

Empire State Kiwanian

New York



April 2015, Volume 2014-15, Issue 3

New York District, Kiwanis International

Centennial Celebration is June 24-27

The Centennial Celebration at this year's Kiwanis International Convention in Indianapolis on June 24-27 is an event you are not going to want to miss.

As part of the celebration, for the first time conventions by Kiwanis, Circle K, Key Club and Aktion Club will all take place in the same place and time.

There will be several celebrations as part of the event. On Thursday there will be a public event serving pancakes on Indianapolis' Monument Circle at noon time, and fireworks and dancing on Georgia Street that evening.

The district's event will be at the Hard Rock Cafe on Thursday, June 25, just before the convention's Opening Session. Tickets for the event must be purchased in advance; an order form is available on the district web site.

The district board meeting will be at 7 a.m. on the 25th, followed by the district caucus at 8 a.m.

The celebration will end with an Up with People concert and Next Century Ball on Saturday evening.

Online registration is open until May 15; on site registration also will be possible.

Washingtonville Club Chartered

Hudson River West Lt. Gov. Gerda Kroglund has built the first new Kiwanis Club in the district this year.

The Washingtonville Kiwanis Club conducted its first board meeting Feb. 23, and received its charter on April 10.

The club has an initial membership of 24. Gerda thanked Super Distinguished Past Lt. Gov. David Morse and Past Lt. Gov. Jim Lawler for their assistance building the club. The charter president is Gil Lester and charter secretary is Debbie Lester.

The Chester Kiwanis Club is the sponsoring Kiwanis Club.



Key Club Leadership Training Conference

Above, Outgoing Circle K Gov. Renee Girard, Gov. Eric G. Paul, outgoing Circle K Executive Assistant Missy Keem, and Gov. Eric's son Joseph, who is helping form a Key Club at his high school. See more pictures from the event on page 6.

Bring a Guest Contest Open until July 15

Clubs in the district are urged to participate once again in a Bring a Guest Contest which starts April 15 and runs through July 15.

How it works: Bring a potential member to a meeting and take a photo with that person to earn one entry into the contest; take a photo of you and a new member being inducted into your club and earn five entries to win a grand prize.

Send your photos along with information on the division, club, member and guest names to District Formula Membership Chair Julie Watterson by e-mail to JulesW77@aol.com or by text to (631) 987-2442. Entries, which must include a picture, will be posted on the district Facebook page.

For more information on membership, see pages 5 and 6.



Circle K Convention Takes Place in Albany

The annual Circle K Convention took place March 20-22 in Albany. Pictured above are, from left, Gov. Renee Girard, District Secretary Brian Kenny, District Secretary Walaa Ahmed and District Editor Holy Cheong. More pictures from the event are on page 9.

**District
Secretary/
Treasurer
Justin
Underwood**



This is it. This is the year Kiwanis celebrates 100 years of service! How appropriate is it that Governor Eric's Governor's Project is to refocus our dedication to our Service Leadership Programs (SLP). Now is the time for your club to celebrate the service you do in your community.

Mid-Year was a success!

Thank you all for your participation during our Mid-Year Conference. We had over 30 forums PLUS this year we

had a CPR certification session that was highly successful. Thank you all for a great Mid-Year!

2015 Kiwanis Convention AND 100th Anniversary Celebration

The New York District will party Thursday afternoon, June 25 at the Hard Rock Café from 4-7 p.m. Get your tickets now before they run out!

Prep for the 100th Annual Kiwanis International Convention in Indianapolis with this at-a-glance schedule preview, subject to change. Get updates when you sign up to receive convention news:

Every day get fit with yoga and runs/walks on Cultural Trail. Tour the Kiwanis International home office and the Kiwanis World Showcase (formerly Exhibit Hall).

Wednesday, June 24. The Formula Team meets at 9 a.m. Get on track at pre-convention workshops, attend the

Service Leadership Programs Conference and network at happy hour.

Thursday, June 25. At 7 a.m. is the District Board Meeting. At 8 a.m. is the District Caucus. Get educated at 30-minute round robins; enjoy the Monumental Pancake Brunch on Monument Circle. At 4 p.m. the New York District takes over the Hard Rock Café! And then at 7:30 p.m. is the opening session.

Friday, June 26. Have breakfast with the Kiwanis family, get down to business and explore Indy before the Birthday Bash on Georgia Street and Fireworks Night at Victory Field.

Saturday, June 27. Dedicate the Kiwanis Playground, exchange ideas TED-style and wrap up the 100th at the Up With People concert and Next Century Ball.

If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact the District Office or at ANY TIME!

Chester Club Continues Program in Member's Memory

More than 30 years ago Larry Neeb had an idea. He thought he could help bring the joy of gardening to a group of children who might not otherwise have had the chance to experience it, and provide them with a Mother's Day gift for their mothers as well.

