

Empire State Kiwaniian

New York

January 2019, Volume 18-19, Issue 2

New York District, Kiwanis International



Show Your Pride in Being a Kiwanian

The New York DMV is now accepting applications for license plates which feature Kiwanis International's logo and name on them. See the example at right.

The plates cannot be ordered online or at a local DMV office. They require submission of a letter authorizing you to purchase the plates and a completed DMV form, and payment.

You have a choice to let DMV assign you a number for the plate, or to order a personalized plate number. The initial fee for the assigned number plate is \$85. The initial fee for a customized plate is \$116.25.

The renewal fees are \$56.25 for the assigned number, and \$87.50 for the personalized one. The renewal fees are annual fees which will be owed in following years.

If you want a customized number, you are allowed no more than 6 letters, numbers and spaces.

Check your e-mail for links to the DMV form and the letter you must include with your application to show you are entitled to purchase the plates.

To see links for further information and to download the documents you will need to apply, go to the district web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org.

The Kiwanis license plates became available on Dec. 5.

This has indeed been a long road, starting with inquiries in the mid-1990's, then legislation sponsored by Assemblyman Vince



Graber, then Ivan Lafayette, then George Latimer (now Westchester County Executive), and eventually Distinguished Past Lt. Gov. Mike Miller of Glendale in Queens. In the state Senate, our "stars" were Dale Volker and now Patrick Gullivan of Elma, a West Seneca member..

Past Gov. Eric Paul worked with Distinguished Past Lt. Gov. Woody Rider of Long Island North since the very beginning on these plates.

This is potentially a great public relations and membership tool for us, but it is up to you to buy these plates!

Mid-Year is Feb. 15-17

The 2019 Mid-Year Conference will be Feb. 15-17 at the Desmond Hotel in Albany.

The annual event will include educational forums, celebrations and an opportunity to meet new Kiwanians and to meet old friends.

At the Opening Session on Friday evening, there will be a keynote address by Lonnie Sherman of General Needs LTD. Sherman, a member of the Kiwanis Club of Northport-East Northport, is the founder of General Needs, which focuses on helping homeless veterans.

During the Gala Governor's Dinner on Saturday evening, the 2017-18 district leaders will be honored, including Past Gov. Candace Corsaro and her board of lieutenant governors.

Distinguished clubs and divisions also will be announced during the weekend, and the 2017-18 club Achievement Awards also will be presented.

See Page 4 for more information.



Kiwanis convention 2019
Walt Disney World® Resort, Florida

Register Now for Orlando

The 2019 Kiwanis International Convention will be June 27-30 at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

Both hotel and conference registration are open. Registration costs increase on April 5, but there is a good reason not to wait until the last minute.

This year one of our own, Kiwanis International Trustee Peter Mancuso, will be campaigning to be elected vice-president of Kiwanis International. Election as vice president guarantees election as president of Kiwanis International two years later.

Typically the election is very competitive. Last year four candidates faced off for the post. Currently the only other declared candidate is "George" Chun-Ching of Taichung City, Taiwan.

The advantage in registering early is it shows Kiwanians around the world that New Yorkers will be attending in force to support their candidate.

The House of Delegates session is on Friday, June 28.

International
Trustee

DPG Peter
Mancuso



Your Kiwanis International Board of Trustees held its first meeting of the 2018-19 administrative year early in October. Among the actions taken were the following:

- Appointment of the Kiwanis International Board of Trustees as the directors of the Kiwanis Youth Programs Board, in accordance with Kiwanis Youth Programs bylaws.
- Approval of an interpretation of Kiwanis International bylaws requiring a person to have served more than one-half of a term as immediate past governor prior to announcing candidacy for Kiwanis International office.
- Adjustment of the criteria set forth in Kiwanis International procedures regarding the minimum requirements for a district to be in good standing, and addition of a provision regarding the penalization of districts that are not in good standing.
- Waiver of certain Kiwanis and service leadership program dues and fees for

clubs in the Carolinas district adversely affected by Hurricane Florence, contingent upon the district doing the same for its similar club dues and fees.

- Continuation of the dues waiver program for members of new clubs through the 2020-21 administrative year, to expire on Sept. 30, 2021.
- Approval of Denver, Colorado as the site of the 2024 Kiwanis International Convention.
- Approval of crediting new clubs opened in September and October each year to the distinguished district goals of both the outgoing and incoming governors.
- Approval of a matching grant request from the Philippines Luzon district of \$10,000 for education, marketing and growth efforts within that district.
- Approval of \$12,000 for an English-speaking Kiwanis International staff member for the Korea provisional district through Sept. 30, 2019.
- Authorization to spend \$250,000 on the Kids Need Kiwanis digital campaign for the current administrative year.
- Authorization for Kiwanis International staff to negotiate a new three-year memorandum of understanding with the California-Nevada-Hawaii district and its foundation regarding the Kiwanis float in the Tournament of Roses Parade.
- Approval of certain amendments to

the Circle K International bylaws.

- Direction to Kiwanis International staff to investigate implementation of a long-term Kiwanis International Distinguished Service (K.I.D.S.) program, including a cost analysis, and to report back at our next board meeting.

- Approval of a new employment agreement with the Kiwanis International executive director.

Our next meeting will take place electronically in January 2019, at a savings of approximately \$50,000 from the expenses of convening at Kiwanis headquarters in Indianapolis.

As of Nov. 30, worldwide Kiwanis membership stands at 194,626, an increase of 3,187 from the start of this administrative year.

Our district membership is 6,695, up 125 from the start of the year. 74 new clubs have been completed as of Nov. 30, including one in our own district, the Big Apple-NY club.

