

Empire State Kiwaniian

New York

Jan. 2020, Volume 2019-20, Issue 2

New York District, Kiwanis International



Mid-Year is Feb. 21-23 in Binghamton

The 40th annual New York District Mid-Year Conference will take place Feb. 21-23 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Binghamton.

Online registration for the conference can be done through the district web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org. Registration fees increase on Feb. 1.

Hotel registration is available online or by telephone to the hotel. Be sure when registering with the hotel to use the Group Code KII to get a substantial discount over the posted rates.

The conference will feature many of the regular events.

The forums (the tentative schedule is below) will give Kiwanians an opportunity to gain information on a variety of subjects. Most will be given by the district officials who are experts in each of the subjects.

Members also will have the opportunity to participate in a service project during

On Saturday evening awards for the 2018-19 Kiwanis Year will be announced, including Distinguished Divisions, Distinguished Clubs, and the club Achievement Awards.

the weekend.

Three boards will be meeting - the district board, the district foundation board and the Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation board.

At the opening session Friday evening, those present will hear reports on various

district activities, including from the Supported Leadership organizations, Key Club and Circle K.

At Saturday's luncheon, the district's foundations will present awards.

On Saturday evening awards for the 2018-19 Kiwanis Year will be announced, including Distinguished Divisions, Distinguished Clubs, and the club Achievement Awards which honor clubs for the work they do in their communities.

The weekend also is an opportunity to reconnect with Kiwanis friends from the past and to make new friends.

The basket raffles which are the feature of most district events also will take place on Friday and Saturday.

More events and more details may be added as the event approaches. Tentative schedules for the weekend are on Page 4. Check the district web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org, for the latest information.

Governor

Joseph
Ruggiero



Happy New Year! The First Lady and I hope all your holiday celebrations were very enjoyable.

Our time has been so enjoyable, doing our Governor's Visits, along with the various other events and fund raisers that we've attended. Everyone has been so welcoming and we have been treated royally. We had a successful and fun-filled time along with service at The New York Speaking event in Lake George. The following weekend at our Tri K weekend with our Key Club and Circle K was equally as successful.

Our membership is up more than 100 so far. This is very positive so just imagine if we grow by 50 members each month. We would be up 600 at the end of the year. We will be looking to start at least eight new clubs this year. I made

that promise to our International President at my Governor's training. We will look to our Past Gov. Eric Paul, assisted by Tricia Hook, along with Distinguished Past Gov. Joe Eppolito, who was recently appointed Northeast Membership Coordinator. They will be organizing efforts to build new clubs, but also to strengthen those many clubs that are under charter. Please look to help with this effort. I have said, "if we don't grow and gain new members, eventually we won't exist", so all of our hard work will be in vain.

I was able to make contact with the base commander at Fort Drum and we will be able to utilize the funds that were donated last year to our Kids to Kamp program. The children of our military will attend Kamp this summer. Along those lines, I thought what a good idea to also pay back to our first responders. How about children of fallen first responders? We will be accepting donations for these children of "fallen heroes".

Please make every effort to attend our mid-winter conference in Binghamton being held February 21-23. We will have many informative forums available, plus an expanded and extended forum pre-

sented by my team on my Governor's Project. Thank you to Maureen Neuringer for coordinating this whole project. For attendees who would like to have some fun, we will have a Jeopardy type of game event in the afternoon.

Also look to attend our 20th Anniversary Gala for our Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation. This will take place on March 22, at the Floral Terrace on Long Island. If you cannot attend, please support this great foundation by putting an ad in the journal.

A new project I am starting is a Transportation Fund. This would help a Key Club or Circle K Club not sponsored by a Kiwanis Club attend their events. They must try to raise money on their own, first. We will ask clubs to contribute to this fund. But if your club does support an SLP, please continue to do as you have.

Lastly, please support all of our foundations. Beside our Pediatric Lyme Foundation, Pediatric Trauma Foundation and our Kamp Kiwanis Foundation, which supports the disaster relief efforts, are all wonderful foundations. They work extensively to support our own within our Great New York State District.

Circle K Celebrates End of Exams

Fordham Circle K hosted Lehman Circle K and other members of the Empire Division at a meeting to "de-stress" from final exams and celebrate the holidays with food, fun, and fellowship.