Through a bit of detective work and a lot of arm-twisting, Larry found a local bulb company that could supply 300 lily bulbs that would be ready to bloom in six weeks. A local farmer was talked into providing soil and pots. The Kiwanis Club voted to fund the project and Larry's Bulb Project was born.

With a few other members in tow, Larry toted the supplies to what was then called the CP Center in Goshen. He delivered them to the classrooms, stopping to help with the planting when he could.

Each year, Larry ordered the bulbs, gathered the supplies and, with a few Kiwanians, visited the school, which grew into Inspire Kids. The children at Inspire Kids experience a variety of developmental delays or challenges, and receive special education and supportive therapies and services according to an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP).

This year the Kiwanis Club of Chester was faced with carrying on the Bulb Project without Larry, who passed away this winter. Kiwanis members stepped up to lead the project and found that Larry had already placed the order for the bulbs. A former member was ready to provide the pots and soil as he had done for many years. A group of Kiwanians was ready to help carry on in Larry's memory.

On March 26 the children of Inspire Kids planted oxalis bulbs, tucking them into the potting soil in their little pots, adding water and smiles to make them grow. In six weeks they will take blooming plants home to



their mothers for Mother's Day. Somewhere Larry Neeb is smiling and the friends he inspired at the Kiwanis Club of Chester are making plans for next year's bulb project, because it's the one way they can be sure that Larry will live on.

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2014-15 Events

May 1-3, 2015:

Key Leader Weekend, Camp Stella Maris, Livonia

May 14-16, 2015:

Kamp Kiwanis Work Weekend and Open House

June 24-27, 2015:

Kiwanis International Convention, Indianapolis
Circle K International Convention, Indianapolis
Key Club International Convention, Indianapolis

Aug. 12-16, 2015:

District Convention, Desmond Hotel, Albany

Governor

Eric G. Paul



As long as I have been involved with the K-Family, I have heard that "our Sponsored Programs (sponsored youth) are the very best things that we do". These people are correct.

Our brother and sister service organizations cannot hold a candle to our K-Kids, Builders Club, Aktion Club, Key Club and Circle K programs.

This was especially evident this year. We have been asking clubs to recognize a "rededication to our Sponsored Youth" and pay attention to our interaction with our Kiwanis sponsored programs. The Governor's Project includes two requirements of interacting with our sponsored groups.

As a result, 2015 has been a "Banner Year" with the largest Circle K District Convention in 30+ years and a "Sold Out" Key Club Leadership Training Conference, both held in Albany this March.

Circle K Governor Renee Girard and her board had a fantastic year, with membership nearing 1200, huge increases in reported service hours, and a renewed spirit among our Circle K Clubs in New York.

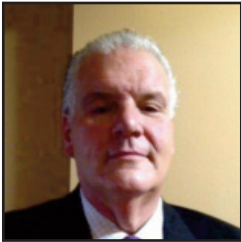
Key Club Governor Jacob Spencer and his board surpassed all of their goals of membership, service hours and funds raised for charity. Congratulations to all our recently retired District and Club leaders for an exceptional service year.

I look forward to working with Circle K Governor Walaa Ahmed and Key Club Governor Hanna Nichols, and their boards, as we begin the 2015-16 Service year. I also congratulate Administrators John Keegan and John Goldstein and their assistants for another year of exceptional hard work and dedication.

Yes, they are the best things we do. Not yet involved? Email or message me and I will tell you how!

Governor-Elect

Forbes Irvine



There are certain times in life when you just know you got it right. Maybe you bought the perfect gift or shared in someone's milestone; maybe you volunteered at a food drive or took someone to an appointment; maybe you skipped buying that coffee and gave that money to Eliminate or Pediatric Lyme; maybe it was donating that coat you could have kept, but you knew it would keep someone else warm; maybe you shoveled out a neighbor. Whatever your "got it right" moment is - We as Kiwanians get THIS right everyday -- our support of our Service Leadership Programs.

Helene and I had the absolute honor of attending the Circle K and Key Club conferences held during the last two weekends of March. To say these stu-

dents are incredible would be an understatement; to talk of their poise, motivation and desire to serve would be an injustice; they are so much more. To hear these kids talk of a former Key Clubber (now in Circle K) who would spend \$2.50 on transportation to a meeting, and by doing so would have to give up a meal that day was inspiring and eye opening to say the least.

These students performed well over 100,000 hours of service and raised hundreds of thousands of dollars this past service year. Why did they do this? That's simple WE give them the opportunity - the opportunity to serve, to lead, to give back and to get it right and all they ask in return is our support - PLEASE SUPPORT THEM. This is what KIWANERGY is all about.