As I write this, many Kiwanians from our district are engaged in efforts to support my candidacy for Kiwanis International Vice President at our International Convention at Disney World this coming June, for which I am extremely grateful. I hope to see all of you at our campaign rally at our upcoming Mid-Year Conference at the Desmond Hotel in February.

Clubs Must File with IRS Before Feb. 15

All Kiwanis Clubs are required to file annual tax returns with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Tax-exempt organizations whose gross receipts normally are \$50,000 or less are not required to file IRS forms 990 or 990-EZ. But they are required to file an electronic form annually. Failure to file for three consecutive years could result in revocation of the organiza-

tion's tax-exempt status.

The electronic form is Form 990-N.

The standard information the IRS will require when filing the electronic Form 990-N is the name of your Kiwanis club, mailing address, Web site address (if applicable), employer identification

number (EIN), annual tax period date, and a statement that annual gross receipts are still normally \$50,000 or less.

Because Kiwanis International operates on a fiscal year of Oct. 1 to Sept. 30, the filing due date is Feb. 15 each year.

The Empire State Kiwanian

Official Publication of
the New York District of
Kiwanis International
Publication Office:

Martin Toombs

84 Bridge St.

Seneca Falls, NY 13148

webmaster@kiwanis-ny.org

2018-19 Events

Feb. 14-17, 2019:

Mid-Year Conference, Desmond Hotel, Albany

March 22-24, 2019:

Circle K District Convnetion, Desmond Hotel, Albany

March 29-31, 2019:

Key Club Leadership Training Conference, Desmond Hotel

May 17-19, 2019:

Kamp Kiwanis Work Weekend and Open House, Taberg

June 26-29, 2019:

Circle K International Convention, Orlando, Florida

June 27-30, 2019:

Kiwanis International Convention, Orlando, Florida

July 3-7, 2019:

Key Club Internrtional Convention, Baltimore, Maryland

Aug. 15-18, 2019:

New York District Convention, Niagara Falls

Governor

Hank Baker



The new year is upon us , the first quarter of the Kiwanis Year is over. Think about this, did I help my Lt. Governor in gaining membership? Did I do my best to help send a military child go to Kamp Kiwanis?

I sit at my desk going over the figures. We have a pretty good start, not a great start a pretty good start. Our mission this year is to take our district from GOOD TO GREAT.

The First Lady and myself just returned from representing this great district at the Rose Bowl Parade in Pasadena California, where we rode on the Kiwanis International float. We gave International President Poly Lat our traditional crystal big apple. We gave the District of California-Nevada-Hawaii \$500 in Home Depot gift cards from the great Metropolitan Division to help with the wildfire relief efforts.

You see we are all kind giving Kiwani-



New York Gov. Hank Baker and First Lady Bonnie Baker rode the Kiwanis Rose Float on New Year's Day. They were invited due to the district's success in building new clubs.

ans. What better way to help the children, get more members to join. Be distinguished. Let's send these kids to our camp. They surely deserve it. At a time like this they will for the rest of their lives remember the week they had at Kamp Ki-

wanis. There is only one way we can go from GOOD TO GREAT and that is for the great to do good.

Let's chip in and get these new members ... let's get my Military Kids fishing and canoeing at our camp.

Gov.-Elect

Joseph Ruggiero



It has been an exciting time for me being governor elect. I have traveled to events throughout the state including the 40th Italian Feast for Rochester West

Central, Finger Lakes Division meeting, Staten Island Verrazano Club which honored veterans by laying wreaths at their resting places, Merrick Club Gift Wrapping fundraiser, and other holiday Christmas gatherings. It further shows me the love and dedication that fellow Kiwanians have by volunteering and supporting so many events.

With the new year approaching, I look forward to further planning my year to include visits to events throughout New York State. I look forward to developing my team in the coming months. We have

our Mid-Winter Conference coming up in February at The Desmond Hotel (Feb. 14-17). If you haven't attended a convention or conference before, I would like to encourage you to put this upcoming date on your calendar. At these events it is a great time see old friends and also make new friends throughout the New York District. Kiwanians get a better feel and different view for what we do. You will leave invigorated with a new sense of passion.

I look forward to seeing you in February.

Past Governor

Candace Corsaro



Happy New Year to our Kiwanis family.

What a tremendous year we had in 2017-18. We broke District records in many years, from double digits new club openings to triple digits in membership. I applaud you all for your outstanding leadership and dedication. Just shows on what we can accomplish as a TEAM!

Our slogan was "Together We Can" Make a Difference. Now it is: "TOGETHER WE MADE A DIFFERENCE".

Our Mid-Winter conference in February we will be celebrating our accomplishments with distinguished clubs, Kiwanians, and divisions from Kiwanis International along with our New York District. More than 111 clubs will be recognized for your hard work done this past year.

There is still time to send in your reports for our Special Kiwanian who went beyond their duty to help your club. Remember, they cannot be a past or present governor or a past or present lieutenant governor. We asked for one from every division along with your distinguished criteria.

Governor's projects reports for patches are low and I know we had almost EVERY club do both, Children with Special Needs and No Veterans Left Behind. Our Round Robin patch are also in need of reports. Please e-mail in your informa-

tion before Feb. 1, 2019. There is still time. (knydg2017@aol.com) Don't forget your scrapbooks too!

Hoping you all have or will be making your reservations to 2019 Kiwanis International Convention to help elect our very own Peter Mancuso for Kiwanis International Vice-President.

There will also be a table at mid-winter for our 2019 district convention held in my hometown of Niagara Falls. We will have many brochures and information on things you and your family will be able to venture while you are there. Looking forward to seeing you all once again in Albany soon.

Prosperous and Heathy New Year to you all.

New York District Mid-Year Conference

Mid-Year Registration Open

You can register now for the 2019 Mid-Year Conference, Feb. 15-17, at the Desmond Hotel Albany.