Fordham and Yonkers Kiwanians led by Greg Faulkner, Bronx Westchester South Past Lt. Governor John Bartunek and Yonkers Kiwanis President Judy Bartunek, were on hand to share their Kiwanis support for two current projects.

More than \$1,000 for POTS (Part of the Solution) was raised for groceries in a shop setting to help those below the poverty line to become self sufficient. The clubs also initiated their annual "Adopt-a-Family" Christmas project in the South Bronx to purchase new coats, shoes, and boots for two children. The family was identified by St. Anselm's Parochial



School in the South Bronx as needing a few age-appropriate toys to make the holidays more cheerful for these children. these items, along with club donations of

Bronx-Westchester South Division has K-Family Dinner

The annual Kiwanis Family Dinner hosted by the Bronx Westchester South Division was held Nov. 4 at Double Door Caterers in Mount Vernon. Newly installed Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club President Donna Jackson welcomed members from eight Bronx-Westchester Kiwanis Clubs, one Circle K Club, and five Key Clubs in Divisions 11 and 12.

Lt. Gov. Doug Hickey introduced each SLP club leader to make a report on their service projects, and used the occasion to induct a new Fordham Kiwanis member Ashley Wolfe, a former Key Club member and Circle K International Trustee who recently relocated to the Bronx

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Feb. 15: IRS Filing Deadline

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 organization's tax-exempt status.

The electronic form is at 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.

More information is available on the Kiwanis International web site, at <http://www.kiwanis.org/form990>.

2019-20 Events

Feb. 21-23, 2020:

Mid-Year Conference, Doubletree, Binghamton

March 6-8, 2020:

Circle K District Convention, Desmond, Albany

March 22, 2020:

Lyme Foundation Gala, Floral Park

March 27-29, 2020:

Key Club Leadership Training Conference, Albany

May 14-17, 2020:

2020-21 Lieutenant Governor Training, Utica

June 18-21, 2020:

International Convention, Indianapolis

July 1-5, 2020:

Key Club International Convention, San Francisco

July 19-23, 2020:

Circle K International Convnetion, Las Vegas

Aug. 13-16, 2020:

District Convention, Desmond, Albany

Governor's Project

Maureen Neuringer



The 2019-20 Governor's Project, named Flora's Project, was created as a nod to Gov. Joseph Ruggiero's mother, Flora.

Flora spent much of her time towards many mental health issues for students, and worked diligently for Special Olympics.

Gov. Joe wants to continue the tradition of supporting good mental health through New York District Kiwanis. Check with the chair in your chosen area to discuss possible projects that will meet the criteria for a banner patch. Kiwanians will be asked to fill out a form outlining the project(s) they have chosen to complete. At the end of 19-20 the clubs will be presented with a Project Flora Banner Patch.

Suicide Prevention

Kevin Kamper, Suicide Prevention Chair

E-Mail: knkamper@gmail.com

We are facing a growing crisis. 47,000 people in the United States die each year as a result of suicide and is now the 10th leading cause of death as well as the second leading cause of death among young people 15 to 34. On the surface, this subject has been difficult to talk about and is considered controversial. Why should it be? The push should be to de-stigmatize and increase awareness and conversation.

According to the National Suicide Prevention Hotline, research has shown that people who are having thoughts of suicide feel relief when someone asks them about it in a caring way. Talking about suicide may reduce rather than increase suicide ideation.

The best way to promote awareness of suicide prevention is to start this conversation by educating individuals in Mental Health First Aid. This course aims to preserve life, prevent the problem from becoming more serious, promote recovery, provide comfort and support and help to guide a person to appropriate resources.

Many adults have been trained in CPR and first aid by the American Red Cross. Did you know that you can be trained in Mental Health First Aid? You can make a

difference just by taking a Mental Health First Aid course. This course will give you the skills to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis.

Every 40 seconds someone takes their life. Take 40 seconds and do something. Get involved as an advocate, be a better listener and understand the signs. Have an open and honest conversation and if you do see something, talk to the person and encourage that person to see a mental health professional.

For more information, you can contact your local health professional or check out these sites

USA Mental Health First Aid
<https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/>

American Association of Suicidology
<https://suicidology.org/>

Suicide Prevention Lifeline
<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org>

Youth suicide Prevention and awareness programs for students
https://www.preventsuicidepa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Youth-Resources-for-Suicide-Prevention_Final.pdf

If anyone needs a person to talk with the National suicide prevention hotline (800) 273-8255 is staffed 24 hours a day seven days a week.