This article would be incomplete without talking about two individuals and their respective staff - John Goldstein and John Keegan, the administrators of Key Club and Circle K, respectively. The title administrator is probably the wrong word. They are the guardians, champions, cheerleaders, protectors, confidant, the shoulder, the

motivator, the gatekeeper, the teacher and sometimes the student. I've heard both these gentlemen say that "every year they learn just how amazing these kids are," but how could they not; they get to see who these students were to what they've become: outstanding members of the Kiwanis family. Again, please support them.

Hopefully you are finalizing your plans for ICON and the celebration of our first century of service. Indianapolis promises to be a fantastic time. Helene and I were fortunate to be there in November for training, and it is great convention city.

Speaking of great times, how about joining us May 16 at Kamp Kiwanis for the opening of Kamp. I guarantee you that the day spent cleaning, painting, raking will be a day well spent getting it ready for the kids. If you can't make it, a couple of dollars in the happy box for the Kamp or KPTC goes a long way.

Finally, please remember The Formula - live it - share it - love it - always be proud of who we are, where we are from and what we are trying to do.

Oceanside Roller Skating Program is 52 Years Old

For the past 52 years the Oceanside Kiwanis Club has co-sponsored, along

with the Oceanside Department of Community Activities, the annual

Roller Skating program.

For months more than 100 children come together on the weekends at an Oceanside school gym to learn how to roller skate.

This program ends in March with a show to show the parents what the children have learned. This year the theme was Candyland.

The parents/grandparents sat back during the two shows on March 13th and 14th as their children took them to a world of sweets and goodies.



Formula Chair

Joseph
Aiello



Spring is finally at our door step. This is the time to "LOVE IT, SHARE IT, LIVE IT" with an open house. There have been 361 new members and one new club with a net amount of 161 members. Moving forward our goal for The Formula is to have 1,000 new members and at least five new clubs before Sept. 30.

Our district needs to grow, our communities need Kiwanis. Our youth need our leadership so they can be our future leaders. If we don't bring our clubs to charter strength or build new clubs, what will happen? There will be no K-Kids, Builders Clubs, Key Clubs, Circle K or Aktion clubs. We are continuing to lose members. Why? Even though we are the best show in town, we are the best hidden secret.

We need to spread the word "LOVE IT, SHARE IT, LIVE IT".

Distinguished Past Gov. Joseph Epolito put together a team of new club builders and club counselors. Julie Watterson, our membership chair, has put in endless hours contacting the division with new member leads. It's the lieutenant governors' responsibility to follow up with them.

If you are asking how you can guests to come to a meeting so you can participate, this is where The FORMULA comes into play...

"LOVE IT" - Why do you love your Kiwanis Club? What drives you to go to meetings and events sponsored by your club? You should be able to tell people your story. Who and what brought you to Kiwanis in the first place and why did you stay? Every Kiwanis member has his or her own unique story!

"SHARE IT" - This is what happens when members love their clubs. It's human nature to tell others about great experiences we've had with products or services - even Kiwanis! This part of The Formula lets us spread the word about our clubs by telling others

face to face, by invitations to meetings, service projects or fundraisers. Get on social media and share your experiences on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Pinterest!

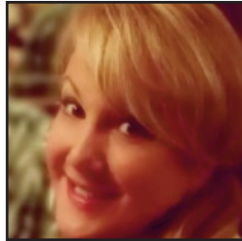
"LIVE IT" - This is what happens when you share your experience of being a Kiwanian. Wear your Kiwanis pin or logo attire and engage in club activities, especially community service. Be proud of being a Kiwanis member. I know I am.

If your club is having a hard time bringing in guests or potential new members please don't hesitate to reach out for help. Julie has great ideas for membership drives and would love to share these with you.

I made a commitment to carry the torch for the next three years to The Formula. I promised our sitting governor that we will reach our goals for 2014-15. These can be met when you have divisions leading the charge such as: Van Rensselaer plus 25, Suffolk East 16, Queens West 12, Hudson River 16, Hudson River West 11, Metropolitan 22, Niagara Frontier South 9, Finger Lakes 8, Chemung 7, Long Island North, 13.

Membership

Julie
Watterson



It has been a terrific year so far for the New York District and we are well on our way to another banner year in membership growth. I would like to take this opportunity to announce our second Bring a Guest Contest begins on April 15 and will run through July 15. It will run similarly to our last contest.

How it works: Bring a potential member to one of your meetings or to an event and snap a photo with that person (a cell phone selfie is ideal). Send that picture to me by email: JulesW77@aol.com or text it to me at 631-987-2442 with a note telling me your division, club, name and guest name. If that member joins, take another photo of you and your new member and send it to me. For each guest, the sponsoring member will receive one entry to the contest. For each new member, the sponsoring member will receive five entries to the contest. Please note, valid entries to this contest must include a photo and all photos will be posted on our NY District Facebook page. The winner of this contest will re-

ceive a grand prize to be announced at our district convention in August.

Now, you may be asking yourself how you can get guests to come to a meeting so you can participate. This is where The Formula comes into play.