Conference registration is online, and you can register for the hotel either online or by telephone.

Go to the district web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org, for details.

A new event, the Service Leadership Programs and Foundations Fair, is an opportunity to spend time chatting with our Service Leadership Programs, Foundations and Supported Programs.

The 2017-18 District Board will be honored during the weekend, and the winners of the Club Achievement Awards will be announced, as well as the clubs and divisions which achieved distinguished status for the past year.

Events will begin on Friday and run through Sunday.

At the Opening Session on Friday evening, there will be a keynote address by Lonnie Sherman of General Needs LTD. Sherman, a member of the Kiwanis Club of Northport-East Northport, is the founder of General Needs, which focuses on helping homeless veterans.

2019 Mid-Year Conference Schedule

Friday, Feb. 15

Registration.....	2-6:45 p.m.
Board Luncheon (<i>by invitation only</i>).....	Noon-12:45 p.m.
Basket Raffle and Display Tables	2-6:45 p.m.
Finance Committee Meeting.....	11 a.m.-Noon
2018-19 Board Lunch (<i>by Invitation Only</i>).....	Noon-12:45 p.m.
Board Meeting	1:30-4 p.m.
Forums.....	4:30-5:30 p.m.
Welcome Dinner	6:45-8 p.m.
Opening Session	8:15-10:15 p.m.
Hospitality Rooms	10:15 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 16

Past Governors Breakfast.....	8-9:30 a.m.
Breakfast.....	7:45-8:45 a.m.
Lt. Gov. Elects Breakfast with Gov.-Elect Joseph Ruggiero	7:45-8:45 a.m.
Registration (closed during lunch)	9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Basket Raffle and Display Tables	9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Forums	9-11:50 a.m.
Past Lt. Governor's Council	10-10:50 a.m.
Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation Board	11-11:50 a.m.
Foundations Recognition Luncheon.....	Noon-1:45 p.m.
Service Leadership Programs and Foundations Fair	2-3:30 p.m.
On to Orlando/Mancuso Campaign Rally	3:45-4:45 p.m.
Gala Reception	5:30-6:30 p.m.
VIP Toast.....	6:15-6:30 p.m.
Gala Governor's Dinner	6:30-10 p.m.
Hospitality Rooms	10 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 17

District Foundation Board Meeting	9 a.m.-1 p.m.
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Schedule is tentative. See the district web site for the latest information

Scrapbook, Bulletin Contest Judging Scheduled for Mid-Year

District Scrapbook Competition

All Clubs who participate in the New York District Scrapbook Competition will receive a maximum of 5 points (5 being highest - 1 lowest) in each of the following areas: Cover Design; Type Font Usage and Interesting Headlines; Use of Color; Use of photographs (action shots including participation); Photo captioning; Use of printed Newspaper and/or ESK articles; Inclusion of club activities and service projects; Kiwanis Branding; Creativity; Overall Communication about the Club. Please bring your Club Scrapbook to our Mid-Year Conference.

District Bulletin Competition

All clubs who participate in the George H. Prout Past Governor Bulletin Awards Competition will receive a maximum of 5

points (5 being highest - 1 lowest) in each of the following areas: Layout and Kiwanis Branding; Use of Color; Ease of Reading and Communication; Spotlight on Membership; Use of photographs (action shots including participation); Photo captioning; Information about Place and Time of Meeting; Club Contact Information; Upcoming Club Events; Kiwanis Education.

These awards are based on the size of your club.

You may drop off submissions on by 8am Saturday morning, of Mid-Year Conference at the District Office or to Past Governor David Booker.

Submissions can also be mailed by February 7, 2019 to: PG David Booker, PO Box 639, Averill Park, NY 12018-0639, or if shipping via UPS/FedEx: PG David Booker, 3 Chaundry Lane, Averill Park, NY 12018

Forum Schedule

Friday, Feb. 15

4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

- Grieving Your Tax Assessment
- New Club Building
- Young Children, Priority One

Saturday, Feb. 16

9:00 - 9:50 a.m.

- Attracting Younger Members
- Serving Above the Club Level
- Club Secretary Training
- Branding/Partnerships

10:00 - 10:50 a.m.

- Kiwanis 101
- Club Treasurer Training
- Social Media
- What Kiwanis International Does for You

11 - 11:50 a.m.

- Governor's and First Lady's Projects
- Growing Your Club's Membership
- Risk Management/Youth Protection
- Completing the IRS 990 Form

Governor's Project: Military Kampers, Membership

Military Children to Kamp

The 2018-19 Governor's Project is to send 100 additional military kids from Fort Drum and other military bases to Kamp Kiwanis.

This will require approximately \$46,500. It's approximately \$180 per club. For clubs that currently send Military Children, this is "Up and Beyond," your current commitment. Provide "additional" funding for military children from your respective areas.

Membership

This year, you can be a distinguished Kiwanian by sponsoring two new members. Bring in two new members and the Distinguished Chairperson Doris Mellina



thing to be proud of! That's it: TWO NEW MEMBERS.

Clubs that participate in the Governor's Project will receive a banner patch.

Every club with an increase in membership gets a banner patch.

will get your certificate and distinguished pin out right away. I want you to wear your distinguished pin all year! It is some-

First Lady's Project: Krafts for Kamp

The 2018-19 First Lady's Project will be KRAFTS for KAMP!

First Lady Bonnie Baker is hoping this great New York District will help get as many craft items as possible for Kamp Kiwanis.

The kamp is in dire need of certain objects. If you consider how many children there are at kamp on a daily basis and all of the different ages that do crafts, at all different times throughout the day, you can see why they need our help.

A list of items needed is below. Each lieutenant governor will be collecting these items from their division. They will be brought to the Mid-Winter Conference in February.