Monticello has Busy Holiday Season

The Kiwanis Club of Monticello and its sponsored service leadership clubs have once again been busy spreading the holiday spirit in the community by participating in many activities.

Members of the Kiwanis Club brought games and toys to their holiday dinner that will be distributed to local families in need by the United Way of Sullivan County.

The RJK Middle School Builders Club participated in the School's Holiday Care Project along with the Boys and Girls

Club. They traveled to Walmart and purchased gloves, hats, socks and toiletries that will be hung on the Giving Tree in the Middle School Lobby for students in need of these items. They used funds collected from the Valentine Day Dance that they host each year.

The Monticello High School Key Club continued its annual tradition of assisting the Salvation Army in brightening the holiday season by ringing the bell and collecting money in front of Walmart to help out local families who can use some assistance.



International Honors District Aktion Clubs

Three Aktion Clubs in the district have been honored by Kiwanis International for their work during 2018-19.

The Aktion Club of Brighton won first place in the Single Service category. Their project, "Upcycled Super Crayon Fundraiser" raised funds to send a military Kamper to Kamp Kiwanis by creating and selling super crayons upcycled from discarded crayon pieces. The club is sponsored by the Kiwanis club of Brighton in the Finger Lakes Division.

Two clubs also were honored as Distinguished: the Nunda Aktion Club, sponsored by the Nunda Kiwanis club in the Genesee Division, and the Anchor Aktion Club, sponsored by the Peninsula Hewlett club in the Long Island Southwest Division.

See the District web site,
www.kiwanis-ny.org,
for the latest
in district news

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New York District Mid-Year Conference

2019 Mid-Year Conference Schedule

Friday, Feb. 21

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| 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 (by Invitation Only)..... | Noon-12:45 p.m. |
| Board Meeting..... | 1:30-4 pm. |
| Service Project..... | 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. 22

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Past Governors Breakfast..... | 8-9:30 a.m. |
| Breakfast..... | 7:45-8:45 a.m. |
| Lt. Gov. Elects Breakfast with Gov.-Elect Brenda Leigh Johnson..... | 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. |
| Forums..... | 3:30-4:20 p.m. |
| Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation Board..... | 3:30-5:00 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. |
|--|---------------|

Schedule is tentative. See the district web site for the latest information



Forum Schedule

Saturday, Feb. 22

9:00 - 9:50 a.m.

- Governor's Project
- President/VP Training
- Childhood Trauma
- Kiwanis 101

10:00 - 10:50 a.m.

- Governor's Project
- Secretary Training
- Membership
- Young Children: Priority One
- Service Project

11 - 11:50 a.m.

- Governor's Project
- Treasurer Training
- Being an SLP Advisor
- Public Relations/Marketing
- Service Project

11 - 11:50 a.m.

- On to Indianapolis
- Planned Giving
- Using Social Media
- Service Project

District
Secretary

Rich Hall



Greetings from the New York District Office.

It is very exciting to hear of all the wonderful programs and projects being conducted across the great NY District since our year began in October. But in order for us to know of your activities it is important that each club secretary file their monthly report on the Kiwanis International portal in a timely manner. If any secretary has any issue with filing the report please don't hesitate contacting me at the office or make plans to attend the Club Secretary workshop that will be held

at our Mid-Year Conference.

Speaking of our Mid-Year Conference, please consider sending representatives from your club. The conference will be held at the Doubletree Hotel, Binghamton February 21 to 23, 2020. Information concerning hotel and registration can be seen here in the ESK or by visiting our district website at www.kiwanis-ny.org.

This will be a great opportunity for all of our members to share in personal growth, club education and Kiwanis fellowship. It will also be our chance to celebrate all the accomplishments of our last Kiwanis year including honoring Immediate Past Governor and First Lady Hank and Bonnie Baker and the 2018-19 Board of Officers, "Hank's Helping Hands".

Clubs will also be recognized for their accomplishments with the presentation of our Club Achievement Awards. In order to be recognized clubs need to apply for the various awards. E-Mails have been sent to club officers with the official link to submit these awards. Again, if any club

has an issue please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

While we are only midway through our current service year it is not too early to start thinking of our future, and the role each of us have in ensuring that Kiwanis continues to succeed. That includes considering how we best can serve our organization. Have you considered taking a leadership role in your club, division or our district?