"Love it." Why do you love your Kiwanis Club? What drives you to go to meetings and events sponsored by your club? You should be able to tell people your story. Who and what brought you to Kiwanis in the first place and why did you stay? Every Kiwanis member has their own unique story!

"Share it." This is what happens when members love their clubs. It's human nature to tell others about great experiences with have had with products or services - even Kiwanis! This part of the Formula lets us spread the word about our clubs by telling others face to face, by invitations to meetings, service projects or fundraisers. Get on social media and share your experiences on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Pinterest! Sharing what you do with others will inspire them to be a part of what you do.

"Live it." This is what happens when you share your experience of being a Kiwanian. Wear your Kiwanis pin or logo attire and engage in club activities, especially community service. Be proud of being a Kiwanis member. I know I am.

Simply put, Love it. Share it. Live it. is The Formula. This is how you will bring guests and new members to your meetings.

Finally, if your club is having a hard time bringing in guests or potential new

April is Membership Month

Welcome to April. The snow is gone, or receding. Temps are going up. It is time for **All Kiwanis Clubs to plan and carry our an April Membership Effort!**

Have an Open House! Invite friends, Colleagues and Neighbors! Be ready to answer questions about Kiwanis and about what your clubs do!

Growth is a necessary part of continuing the Kiwanis experience. We need to open New Clubs, add new members, start new projects, make new friends.

There is plenty of information available at www.kiwanisone.org or from ANY of our District Board or Formula Team members, listed in our Directory or on line at www.kiwanis-ny.org.

Let's Grow Together!

members; please don't hesitate to reach out to me for help. I have some great ideas for Membership Drives and would love to share with you. Please call or email me. I am proud to be your Membership Chair and look forward to helping you grow our District!

New Club Opening

DPG Joseph Eppolito



As part of the Formula team, I am the Chair for New Club Opening for the New York District. We have divided the District into nine zones, with a Zone New Club Opening Chair and Division New Club Opening Chairs for all divisions except Long Island South Central and Suffolk West.

These Kiwanians have been trained by Kiwanis international and are com-

mitted to work in their divisions to build new clubs along with their respective lieutenant governors.

Each division has two New Club Counselors who have been trained to work with newly formed clubs for a time period to ensure their success in operating.

The New Club Counselors are also available to clubs that are struggling as well. Do not hesitate to contact them.

We need to grow. The Formula is a five-year program (in its second year) to grow Kiwanis significantly to meet the challenges ahead of us for service and fellowship.

Congratulations to Hudson River West Lt. Gov. Gerda Krogslund for building the first new club in our dis-

trict in Washingtonville. She was assisted by New Club Opener Super Past Distinguished Lt. Gov. David Morse and New Club Counselor Past Distinguished Lt. Gov. Jim Lawyer. The club received its charter on April 10.

A few club sites are under way as the good weather finally comes to New York. If you have a site ... contact your Division New Club Opener. He/she will form a team to pursue the opportunity!

The entire Formula Team can be found on the district web site or ask your lieutenant governor.

If we do not grow Kiwanis now, we will have dim future for our great organization. Let's grow together!

Feel free to contact me at (215) 449-3000 x358 or by email: pepster@aol.com.

Builders Club Visits Nursing Home Residents

The Monticello Middle School Builders Club recently visited the Skilled Nursing Unit (SNU) at Catskill Regional Medical Center. Last year they came bearing gifts of hand-made fleece pillows. This year the Builders Club members made beaded bracelets that will be used as Bingo prizes.

The students mingled with the residents one-on-one, introducing themselves and learning a little about each other. Some of the students entertained by singing songs with music provided by a Builders Club member playing the guitar. They also enjoyed singing Karaoke style, which was led by Nursing Home Activities Director Jeffrey Pryluck and Monticello Kiwanis President Jane Sorensen. Eventually, everyone joined in and there was a lot of loud laughter and applause heard throughout the room. The students received a personal invitation by one of the residents to come back next year to help celebrate her 100th birthday.

The Builders Club members were accompanied by their School Advisor William Oefelein and Kiwanis Club members

Jane Sorensen, Patricia Monteverde and Sheila Lashinsky.



Minisink Valley celebrates in 1915 Style

Many people dressed in 1915 dress when the Minisink Valley Kiwanis Club hosted a gala reminiscent of 100 years to celebrate Kiwanis International's centennial. Pictured are, from left, (rear): Past Super Distinguished Lt. Governor David Morse, Minisink Valley President Chip Lain, James Burtis, Kimberly Strieffler, Past Distinguished Lt. Governor Ed Stoddard; front: Cynthia Ewanciw-Morse, Shari Lain, Past Lt. Governor EJ Szulwach, Elaine Flynn, Lt. Governor Gerda Krogslund and Norma Stoddard.