Clubs should mark their boxes with the



ference, they will be boxed up for transportation to Kamp for the 2019 kamping season.

Let us make a difference.

club name and division so the banner patches for the project can be given to the correct clubs.

During Saturday at the Con-

Helderbergs Supports Disaster Relief Efforts

Distinguished Past Gov. Mike Malark, who is the district's Disaster Relief chair, and his wife Maryann were the guests of the Kiwanis Club of the Helderbergs on Oct. 10. Malark told members of the many efforts of New York Kiwanis to help neighbors all over the country, starting with the disastrous ice storm that crippled the Adirondacks in 1996.

These efforts have included floods in Binghamton, storms on Long Island, and efforts farther afield in New Orleans, Texas, Florida, and now in the Carolinas.

The emphasis in all cases has been to work with local Kiwanis clubs to get supplies into the hands of ordinary folks in need. Malark described the efforts to make contacts with Kiwanians in the devastated areas, to round up trucks and drivers to collect items throughout the state, to find volunteers to load the trucks, make the trips and to hand out the items upon arrival at the scene.

The latest effort is relief for the Carolinas (this was before the latest storm in Florida). The truck will be loaded with the items from our area on Oct. 17 and will make the circuit of clubs before departing for Lumberton, NC, on Oct. 21.

The Helderbergs Club voted to purchase \$200 worth of supplies for the effort, and members supplied enough additional items to fill Mike's car - cereals, canned corned beef/Spam/chicken/tuna fish, canned veggies/fruits, peanut butter, and TP. The total value was about \$550. Good luck and best wishes, Carolinas!

Fordham Supports P.O.T.S.

Fordham Kiwanis made a "New (Kiwanis) Year" resolution in October to raise \$1,000 for P.O.T.S. (Part of the Solution), a well-established agency in the Bronx serving as a "one-stop shop" assisting individuals living in poverty on their journeys from crisis to stability and ultimately self-sufficiency.

Thanks to many gifts given in honor of Past Lt. Governor and current Fordham Kiwanis president Sister Anne Marie Kirmse celebrating her retirement from Fordham University employment, the club succeeded in making the \$1,000 donation within 30 days. Fordham Circle K and the recently sponsored Key Club at Fordham Prep made additional contributions beyond the \$1,000 goal through several bake sales held on the Fordham campus.

The club satisfied a need to provide better and larger refrigeration units to preserve large food donations to POTS.



The Carle Place Builders Club collected food for the pantry at Our Lady of Hope Church in Carle Place, Long Island. This club is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of County Seat, Mineola.

International Leadership

Jim Mancuso



Three years have passed quickly. In 2016, Peter Mancuso was elected Kiwanis International Trustee. This year, at the Kiwanis International Convention, to be held in Disney World Orlando, June 27-30, Peter will run for Kiwanis International vice president.

By doing so, Peter is fulfilling a promise made, "To Go the Distance," for our district and all of Kiwanis.

Peter has certainly proved himself worthy of this position, but more so, given the challenges Kiwanis faces, he is exactly the right person, at exactly the right time to take on this mantle of leadership. As you may know, once elected, a Kiwanis International Vice President, ascends to the positions (uncontested) of president-elect the year after (2020-21) and then president the year after that

(2021-22).

Many in our district and the rest of the Kiwanis world have great confidence in Peter's ability to lead our organization at its highest of levels. Why? Well, it starts with unparalleled Kiwanis experience. He has been distinguished in all the Kiwanis volunteer positions he has held from club secretary to district governor. On the international level, he has not only done a stellar job as trustee but also was a dynamic Kiwanis Children's Fund president.

His volunteer experience outside of Kiwanis gives him added skills when he served as East Meadow Chamber of Commerce president and Nassau County Bar Association president.

But, what really makes Peter special and uniquely qualified to be International President is more than just outstanding volunteer experience and skills. If you are fortunate enough to know the man, it is who Peter is as a person that makes him the best possible choice. He is a loving father and grandfather, smart (an MIT and Cornell Law School graduate) and driven, but he is also a devoted servant to those who are less fortunate.

He once said to me "a life well lived has

a significant portion of it devoted to service." I think those words have been uttered by other great leaders too, but I know Peter believes them in his heart and his soul. Combined with all else that Peter brings to the table, he is truly the best choice for our next Kiwanis International vice president.

Peter now needs your help to make this quest into a reality. Please support his campaign. How? By the time you read this article, registration for the Kiwanis International Convention in Orlando will be open. So, if you have not done so already, please register to attend. By doing so you will send a strong message to rest of the Kiwanis world that Peter has our district's full faith and support.

Soon, our divisional coordinators will be reaching out to you and a campaign website will be active too. For now, you can find out more on <https://www.kiwanis.org> under the convention "experience" section.

And please come to our campaign rally on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 16 at our Mid-Year Conference. This is about all of us working together to support this campaign, so always remember, Together We Can Go the Distance!

Governor's Project

Lucien Giancursio



Governor's Project - "100+ Military Kampers"

It's with great pleasure to give an update on the Governor's Project.

As of this writing, we have donations for 40 Military Kampers. This leaves us 60 to go.

What a great start.

What makes this project so great is the fact that we can give back to the military families that have given us so much, by sending a child to Kamp. By sending a

child to Kamp, we will be giving them a memory of a lifetime.

We have a long way to go to reach our goal. With a collective cooperation from all our clubs and divisions, this project will succeed. Please consider your position and become a part of history.

There is a great opportunity to change a child's life by sending them to kamp.

This project will work because of you. For the words we live by, "One child, One community". This is a win-win for everyone, the time is now to do the right thing.