For Kiwanis to thrive we need new leaders with new ideas and new enthusiasm. Think about all the things you could bring to our organization, recognize how important it is that we continue to grow and serve and think about ways you can make an impact. Talk to your current club president or lieutenant governor and decide what would be best for you and our organization. Kiwanis needs you!

Thank you again for all your hard work so far this year and let's keep the momentum going. If there is anything I can do to help you in your efforts please don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to seeing you at Mid-Year in Binghamton.



North Amityville and East Farmingdale

The North Amityville and East Farmingdale clubs held a joint Christmas party with an entry fee of a gift for a child.



Central Adirondacks

Each year the Kiwanis Club of the Central Adirondacks collects toys for area children. In 2019, 225 kids received gifts. From left, front, Kiwanis President Sharon Finkle-Kleps, Past President and Past Lt. Gov. Carolyn Trimbach, Vice President Dee Kraft, Past President Sheila Brady, Christmas for Kids Co-Chair Linda Kurtz, back, Kathy Connell, Chris Kraft, Richard Brady and Christmas for Kids Co-Chair Dawn Lenci.



Amityville

At its annual Christmas party, the Kiwanis Club of Amityville collected items such as toiletries, socks, pajamas etc. and donated them to the Veterans Hospital in Northport. Hospital employee and Navy veteran Pete McDermott and his wife Jane were special guests at the party. They accepted the gifts to distribute to the hospitalized veterans. From left, Karen Kelly President, Jane McDermott, Tom Flanagan, Ellen McVeety who organized the collection, and Pete McDermott.

Key Club

John Goldstein



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The New York Key Club District Board and Officers are starting the last quarter of their year. They have been working hard on membership, fundraising and volunteering for vari-

ous 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 over half of our clubs that have not paid their dues as of Jan. 1, 2020.

We are in the process of starting five 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 at the Desmond Hotel in Albany. The dates are March 27-29, 2020. 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 San Francisco CA, and the cost will be around \$1,500. I will have a better idea of the cost at the Kiwanis District Mid-Winter Conference after I have confirmed the airfare and 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.

Military Kampers

Lucien Giancursio



THANK YOU, to all the Kiwanians & Clubs of the New York District Kiwanis for helping Governor Hank reach his goal of his Governor's Project - "100+ Military Kampers"

Here are the final numbers:

- Total Amount collected \$143,774.
- \$76,430 used in 2019
- \$61,435 in tuition for a total of 139 military kampers.
- \$14,995 in transportation
- \$67,344 left to use for 2020

This gives us more than 300 military kampers. Just outstanding and fantastic.

Last year the Kamp experienced a decline of 100 traditional kampers as clubs concentrated on supporting the effort for military kampers. This equates to a loss of 17 percent of traditional kampers, which equate to a loss of \$46,500 in revenue.

This year the goal is not have the Kamp experience any decline but have an increase in traditional kamperships.

Gov. Joe is continuing the program for the 2019-20 year with some enhancements. He has expanded the program to include the children of first responders and fallen heroes.

Also, an International Exchange program is being developed to bring children from other countries to our Kamp.

The cost this year to send a child to Kamp is \$625. (\$475 for tuition and \$150 for transportation.)

With a concentrated effort we can achieve these goals which are:

- Bring the Kamp back to capacity
- Send more Military Kampers
- Give children of first responders and fallen heroes a gift of Kamp Kiwanis.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome my co-chair, Distinguished Past Lt. Gov. Laura Prange of Port Chester-Rye Brook Kiwanis on the Hudson Tri-County

Division.

As always, we look forward this year to working with all the great Kiwanis clubs of this great New York District.



First Lady Bonnie and myself were sitting at the fire place reminiscing last year. The challenges, the traveling and the ups and downs we encountered. We both agreed it was one of our best years ever. I am not going to bore you with each particular trip or event. But one thing for sure. We met the greatest group of people ever. And for that we thank you all. This year as Immediate Past Governor is a good wind down year so I really don't have much to report. But from the bottom of our heart thank you all for the most wonderful year ever.