Chester Serves 550 Dinners

On Feb. 20 the Kiwanis Club of Chester held its 8th annual First Friday in Lent Fish Fry at the Chester Academy.

A record-breaking 550 dinners were served. Pre-sales are a must at this event, but we had over 85 tickets sold at the door for walk-ins.

Assisting with the event were the Chester Key Club and Builders Club.

Co-chair-people Frank Sambets and Sue Bahren marveled at the way all members of the 3 service clubs came together and worked in harmony. It was truly a great event for our group.

The Builders Club assisted in the dining room and sold raffle tickets.

All the money raised at this event will go back to our community to serve the children of Chester and the surrounding areas.



Key Club Leadership Training Conference

The 2015 Key Club Leadership Training Conference took place March 27-29 at the Desmond Hotel in Albany.

The annual event draws Key Club members from around the district for

training and to elect officers for the coming year.

Above left are members of the North Shore Key Club posing with a beaver; lower left is the club's members in at-

tendance with the awards they were presented at the event.

Upper right are Key Clubbers during a general session, and at lower right are a group of attendees.

Division Raises \$2,600

On March 21 a record 95 volunteers from K-Kids, Key Clubs, Aktion and Finger Lakes Division Kiwanis Clubs joined together at our annual Miracle Mile of Donations to raise approximately \$2,600 in cash contributions from shoppers at Eastview Mall in Victor.

Combined with donations from Kiwanis Clubs, the total monies received at the event was over \$8,200. The amount will be applied to the division's goal of raising \$75K to help fund a waiting/reception area on the seventh floor of the new Golisano Children's hospital in Rochester, which will be dedicated to the Finger Lakes Kiwanis.



A Key Club at Auburn High School has been chartered with 25 members. It's the 10th Key Club in the Ontario Division. Pictured, from left, are Janet Zane, President of Auburn Kiwanis, the club's sponsor; Faculty Advisor Sarah Dautrich, Grace Traino, Lt. Gov.-Elect Henry Foresman, Key Club President Kenneth Vreeland and Ontario Division Lt. Gov. and PDG Joe Eppolito. The Kiwanis committee representative, Brandon Wakeham, was not available for the picture.



Mid-Year Features Training, Awards

The 2015 Mid-Year Conference Feb. 20-22 at the Holiday Inn in Albany was an opportunity for those attending to learn about current Kiwanis projects including the Eliminate Project, and to get certified in CPR, as well as honor many individuals, clubs and divisions for their accomplishments in the 2013-14 Kiwanis Year.

Above, left, Gov. Eric G. Paul listens as District Eliminate Project Coordinator Sister Anne-Marie Kirmse reports that the pledges from the district for Eliminate have surpassed \$1 million. She urged continued effort during the last year of the project to complete the district's goal and urged every club in the district to participate. At left, Past International President Jerry Christiano gives Past Gov. Joe Aiello his pin honoring him as a Distinguished Governor for 2013-14. Applauding at left is Gov. Eric. Above, participants in the CPR class practice. Below, District Foundation President Sal Anelli updates the opening session on foundation activities.

Information on the other awards passed out during the weekend can be found on the district web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org.



Key Club Raises \$1,400 For Autism Awareness

On Jan. 10 the North Shore Key Club completed its single service project.

This project was created to show awareness for autism and to educate people regarding this affliction. So with hoops down in the North Shore High School Gym, the North Shore Key Clubbers and our students from the North Shore High School "Life Skills Program" took the court and played basketball.

With the buddy-up teams selected, Key Clubbers paired up with the Life Skills group and we had a "slam dunk" event with smiles galore. Kiwanis Past Gov. Joe Aiello attended to show his support and presented trophies to all the Life Skill Program participants. The Roslyn Warriors Aktion Club on hand to assist.

In game two that followed, also hosted by the North Shore Key Club-

bers and Key Club President Elias Mastakouris leading the group, North Shore High students took the court with 22 teams present and a 3 on 3 tournament game was played.

The outcome of that event was \$1,400 raised in two hours for Autism Speaks.

K-Kids Support Eliminate Project

On Tuesday March 17th, St. Patrick's Day, Sister Anne-Marie Kirmse, district chair for the Eliminate Project, visited with Oceanside School 5 K-Kids Club. This club has raised in their two years of being chartered more than \$4,000 towards the Eliminate Project and are looking forward to doing more.

Both the club advisors and the K-Kids were excited to meet her and hear what she had to say about the project. The School 5 K-Kids club presented her with flowers, thank you cards and had several questions and great ideas on how to fundraise for the rest of this year.



Eliminate Project

Sister Anne-Marie Kirmse



These are exciting times for the ELiMiNaTe Campaign! We are drawing closer to our goal as we have raised \$81 million worldwide, and now only \$29 million is left to reach our goal of \$110 million. The Kiwanis world is working diligently to reach \$100 million by the end of June for the 100th year celebration.

