike Griffin on how to do it.