Governor Hank Baker has asked me to clarify a point. We will be accepting donations and pledges for as long as it takes to reach our goal. The governor will be honored to accept your pledges during Mid-Year and during his Governor's Visit to your divisions.

I would like to thank Foundation Pres-

ident Sal Anelli for all his help. Special thanks to Long Island North Division Lt. Gov. Jeffery Stone for his enthusiasm and early commitment to the project.

Special thanks to Michael and Lorraine Kasprzyk of the Holland club in the Niagara Frontier South Division for their personal pledge to send four military children to Kamp.

A very special thanks and acknowledgement to President Jian Yu of the Kiwanis Club of Douglaston, and to Queen's East Lt. Gov. Sandy Liew for their pledge to send 10 military children to Kamp.

Outstanding & Fantastic.

"When someone shares, everyone wins."

On behalf of Governor Hank and co-chairs Past Lt. Gov. Keith Cummings and Michele Geraci, we thank you for your commitment to this great Governor's Project.

Distinguished Kiwanian

Doris Mellina



2019 is off to a really great start. One of Governor Hank Baker's major emphasis is to increase club membership this year

by offering an incentive. His plan is to extend Distinguished Kiwanian status to any club member in good standing who sponsors two new members during his term as governor.

As Kiwanis members we all know that bringing in one new member into our club takes effort, but it is so gratifying to give someone the opportunity to share that feeling of satisfaction knowing they will be making a difference in the life of a child and benefiting their community. Now, how about doing this a second time!

The good news is we do not have to wait until the end of the Kiwanis year to receive an official award certificate and Distinguished Kiwanian pin. Gov. Hank

wants us to wear these beautiful pins proudly throughout the year.

When you have sponsored two new members be sure to fill out the application form, have it certified by your club president and secretary and mail it to me as soon as your members have been installed. If you are a member of more than one club you may sponsor a new member in each club. Just have the form certified from each club. I will be pleased to get your certificate and pin out to you as quickly as possible. Make sure to include your mailing address on the back of the form. Any questions please feel free to reach out to me at (516) 967-2375.

KPTC Albany

Rick
Sturm



Little did we realize just how successful the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Program at the Albany Medical Center Children's Hospital would be.

K family members have gone from the ill-fated duck race in the Hudson River to providing cash payments to the hospital totaling more than \$625,000. Kiwanis, Circle K, Key and Builders Clubs in the Capital and Van Rensselaer Divisions continue to support this worthwhile project.

In addition to completing our trauma unit pledge of \$500,000, we helped fund equipment for the Albany Medical Cen-



ter's Neo-Natal Unit, raising \$50,000 for the purchase of very specialized incubators, fondly referred to as a Giraffe unit.

Our next project raised \$25,000 for the purchase brain scanning devices and software to improve care to babies in the neonatal unit.

Currently, we are raising \$50,000 to help fund a treatment room located in the

Albany Medical Center's new Children's Emergency Department.

Since 1993, It has been an honor and a pleasure for me to lead the team of so many New York District Governors and K Family heroes who continue to work so hard to see this program through!

A pictures memorializing the new treatment room is shown above.

Pediatric
Lyme Disease

DPG John
Gridley



What is Lyme Disease? Lyme disease is a bacterial infection spread by the bite of an infected blacklegged tick.

Lyme disease can affect the skin, joints, nervous system, and/or heart. When detected early, Lyme disease can usually be treated with antibiotics. If left untreated, it can result in serious health problems.

The type of tick responsible for spreading Lyme disease in New York State is the blacklegged tick. Not all ticks carry the bacteria that causes Lyme disease. They become infected after feeding on an infected animal, such as mice or other small mammals. You can not get Lyme disease from another person or an infected animal. Transmission times for Lyme and other tick-borne diseases vary, and the sooner a tick is removed, the lower the risk of infection.

It is important to always check for ticks after spending time outdoors. Blacklegged

tick nymphs are the size of a poppy seed and adult ticks are the size of a sesame seed. Both can transmit Lyme, as well as other tick-borne diseases.

Transmission time is a current topic of debate, but some pathogens are transmitted in minutes, others hours. Err on the side of caution: the sooner the better. Ticks can be active all months of the year when temperatures are above freezing. However, most tick encounters occur from April through November. Their preferred habitats are wooded areas and adjacent grasslands. Lawns and gardens at the edges of woods may also be home to blacklegged ticks. Ticks may feed on wild animals such as mice, deer, birds and raccoons, but domestic animals such as cats, dogs and horses can also carry the ticks closer to home.

Lyme disease is often hard to diagnose because the symptoms are usually non-specific (fever, fatigue) and similar to those of other common illnesses. Symptoms may occur shortly after being bitten by a tick, but may be so mild that they often go unnoticed. Some people notice a rash after experiencing a tick bite, but many do not.

Many tick-borne microbes also cause disease symptoms of varying severity.

Look for flu-like symptoms such as fever, headache, muscle aches, joint pain,

and swollen glands, particularly during times like summer, when colds and flu are uncommon. Severe symptoms such as heart arrhythmias/chest pain or meningitis can also occur. High fever and profound fatigue may accompany infections caused by other tick-borne microbes.

Although a skin rash following a tick bite is a known sign of Lyme disease, many people diagnosed with Lyme disease report never seeing a rash at all. If a rash at the site of a tick bite is observed, it may appear as a solid, expanding red rash, it may look like a bulls eye, or it may take other forms. Left untreated, and even in some people who received treatment for Lyme disease, symptoms such as fatigue, headaches, migrating joint pain, numbness, tingling or burning sensations are known to occur.

If you think that you have been bitten by a tick, see your doctor immediately, and tell him or her of your suspicions. Demand a blood test and demand to be put onto antibiotics immediately. Do not wait for the blood test to come back.