Here in the New York District we have raised approximately \$1,150,000, thus saving over 639,000 mothers and their future babies from MNT. In addition to achieving our goal of \$1,796,314, my personal goal is to have 100 percent club participation by the International Convention in June. So far 84 percent of our clubs have participated; now the remaining clubs need to come on board. Time is of the essence!

The best way that we can reach our goal is by pledges--club and individual.

Clubs choosing to pledge to become a Bronze, Silver, or Model Club have five years from making the pledge to finish it. Clubs also receive 20 percent matching funds for the amount remaining to become a Model Club. Since the last issue of ESK, Huntington, Amherst, and North Central, Staten Island have become Model Clubs. It is time for each club to have a serious discussion about what they can do for ELiMiNaTe. It is more important than ever now for each of our clubs to pull together, work harder, and stretch a little bit more.

The Centennial Award is a surefire way to boost our club totals. A pledge of \$1,500 payable over two years will bestow a commemorative pin immediately and a shadow box presentation on the completion of the pledge. This Centennial Award will only be available until June 30, 2015. Details about this award and the Baby-A-Day Project can be found on the ELiMiNaTe portion of the Kiwanis International website, or you can contact your division coordinator, lieutenant governor or me for further details.

The Mother's Day Matching Zeller is back by popular demand! This means that a gift of \$625 will be matched by

ELIMINATE
maternal/neonatal tetanus



NY District ELiMiNaTe Funds to equal the cost of the Zeller. These matching funds come from money we have raised as a District at conventions, the Craft Fair last year, as well as the remainder of the Stanley Trust donation. As these matching funds are limited, the Mother's Day Zellers are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Another incentive for purchasing a Mother's Day Zeller this year is that this is the last time that they will be offered. So don't delay if you are interested! Information and forms will be posted on the New York District website.

A girl in the Oceanside #5 School K-Kids said it all: "My mother is healthy and every kid should have a healthy mother. So I am going to work for ELiMiNaTe so that all mothers can be healthy and have healthy babies." How simple and yet profound! Let's all imitate her generosity.

Governor Eric Joins the Fun At Minisink Valley Pancake Day

On Jan. 17, Gov. Eric G. Paul made the trip to Minisink Valley's Pancake Day. Gov. Eric jumped right in to help serve the more than 1,200 hungry attendees.

Minisink's Pancake Day started in 1959 and has been held each third Saturday in January ever since. It has become the social event of the winter for

many within the five towns that Minisink Valley Kiwanis serves.

Hot pancakes off the grill are served along with eggs made to order, homemade apple sauce, homemade sausage and locally made maple syrup.

The proceeds help with funding the high school scholarships to graduating seniors from the Minisink Valley High School.

Last year 20 \$1,000 scholarships were awarded.



Circle K Members Attend Annual Convention

The Circle K Convention took place March 20-22 at the Albany Hilton. Members elected officers for the coming year, learned about current projects, and had some fun along the way.

Attendance at the event was the largest in more than 30 years. Circle K Governor Renee Girard and her board had a fantastic year, with membership nearing 1,200, and with large increases in reported service hours, and a renewed spirit among our Circle K Clubs in New York.



Above, a group of Circle K members.



Working with supplies they were given, the Circle K members had to create costumes during an activity Friday evening. See one of the entries above and one below.



The former New York District Circle K Governors who were in attendance posed for this picture.



Pictured are all the Circle K members at the convention who are former Key Club members.



KPTC North Shore

DPG Joseph Corace



I was honored to be in the presence of so many Kiwanians and friends of the KPTC when we gathered Jan. 17 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Kiwanis International! Over 100 Kiwanians, accompanied by family and friends, joined the KPTC at Lindenhurst's Chateau La Mer to mark the donation of \$100,000 to the Cohen Children's

Medical Center.

While celebrating an idea born in Detroit a bit over 100 years ago, those present also gave thanks for the efforts of other Kiwanians, friends, sponsors, and families for their support of the KPTC at Cohen's Children Medical Center. It is truly amazing what a dedicated group of volunteers can accomplish when motivated to help others; many of whom are not in a position to help themselves.

KPTC would not be able to execute our mission without our volunteers. Funds raised by various fundraising endeavors by Kiwanis Clubs, Key Clubs, Circle K, K-Kids, Builders Clubs, KPTC Foundation, the Joey Foundation, along with the "KPTC Pediatric Kit" and "Fel-

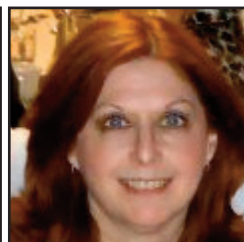
lowship" programs have made our efforts possible, fruitful, helpful, and beneficial to all of the beneficiaries of the KPTC.

As president of the KPTC, I remain not only thankful for the years of confidence so many have placed in me, but thankful too for the efforts of one and all.