First Lady's Project

Trish Hook



Happy New Year! I would like to thank all the clubs who have already participated in this year's First Lady's Project! First Lady Deb's projects asks for clubs around the district to look for ways to help a specific group of homeless people in their communities -- students.

So, what can clubs do? A primary need for many of these students is the lack of basic living and school supplies. Clubs can contact their local school districts and offer kits to help the students. The kits

could include:

- Diapers and wipes
- Good children's books
- Fleece blankets - clubs can make them!
- Notebooks,
- Pens and pencils
- Inexpensive calculators
- Deck of cards - regular, Uno, etc.
- Coloring books, crayons
- Socks
- Toothbrush, toothpaste
- Shampoo and conditioners (hotel freebies)
- Laundry soap
- Deodorant
- Hairbrush, comb
- School supplies
- Journals for older kids

When you have completed your project, submit your completion form. The instructions are on the form.

Pediatric
Lyme Disease

DPG John
Gridley



Seeing how this is the season of giving and helping people in need I thought that I would share with you a letter (which is one of many that) I receive from the parents receiving our grants through the generosity of Kiwanis. It reads as follows:

Dear John:

It has been several months now since we have been receiving assistance from the Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation for our daughter Alexis. The transactions and reimbursements to providers have been flawless and they are reimbursed very quickly, within a weeks time. This has been a true blessing for our family. It has done a lot to ease the financial burden during a difficult time. We realize the grant cannot continue unending, we truly appreciate this assistance. It's a

shame that chronic Lyme treatment is not recognized by much of the medical community and that treatment cannot be covered by traditional medical insurance.

Much of our days are spent with many symptoms. We are unable to have or experience what most families have. The burdening impact of a chronic condition has taken its toll on all aspects of our family. The financial resources required, the multitude of providers, traveling out of state to specialists, the complex pharmaceutical treatment and much more is simply too large of a burden on any family.

Your financial assistance has been one very bright positive that has allowed us to focus on other aspects of care for our daughter. This is contributing to us making more well-rounded holistic progress instead of spending all of our time worrying about the cost of treatment, which will contribute to a greater likelihood of a better outcome. We are making slow and steady progress thanks to you and the foundation. We could never thank you and the Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation enough for your support. If there is anything we could do to some-

how help with your foundation please let us know. God bless you and the foundation members.

Sincerely,

Tracy & Ray Baker (Parents of Alexis)

I would like to thank all Kiwanis for there unending support through the purchase of a Brittany Fellowship, First Level Emerald Brittany and a Second Level Emerald Brittany. It is through your support that we can continue in our mission. No child should have to suffer with this chronic disease called Lyme. On March 22, 2020, we will be celebrating 20 years of service (yes it has been 20 years) to these families who have children with Lyme disease. It will be held at the Floral Park Terrace, 250 Jericho Turnpike in Floral Park. By attending this celebration or by taking a journal ad you will be helping us to help others. Please consider attending or taking a journal ad. Any questions contact Distinguished Past Governor (Gala Chairperson) Joe Aiello or myself.

I firmly believe that all members of Kiwanis are people of conscience, and as such it is our duty and obligation to assist those in need. Hope to see you at the Gala.

District
Historian

PIP Tom
DeJulio



From "BOB" to "Serving the Children of the World": Kiwanis at 105

More than a half-million Kiwanis Family members will meet this month and knowingly or not, celebrate an important birthday. Born in 1915, Kiwanis began its evolution from an organization of Benevolent Order Brothers (a/k/a "BOB") to one that includes member clubs for ages nine to 90-plus with a primary mission to serve the needs of children, locally and globally.

Gov. Joe Ruggiero invited me to assume

the role of New York District Historian previously held by the late Kiwanis International President Anton J. "Tony" Kaiser (1987-88) and Past International President Gerald P. "Jerry" Christiano (1996-97), who now resides and is an active Kiwanian in Naples, Florida.

How can I attract readers to this column written about the past when we live in a world focused more on the present? Many will say learning history is to educate ourselves about the past so that the past does not define, defeat, or destroy us, including institutions like Kiwanis. Knowing the facts and learning from our past can help strengthen and create a better future.

The process we choose to accomplish this is to offer in each column five questions about our Kiwanis past that entertain and educate, and can be relevant to a stronger Kiwanis future. In order to keep the "fun" in everything Kiwanis does, we will challenge readers to send in their an-

swers to me at tdejulio@fordham.edu

Every member who emails ALL FIVE CORRECT ANSWERS will receive from me a prize of "historic value".