As always thank you all for your continued support of the Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation, and for taking the time to care and share. Please save the date for our 20th Anniversary Gala Celebration on March 22, 2020. More information will be coming out soon.

Central Adirondacks Distributes 921 Gifts

Each year the Kiwanis Club of the Central Adirondacks collects and distributes gifts and toys to special families in the Woodgate, Thendara, Old Forge, Eagle Bay, and Inlet area and in recent years has added Long Lake and Indian Lake.

In 2018, this very worthwhile program provided gifts, toys, mittens and food for

over 150 families and nearly 300 kids in the Central Adirondacks. The total distribution included 921 gifts, 75 stuffed animals for the younger children, 34 theatre tickets for the older children, 47 books, 93 sets of scarves, hats and mittens and 48 hams. The scarves, hats, and mittens were provided by the Old Forge Fire Depart-

ment Ladies Auxiliary as well as ladies from Big Moose. Books to each family were donated by Gary and Justin Van-Riper who write the best-selling children's book series "The Adirondack Kids".

New Club Opening

DPG Joe Eppolito



2017-18 was a fantastic year in new club opening as we opened 10 new clubs under the leadership of Past Gov. Candace Corsaro, Candie's Team of lieutenant governors and The Formula Team.

It is only the fourth time that we have hit double digits in new club opening since 1989. Prior to 1989, we opened numerous new clubs. In 1986-87 and 1988-89 we opened 20 clubs both years, but for nearly the last 30 years we lost our way a bit. It has taken a while to get back on track and we are now there!

So, let us keep the momentum going as Gov. Hank Baker and Hank's Helping

Hands' lieutenant governors have a goal of 10 new clubs as well for 2018-19.

The Gift of Membership to someone can change his/her life and an entire community.

The concept of The Formula has ended by the ideas behind it have not. I will be heading up New Club Opening with a team of Zone Chairs and Division Chairs.

There will be some overlap between Membership and New Club Opening, but that is not a problem but an advantage. We need to grow our great organization with new members, former members and with new clubs. Watch for details especially on the district web site.

We found that we were somewhat successful in recruiting former Service Leadership Program members to join new clubs in the past year. Key Clubbers and Circle Kers joining for the FIRST time get the \$65 new member add fee waived and International and district dues for the following two administrative years. They

only thing they would pay for is the Kiwanis International magazine, liability officers insurance totaling \$25. Clubs may want to absorb that cost as well as an incentive to get former SLP members to join for the first time.

After the first quarter of the 2018-19 year, we have two new clubs (The Big Apple, formed by Lt. Gov. Sandy Liew in Queens East, and Fairview-Greenburgh formed by Distinguished Past Lt. Gov. Laura Prange in Hudson Tri-County). Our goal is ten new clubs again. If you have a possible site, please contact me as soon as possible. The district is a net gain of +145 so far, which leads the northeast region of Kiwanis International.

We will have a New Club Opening Forum on Friday, Feb. 15, at 4:30 p.m. at the Mid-Winter Conference.

I look forward to working with all of you to spread Kiwanis into new communities or communities that used to have Kiwanis Clubs. My email is pepster@aol.com. My cell is (315) 436-2157.

Key Club

John Goldstein



While we Kiwanians are just starting the second quarter of our year, the New York Key Club District Board and Officers are starting the last quarter of their year.

They have been working hard on mem-

bership, fundraising and volunteering for various causes.

We need your help with your Key Club! Please contact your Key Club and make sure that they have submitted their roster and paid their dues. We have many clubs that have not paid their dues as of Jan 1. We are in the process of starting six new Key Clubs around the district and I want to thank those Kiwanis Clubs that have stepped up to be sponsors.

The board is again in the final planning stages of the annual Leadership Training Conference, that will be held at the Desmond Hotel in Albany. The dates are March 29-31. Your clubs will again need

help with funding their attendance at this great event. We again expect more than 700 in attendance.

This year's International Convention will be in Baltimore and the cost will be around \$1,000. I will have a better idea of the cost at the Kiwanis District Mid-Winter Conference after I have confirmed some of the tour events. Your Key Club lieutenant governors will be looking for financial support for this great event also.

In closing, I want to thank you for all you do with and for your Key Clubs and it is my privilege to serve as your Key Club district administrator.

Club Celebrates Key Club Week

Mount Vernon Kiwanians along with Bronx Westchester South Lt. Gov. John Bartunek celebrated Key Club International Week with a joint meeting with the members of the Mt. Vernon S.T.R.O.N.G. Key Club to be officially be chartered next month.

A Charter Night is planned for Saturday March 2, 2019 when the Key Club members once again serve "Pancakes for Dinner" to raise funds.

Candice Offut serves as Key Club Faculty Advisor. Candice is a former member of the Mount Vernon High School Key Club, and joins three other former Key Club members who are presently Mt. Vernon Kiwanians, including Past Kiwanis International President Tom DeJulio, Past Circle K International Vice President Peter Plati, and Donna Jackson, Assistant to the Mount Vernon Superintendent of Schools.



Liverpool Kiwanis participated in the Baldwinsville Kiwanis' 50th Annual Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning. Pictured is Liverpool Kiwanis President Meghan Durso (center) and her friend along with Distinguished Past Gov. Joe Eppolito (right). Baldwinsville Kiwanis will be able to provide 350 needy school children food for weekends in their backpack program for an entire year due to the success of the event.



From left, Niagara Frontier North Lt. Gov. Dean Beltrano, Charter President Ron Parent accepting the club banner from Gov. Hank Baker and Past Gov. Candace Corsaro.

Northern Niagara Charter Presented

On Dec. 11 the Kiwanis Club of Northern Niagara County held its Charter Night and Installation Dinner. Seventeen members were installed by Past Gov. Candace Corsaro. Also in attendance were Gov. Hank Baker and First Lady Bonnie Baker as well as International Trustee George Delisle and wife, Geana.