It is your efforts which deserve to be celebrated in this Centennial year. It is your efforts to help others that have seen such success to date. It will remain our joint efforts into the future which will see even more success as we help the Children of the World, and do so through our shared efforts on behalf of the KPTC at Cohen's Children Medical Center!

Aktion Club

Debra Rothman



One of the fastest growing Service Leadership Programs in Kiwanis is the Aktion Club.

In 2006 when I became the Aktion Club administrator for the New York District we had nine clubs. Nine years later we have soared to 35 clubs and just short of 800 members. The district has participated in the International contests and has won the top spots in the scrapbook contest, the speech con-

test (twice), and the single service project just this past year. Congratulations to the Brighton Aktion Club on that honor.

Our clubs are extremely active in their fundraising for the Eliminate Project, as well as local causes, and we are just as busy with our service projects.

The East Meadow Aktion Club made bookmarks for the NUMC Kiwanis Club Reach Out and Read Program, made a banner for Lyme Disease Awareness Week and participated in a food drive.

The Holland Aktion Club worked on a fish fry to help raise money for a local Boys and Girls Club. They will be working on crafts and baked goods for the yearly Tulip Festival.

The West Hempstead Court Aktion Club will be assembling potted plants

for Earth Day.

Lifetime Assistance Aktion Club has organized a food drive in conjunction with the Brockport Kiwanis and the Brockport Food Pantry.

Members of the FEC/HRW Aktion Club along with members of a Bone Marrow Team, educated the public about bone marrow transplants and encouraged individuals to sign up to donate.

The Jamestown Aktion Club assembled hot chocolate and marshmallow packages to be distributed to the local Meals on Wheels.

Photos of many of these activities can be found on the NY District Aktion Clubs page on Facebook. Please like us and share us with your members and contact me if you have any questions about sponsoring an Aktion Club.

More than 100 Compete in Winter Sports Challenge

More than 100 people participated in the 15th Annual Central Adirondack Kiwanis Club Winter Sports Challenge in Old Forge Feb. 14.

The event was a part of the Old Forge Winter Carnival. The proceeds, estimated at over \$7,000 will be used to fund continuing Central Adirondack Kiwanis children's projects.

The top fundraising team was Town of Webb School Teachers Association, second was Town of Webb School Key Club. The awards will be presented April 27.

The cooperation of Town of Webb Supervisor Ted Riehle, Steve Uzdavinis and his staff at McCauley Mountain is greatly appreciated. In-Kind Sponsors were Nannette Shovea-Burke of Mountainman Outdoor Supply, and Last Run Café who are all recognized for their support in the success of this important community event.



The McCauley Snowshoe Classic was a 6 km distance through well groomed cross country trails and single track forest. Race Director Bill Baumann stated "This snowshoe race was a very professional race on a course utilizing the McCauley Mountain Cross Country trails as a backdrop for one of the most beautiful snowshoe race courses in NY. The course began at the start of the Cross

Country Ski trail network on groomed trails continued onto multiuse wooded trails onto single track forested hills. The course climbed past the historic 1939 era derelict equipment on Maple Ridge testing fitness levels as well as giving panoramic views of Old Forge and McCauley ski area. The middle of the race is on rolling trails through the forest finishing near the start on the wide groomed avenue".

New York District Kiwanis Foundation

District
Foundation

Sal Anelli



It's spring time, at least I hope it is by the time you get to read this because as I sit here writing this article it is still in the low 30's out my window. None the less it is spring on the calendar and we have to act accordingly, that means that preparation are on the way to get the Kamp cleaned up and ready for the Kamping season.

To that end, let me tell you about May 14th, 15th and 16th which is our Kamp opening weekend. That's when you, New York District Kiwanian, can plan to come up, put on you work clothes and help us get "YOUR" Kamp ready for June when we start getting the first Kampers.

You may have noticed that I emphasized the word "YOUR" because I still think that there are many of you that don't realize that the Kamp is owned by the New York District Kiwanis Foundation and you, as a member in good standing of New York District Kiwanis, are

automatically a member of the Foundation, that makes you part owner.

Now that I have cleared that up, if you, do own a house, a car, an apartment or anything else of substance, you know that it needs to be maintained, well so does Kamp Kiwanis, and since you're one of the owners, you must come up and help maintain it, (Oh the power of deduction).

This was a very harsh winter and many things at the Kamp need repairing, if you decide to come up and help us, we can use you. You don't have to be a skilled craftsman. If you are, we'll direct you to tasks that are your strong suit, otherwise we'll just use your talents of painting, raking, cleaning and anything else that you can do.

I told you last year we were very happy that the organization "Lifestyles for the Disabled" came up to our Kamp for two weeks after the children's Kamping season, this was a great help to us and it was a great experience for them. We were able to keep some of our staff the extra two weeks and along with our executive director and assistant director we were able to provide them an experience that they are still talking about. Rebecca, Luke and the staff of counselors provided two weeks of great memories for those individuals.