So now let's do what our members do best while serving others: HAVE SOME FUN!

1. In what year was Circle K officially recognized by Kiwanis International?
2. Identify all the years an International Convention was held in Indianapolis.
3. In what country and in what year was a Kiwanis charter first granted to a club outside of the United States and Canada?
4. What was the name of Kiwanis International's first "Major Emphasis Program"?
5. Which of the following locations DID NOT host a Kiwanis International Convention? a) Minneapolis; b) Phoenix; c) Baltimore; d) New York City

The answers will be published in our next column. HAPPY BIRTHDAY KIWANIS!

International Conventions Have Changed Over the Years

Perhaps nowhere else in the history of Kiwanis is there reflected more evidence of changing times and changing attitudes than in the story of the organization's conventions. Early sessions reflected the understandable need to set up a better structure for the organization to ensure its success. But over the years, fellowship became more and more prominent, and elaborate programs of entertainment were eagerly anticipated by convention-goers.

Early in the organization's history, con-

vention sites were rotated among established Kiwanis regions, but by the 1950s it became evident that only a limited number of cities could host a Kiwanis International convention. Now made four to five years in advance, the selection of a convention city focuses more on available facilities.

By the 9th Annual Kiwanis International Convention, prominent speakers were invited to address the conventions on non-Kiwanis topics. Through Kiwanis' his-

tory, these speakers have included the Honorable Angus MacDonald, premier of Nova Scotia (1934); US Federal Bureau of Investigation Director, J. Edgar Hoover (1936); US Vice-President Richard Nixon; Christian evangelist Dr. Billy Graham; Roman Catholic Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen; TV personality Art Linkletter, and US President Ronald Reagan.

Plan Early for 2020 International Convention

The 2020 Kiwanis International Convention will be in Indianapolis June 18-21.

Registration is expected to open on Jan. 15. Early Bird registration (until April 10) is \$399. The cost rises \$100 until May 22, and \$100 more after May 22 when on-site registration will be required.

A lineup of speakers at the convention has been announced. Among those appearing are Ethan Zohn, winner of the CBS television show "Survivor: Africa". A former professional soccer player, after his win, he co-founded Grassroot Soccer.

In 2009, Zohn was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

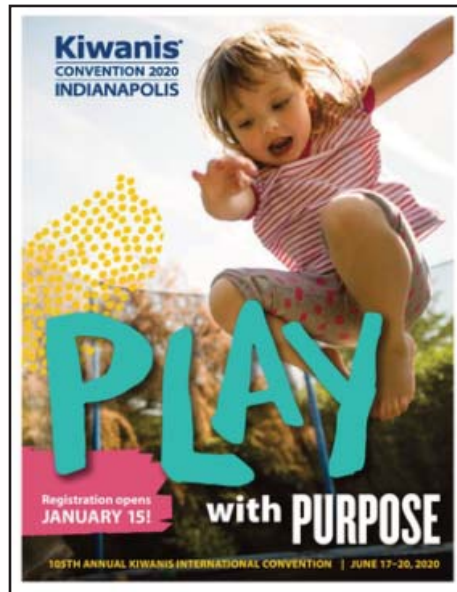
Also speaking will be Captain "Sully" Sullenberger, the pilot who landed a US Airways plane on the Hudson River in New York City on Jan. 15, 2009. Also appearing will be Kevin Carroll, a spokesman for advancing education, sports and play as a vehicle for social change.

The convention will offer something new. On Wednesday, June 17, there will be a pre-conference Education Conference. For an additional \$99 fee, participants can choose from tracks for District Coordinators and Chairs Training; Influential Lieutenant Governors; Make an Impact During Your Club Presidency; Club Membership Summit and Unleash Your Inner Leader.

The Education Conference will continue on Thursday, June 18, the first day of the convention. Several training sessions will be available. Be sure to look when you register for the convention at various options for the additional cost of participating in the education conference.

Kiwanis International has stated that clubs are free to pay the cost of members' participation in the Education Conference from the club's Project Account.

Kiwanis International has picked the JW Marriott as the hotel for the New York District. It is connected by a sky bridge to



the Convention Center.