In his remarks, International Trustee Delisle stated that Kiwanis is a family and you will form life-long friendships. He also encouraged the new Kiwanians to take on leadership roles with the organization sharing that you will receive far more in return than what you give.



Verrazano Places Wreaths on Veterans' Graves

On Dec. 6 the Verrazano Kiwanis Club placed Christmas wreaths on the 56 graves of veterans at Lake Cemetery on Staten Island.

Some veterans also were present.

The Key Club from New Dorp High School was involved along with the Girl Scouts and other kids. About 100 children and adults participated.





Rochester Aktion Club Conference Draws Members from Area

The first annual Rochester Area Aktion Club Conference took place Oct. 13 at the Al Sigl Center in Rochester.

Aktion club members from the area and a contingent from Staten Island participated in the event, which included informational sessions as well as some work on service projects.

The event was sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Brighton and CP Rochester, and organized by Jaimie Neuringer, the New York District's Aktion Club administrator for Western New York. Dennis Gabel, the administrator for downstate, was part of the Staten Island contingent participating in the event.

Aktion Club members came from 7 clubs with advisors and staff, as well as Kiwanians, including Kiwanis NY District Gov. Hank Baker, Past District Gov. Candace Corsaro, Circle K Governor Ryan Coffey, Aktion Club International Coordinator Katie Griffin, Downstate Administrator Dennis Gabel, Finger Lakes Lt. Gov. Roger Awe, Past Lieutenant Governors Anne Kelly, Marty Toombs, Lucien Giancurcio, and Jordan Neuringer.

Circle K members from 5 clubs from across the district to help staff the event.



Aktion Club

Jaimie Neuringer



The New York District Aktion Club website is constantly being updated with content from clubs around the District. Visit it at: www.aktionclub-ny.org to see our District shine.

In the upper-right corner of the homepage is our Spotlight Club: This month we're featuring the Aktion Club of Sullivan County. If you'd like your club spotlighted, click the link and submit a few pictures, and some details about what your Aktion Club does in its community. Submit pictures of your activities, and they will also be posted for

everyone to see.

We have also launched a new Facebook page: facebook.com/Aktion-ClubNY where you can read and post what's going on in your Aktion Clubs around the District.

In the October ESK, we announced the District winners of the 2018 Aktion Club contests. These winners were submitted for entry into the International Contests for the year, and the NY District did VERY WELL:

International 3rd Place, SPEECH: Matt Kamper, East Meadow Aktion Club, "Making A Difference"

International 2nd Place, SINGLE SERVICE: Brighton Aktion Club, "Ability in Aktion: Sway Fun Glider"

Congratulations to both entries, and to the NY District.

At the International level, Katie Griffin, Aktion Club Specialist, has moved on from Kiwanis International after 10 years of service. We would like to thank Katie for her dedication to Aktion Club over the past decade. For all Aktion Club questions at the International level,

please contact Lisa Pyron at lpyron@kiwanis.org.

Aktion Club dues were due Oct. 1. Many clubs in the New York District have not paid as of this press date. Please check with your Kiwanis Club secretaries to see if your club has paid. Individual notices have gone out several times, but might be going to the wrong individuals. On Feb. 1, Aktion Clubs with unpaid dues, or who are inactive (not meeting) will be up for charter suspension. Don't let this happen to your club.

Finally, New York District Aktion Club is participating in Gov. Hank's project to send military kids to Kamp Kiwanis. With more than 500 Aktion Club members in the district, all it would take is ONE DOLLAR donated on behalf of every Aktion Club member to send a military kid to Kamp. How you raise the money is up to the individual clubs. It can be direct donation or fundraiser, but it's up to you. Details on how to remit donations will be posted on the New York District Aktion Club website.

New York District Kiwanis Foundation

District
Foundation

Sal Anelli



Dear New York District Kiwanians, as I sit here at my computer writing this column, I am overwhelmed with so many thoughts of things to tell you about the 2018 Kamp Kiwanis Year.

As this year closes, I can tell you that financially, we had the biggest year we've ever had but I can also tell you that we spent the most ever on upgrading and maintaining the Kamp.

Our biggest expense this year was

repaving the parking lot/play area which was at the point of being dangerous to have kids run around it.

There many other expenses like a new kitchen staff cabin, a bathroom for the Patchogue cabin, metal roofs on cabins and many other planned repairs and unplanned ones that pop up every year as part of regular maintenance.

Each year the Kamp looks better and better and thanks to the hard-working board members and Kiwanians that come up each year for Kamp opening and Kamp closing the cost of repairs and maintenance is held down as much as possible.

Let's move on to 2019 which promises to be a record-breaking year again. I say that with all the confidence because I see how all of you have responded to the Kamp needs and to sending needy children for a magical week at Kamp.

What I am most excited about is the military children program, Gov. Hank Baker has made it his project to send as many children of military personnel as he can to Kamp. He started his year with vowing for 100 children and at our Kamp closing board meeting, he decided to bump it up to 150.

The cost for sending a military child to Kamp Kiwanis is \$465 and for those who need busing, past Metropolitan Division Lt. Gov. and board member Keith Cummings, will pick up the cost for transportation. I cannot begin to tell you how grateful we all are at the New York District Kiwanis Foundation for Gov. Hank's program and for Keith Cummings' generosity.

I'd like to end this by saying, I hope you had a great Christmas and I wish a very happy, healthy and prosperous new year. God bless all.

Kiwanis Children's Fund

Kimberly Davis



This year, the Kiwanis Children's Fund (KCF) will be sending your club its annual gift renewal earlier and I will be reaching out to clubs, as well.