2015 Kamp Kiwanis Schedule

Adult Week 1	June 21-26
Adult Week 2	June 28-July3
Child Week 1	July 5-11
Child Week 2	July 12-18
Child Week 3	July 19-25
Child Week 4	July 26-Aug. 1
Child Week 5	Aug. 2-8
Child Week 6	Aug 9-15

Well it seems that this organization was so impressed that they have decided that they will do it again. We are thrilled that they have chosen to come back and give those individuals more great memories, after all that's our motto, "Kamp Kiwanis, Where Memories Are Made".

All of us at the New York District Kiwanis Foundation want to thank all of the clubs and individuals that helped send all those children to our Kamp and we certainly hope that you repeat or exceed what you did last year. Have a great Easter or Passover and spring.

See you at Kamp.

Ticonderoga Kiwanis Creates a New Signature Project

On Friday mornings in Upstate New York, a dedicated cadre of Kiwanis volunteers meets to distribute backpacks filled with nutritious foods for needy children from low-income families.

Many of these backpacks are delivered to the children's classrooms for them to pick up on their way to the bus at dismissal time while others are delivered to other school buildings.

These children-in-need are excited to receive their backpacks full of food. "Oh goodie, it's our backpacks! They're here," said one young student.

In 2012, Ticonderoga Kiwanis took a serious look at the problems affecting local children. What it found was alarming! Nearly 28 percent of local school-aged children live in households struggling on incomes below the federal poverty level.

Most of these kids receive a major portion of their nutrition from the free breakfasts and lunches they receive at school, Monday to Friday.

The Ticonderoga Area BackPack Program is designed to meet the needs of these hungry local school children on weekends.

The program provides backpacks filled with food for every weekend during the

school year that is nutritious, shelf stable, and easily prepared and consumed. Kiwanis partners with the local school districts in this effort.

School staff who know the children, their issues, and their backgrounds select the children to participate in the program. They also contact the children's parents to explain the program and ensure that the parents are on board with their children participating in the program.

Kiwanis is responsible for the raising funds for the program and coordinating the volunteer efforts.

Numerous studies document that children who suffer from under-nutrition tend to have more health problems, have poor attendance at school, have more behavior issues, and have poor academic performance.

But how to tackle such a big issue? Ticonderoga was fortunate to identify the Regional Food Bank of NE NY and its established backpack program. The Regional Food Bank plans the menus, orders the food and delivers it twice-a-month, and uses its tremendous purchasing power to provide the food at 25 percent of retail cost.

Kiwanis International Foundation

provided very generous early support for the program which has enabled it to serve more needy children. An initial grant of \$7,515 fueled the program's expansion in the 2013-14 school year. From only one school in the program and 45 kids at the end of the prior school year, with the Foundation's support, the program expanded to four local schools and 120 children.

Kiwanis International Foundation continued its generous support of the program with a second \$7,515 grant for the 2014-15 school year. With this support, the program today includes five local schools and 170 children. At this level, the annual cost for the food from the Regional Food Bank is \$28,500.

It is important to note that this project continues every weekend throughout the school year. Kiwanis volunteers team up to accept the twice-a-month food deliveries and organize the food storage room in preparation for the weekly stuffing of the backpacks.

At its present level of 170 kids, the volunteers will fill over 5,200 backpacks per year -- the equivalent of 32,000 meals!



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East Meadow K-Family Serves Breakfast

On Sunday, March 8th, East Meadow Kiwanis Club Members along with K-Kids, Builders Clubbers, Key Clubbers and Aktion Clubbers, had their Annual Pancake Breakfast at East Meadow High School. Service Leadership Program members served the more than 250 people who attended.

This year a special guest, Camren Bicondova, who plays Selina Kyle (aka Kat) on TV's hit series Gotham, attended the breakfast.

Camren not only came to sign autographs and take pictures, but she also helped serve pancakes. Camren, her mother and her aunt, went out of their way to be very gracious and caring to all in attendance. In addition, Camren was named an honorary member of the East Meadow High School Key Club.

Following the breakfast Camren tweeted "Pancakes with Catwoman". Seriously though, it was a pleasure to be there. Everyone was so nice. Be sure to support your local <http://kiwanis.org> club!

Other honored guests and Kiwanis clubs attended the annual pancake breakfast including Merrick, West

Hempstead, NUMC, Levittown, Bellmore and Farmingdale.

Profit from the event goes to the East Meadow Kiwanis Foundation which supports scholarships for graduating

high school seniors, sending kids to Kamp Kiwanis, supports the Eliminate Project and the many other community and service projects of the East Meadow Kiwanis Club.



Bowling Green K-Kids President Sophia Passariello serves pancakes with TV's Gotham Actress Camren Bicondova (aka Selina Kyle or Catwoman)