International also is sponsoring convention trips, including one pre-convention trip which may not have much attraction to New York Kiwanians. The five-day trip from June 11-15 is to New York City. The other is a post-convention, eight-day trip to Nashville, New Orleans and Memphis. Details on those trips is on the Kiwanis International web site.

House of Delegates action will include election of International Vice President Peter Mancuso as president-elect for 2020-21. Elected vice president last June, he will not face any opposition as he moves to the post of president-elect.

There currently are five candidates for vice president for the coming year, including Ernest Schmid of the Austria District, who currently is the counselor to the New York District. Also running are Chuck Gugliuzza of Florida; Richard Olmstead of the California-Nevada-Hawaii District, Bert West of the Rocky Mountain District and Terry White of the Indiana District.

Clubs Need to Retire Old Kiwanis Logo

If your Kiwanis club is using the old globe logo — sometimes referred to as the bird cage logo — your club's look is outdated.

That particular logo was updated nearly a decade ago and should now be permanently retired.

Kiwanis International adopted our current logo in June of 2010 and it's important that every Kiwanis club in the world use it. Why? Because consistent, easily recognizable branding makes our organi-

zation stronger.

Do you immediately recognize the Nike Swoosh? How about the green Starbucks logo? A red Coca-Cola graphic? Of course you do. The entire world does. And there's a reason for their popularity and strength: consistency.

To bring your club up to Kiwanis brand standards, please check out the Kiwanis brand guidelines. Every current Kiwanis-family logo is available, so take this time to update all branding.

And if your club-specific branding needs an update, custom club logos can be ordered for free online too.

New York Pre-Convention Trip Being Planned

For those of you who are looking for some fun during your annual trip to ICON, which this year is in Indianapolis from June 17 to 20, the New York District will host a pre-trip from June 13 to 16, revitalizing a once-proud NYDK tradition.

This year, we start our ICON trek in Nashville, Tenn. on June 13. Round trip nonstop flights from downstate to Nashville on June 13 and leaving from Indianapolis to downstate on June 21 are currently approximately \$300/person.

Join us for a bar crawl on Saturday night, June 13, in Nashville's lo-bro neighborhood. Visit the bar where Willie Nelson, Patsy Cline and Roger Miller got their start. Drink as you overlook the Cumberland River. Visit the famous Printer's Alley. The pub crawl will be led by former Nashville resident, Past Lt. Gov. Martin Valk.

Sunday morning, join us for 10 a.m. brunch at Loveless Café. Our bus whisks us away from our downtown hotel to eat at one of the best breakfast places in the country. The Harper room is ours for 2 hours. After Loveless, we take a trip to Lynchburg, Tenn., home of the Jack Daniel's distillery, where we take a tour of the distillery and enjoy a private tasting. Afterwards, some time for souvenir shopping at the Lynchburg Hardware and General Store will be provided.

Monday morning, we leave Nashville, and travel to Louisville, Ky. Along the way, we may stop for a bourbon tasting along Kentucky's bourbon trail. In Louisville, we will visit the Louisville Slugger Museum and the Kentucky Derby Museum.

Tuesday, we roll into Indianapolis, but not before another visit to a fine bourbon distillery along the bourbon trail.

Costs are still being computed, but will include hotel stays (2 nights in Nashville, and 1 night in the Louisville area), brunch at Loveless Café, and admission to all museums and distilleries. No money is due at this time, but deposits will be taken shortly. If you are interested, please contact me at ValkLand@aol.com

ESK Editor/
Webmaster

Martin
Tooombs



More than 4,600 pictures of local Kiwanis events have been posted on the district web site since October of 2009.

In all that time, the picture shown at right, in my judgement, is the best one which has been submitted.

The picture was from a pre-Christmas shopping trip sponsored by the Huntington club in 2010. During the trip, Key Club members helped children buy presents for their siblings.

The excitement on both girls' faces does not require explanation. I'd guess that nine years later both of them remember that day. And I think people looking at the picture understand the essence of what that day's event was about.

As someone who has taken thousands of pictures over the years, I know there is an element of good luck in getting such a shot. The photographer had to be in the right place at the right time and ready to get the photo. And they had the skill needed to get the shot.

It's been 10 years since the district began asking clubs and divisions to send their pictures for display on the web site. In the first couple years, I often had to fight with pictures taken with phones which were of poor quality and difficult to do anything with. Newer phones with much better cameras ended that, but I still get too many pictures of groups of



people staring at the camera.