At the K Family weekend, I asked one of our lieutenant governors this question: how many organizations does your club support in a year? Ten, 20, 30? Shouldn't the Kiwanis Children's Fund be one of them? Unfortunately, most of the clubs in our great New York District are not supporting the Kiwanis Children's Fund, and I would like to help your club change that!

Both clubs and individual members can make gifts to the KCF; both count towards your club's totals. After doing a little bit of research, I found some troubling numbers from the 2017-18 year. At first

glance, the records show that 47 percent of our clubs gave to the KCF - less than half. Upon further review, several clubs received credit because only an individual within a given club donated, which again, is credited to the club. When factoring this in, only 28 percent of our CLUBS made a conscious gift to the Children's Fund. Surely, we can do better than that!

How are donations to the Kiwanis Children's Fund used? There are five major areas of funding.

1. Service Leadership Programs - more than 40% of the money given to the KCF goes directly to SLP programs.

2. Disaster Relief - I applaud the tremendous work that our NY District Foundation does with regards to Disaster Relief, but we cannot be everywhere and give all that is needed. Additionally, ALL clubs in an affected disaster area can apply for up to \$5,000 in disaster relief from the Children's Fund.

3. District and Club Grants - every club can apply for a grant through the KCF, but the District also is eligible for 15 percent of the amount of money raised in the previous year. For example, \$6,213 will be eligible for Gov. Hank to help with his

Governor's Project of sending military kids to Kamp Kiwanis. Donations raised in this administrative year will be used by Governor-Elect Joe Ruggiero.

4. IDD - our first worldwide service project was preventing Iodine Deficiency Disorder, the world's leading preventable cause of mental and developmental disabilities. Through our efforts, iodized salt consumption led to an increase in access from less than 20 percent of households worldwide to more than 70 percent, leading UNICEF to acknowledge that increase to be "one of the greatest public health accomplishments" in the 20th century.

5. The Eliminate Project - our current worldwide service project to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus. Of the original 38 countries afflicted with MNT when the project started, only 14 remain.

Please speak with your club today about giving to the Kiwanis Children's Fund. Invite me to give a presentation, speak with me at Mid Year, or ask me to a divisional meeting. I am willing to meet whenever and wherever possible to share the great work of the Kiwanis Children's Fund!

Pediatric Trauma Kits Presented by Two Clubs

The Liverpool Kiwanis Club through the generosity of club member Distinguished Past Lt. Gov. Rev. Ken Nelson, donated a Pediatric Trauma Kit to the West Amboy Volunteer Fire Department on Oct. 3.

Members from the Kiwanis Club of County Seat, Mineola presented a Pediatric Trauma Kit to the Williston Park Ambulance Corp at the Williston Park

Street Fair. Accepting the kit was Chief John Perro, Jr.

The Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Kit is a child-sized ambulance equipment kit which was compiled to meet most on-scene emergency needs of children. A typical kit contains special equipment which ambulance personnel may need to properly care for a small child. The ingredients of these kits are child sized and

geared for children from infancy to 18 years of age.

County Seat President, Jim Heiman Sr. said to Chief Perro that: "As Kiwanians, we are happy to help our community and hopes that it never gets put to use."

Patchogue Toy Trot Raises Funds and Collects Toys

The event was managed by the club's members along with 150 volunteers who were Patchogue Medford High School teachers, Key Clubbers and Venture Crew.

Runners contributed more than 300 toys which were distributed for needy children of the Greater Patchogue area. More than \$30,000 of sponsorships and running fees was also raised to fund Kiwanis Club youth service projects such as scholarships and kamperships. Festive costumes added to the seasonal flavor of the event chaired by member Nicholas Harding.

The race was held at Patchogue's Shorefront Park was timed and administered by Elitefeats.com. A temperature controlled 1,200 person tent protected the runners and volunteers. All were treated to food and music during and after the race.



The Kiwanis Club of Port Chester-Rye Brook presented the Key Club banner to the Port Chester High School Key Club on Nov. 7. The new club has jumped right into community service by working at Crawford Park, a town-owned park that needed trees freed from invasive vines.

Lindenhurst Donates Books

On Nov. 1 the Kiwanis Club of Lindenhurst participated in a "Bagels & Books" breakfast where children's books were donated to support the Cohalan Court Children's Center in Central Islip.

The Center provides children of families attending court a safe environment to play and read. Each child who visits is given a free book to take home.

Children's Movie Draws 53

On Dec. 15, the Kiwanis Club of the Central Adirondacks, in cooperation with Bob Card and Helen Zyma of the Strand Theater, sponsored its annual free Bob Thayer Memorial Holiday Movie for Kids.

The movie was The Nutcracker and the Four Realms which is a 2018 Disney American fantasy adventure.

Santa and Mrs. Claus greeted the kids and handed out presents to all children 12 and under.

Dee Kraft and Carolyn Trimbach were project Co-Chairs for this event assisted by Donna Zuckert, Dawn Lenci and Linda Kurtz. Dee Kraft was pleased to announce: "53 children and 31 adults attended the free event. The children all received a drink and popcorn at no charge. Kraft also stated that we were particularly appreciative of the cooperation of Bob and Helen of The Strand Theatre for their commitment to this special Kiwanis Program and Linda Kurtz and Dawn Lenci for their hard work in setting up the project".



At the Governor's Visit to the Ontario Division, from left, Gov. Hank Baker and First Lady Bonnie Baker holding proclamations from Syracuse Mayor Ben Walsh, State Senator John DeFrancisco and U.S. Congressman John Katko; Past First Lady Virginia Eppolito and Distinguished Past Gov. Joe Eppolito, Sue Wass and Ernie Wass, who was presented a Kaiser Award that evening.