I believe that pictures like the one shown here tells more about Kiwanis and what we are about than a shot of a group of people in a chorus line.

At times, such as handing out awards, it's difficult to do anything else and I understand that. But often the pictures of fund raising events or community projects come to me the same way. Taking a picture of all the volunteers when an event is over is not the best way to tell the story of what happened. Compare the picture above to what would have resulted had the submitted picture been of all the students lined up and looking at the camera.

As webmaster I edit submitted pictures

in an effort to make the best presentation possible. But I can't do anything with the picture that wasn't taken.

Try to get people carrying out the project or at work on the fund raising event in your pictures. Pictures lose a lot of interest to me if people are looking at the camera instead of paying attention to what they are doing.

Clubs that submit pictures to the district web site often are submitting them to their local newspapers as well. All newspapers are short of staff and time now, and if you can send them a picture which will attract a lot of attention, you may find that you get better presentation which will give your club the attention you are looking for.

Key Club to Educate Students about Vaping

The North Shore Key Club for the 2019-20 year of service has chosen a very important topic in the interest of our students world-wide.

We currently have a widespread Juuling epidemic that has impacted our fellow peers.

The key club hopes to spread the message that "Juuling Isn't Cool" and has created a video that will be widely shared through social media platforms such as YouTube, Instagram, and Facebook.

Through our video, the North Shore Club hopes to raise awareness, as well as educate and expose the deadly nature of these electronic vaping products. We ask you all to view our video and give us a thumbs up/.

Pictured are the NS Key Clubbers before the filming of the video: Keaton Dansiglio, Kristna Ayes, Gillian Neos, Juliette Alfarone, Jules Firouztale, not pictured Frankie Corozzo, filming the video.



New York District Kiwanis Foundation

District
Foundation

Sal Anelli



A new year begins with all its hopes and expectations and as we do each year, we reflect on the past year and look forward to the new year. 2019 was a really good year for Kamp Kiwanis. Past Gov. Hank Baker committed to sending military children to Kamp as his Governor's Project and by the time his term was over, he had raised enough money for 160 children of active military personnel plus another 100 for next year. We thank Past Gov. Hank for his commitment to Kamp Kiwanis.

Our Kamp closing weekend was again a great success with more than 70 Circle

K'ers that came up as a SLP program and worked with all of us in closing up the Kamp. I cannot tell you how helpful these young adults were in getting the Kamp ready for the winter. A great deal of gratitude goes out to John Keegan, Richard Hall and Alison Mandel for all they did in coordinating this weekend.

Looking forward to 2020, we first have opening weekend which will be in May (exact date to be announced), at that time we will hopefully have a newly built Amphitheater which we will dedicate to the very generous and great Kiwanian, Ivan Tarnopoll, we hope to see all of you there for the dedication and for your help in getting the Kamp ready for the upcoming season.

In 2020, Gov. Joe Ruggiero has committed to a similar program as Gov. Hank did, he will be promoting for clubs to send "Children of Fallen Heroes", this program will looking to raise money to send a child of a military person, or first responders

who have lost their life in the performance of their job. We look forward to help Gov. Joe with this Governor's Project.

A great deal of other projects is happening at the Kamp to keep bettering this great jewel of the New York District. The Verrazzano Kiwanis Club from the Metropolitan Division has committed to totally rebuild one of the cabins that really needed a lot of work. That should be completed by the start of the next Kamping season, New long lasting metal roofs are continuing to be installed on cabins, all of the access paths will be repaved and as always there will be a great deal of repairs that has to be done due to the harsh winter as we do each year. We do all this so that the children that attend will have the very best outdoor experiences that they can possibly have. If you want to come up and help, you are more than welcome. Never forget, if you are a New York District Kiwanian, this is your Kamp so help us in any way you can.

Members from Area Attended Rochester Aktion Club Conference

The second annual Rochester Area Aktion Club conference took place Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Golisano Autism Center in Rochester. The event attracted Aktion Club members from the Finger Lakes and Genesee Divisions, and was led by District Aktion Club Administrator Jaimie Neuringer.



At left, Gov. Joseph Ruggiero speaks to the group. Above, District Aktion Club Administrator Jaimie Neuringer, and below, all the participants pose for a picture.

