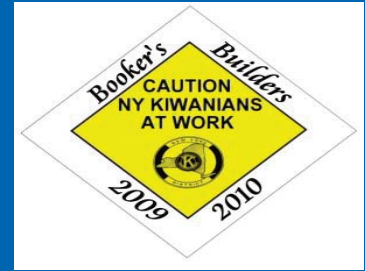


Empire State
Kiwanian
New York



December 2009, Volume 09-10, No. 1

New York District Kiwanis Foundation

International President to Highlight 2009-10 Mid-Year Conference

Club Excellence Summit will be Saturday, March 6, 2010

Habits of Success and Membership Growth

Kiwanis International is an organization that began almost 100 years ago and today provides global service to enrich and enhance the lives of children.

In order to provide dynamic service to the Children of the World, it is necessary for Kiwanis Clubs throughout the New York District to have continuous growth in membership.

Therefore, the Leadership of the New York District of Kiwanis International has arranged to have a Club Excellence and Membership Growth Summit as the major element of our 2010 Mid-Year Conference, which will be held on Saturday, March 6, 2010, at Honor's Haven Resort and Spa in Ellenville, New York.

Governor David and the entire Leadership Team are extremely pleased to announce that Kiwanis International President Paul G. Palazzolo will be attending and presenting the Club Excellence and Growth Summit along with a member of the International Office



**International President
Paul Palazzolo**

Staff.

President Paul served as Governor of the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District of Key Club International during his high school years. He served as District Secretary and as the 1994-95 Illinois-Eastern Iowa District Governor. He has served more than 10 years on the Key Club District Committee for his district.

Paul has also served as a member and Chair of many Kiwanis International committees. He was involved in the initial development of the Key Leader Program. In 2004 at the Kiwanis International Convention in St. Louis, MO, Paul was elected to the Kiwanis International Board of Trustees. And, at the 2007 Kiwanis International Convention in San Antonio, TX, Paul was elected as Vice President of Kiwanis International and is currently serving as the 2009-10 Kiwanis

It will be a "how to" type program that will be both fast moving and interesting and will include all areas of membership growth

International President. The New York District is honored to have Paul visit our District and present a program called "Habits of Success" that will stress membership growth, club operations and the opening of new Kiwanis Family Clubs.

The Club Excellence Summit will begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday March 6, 2010. Paul and a Kiwanis International Staff member will present a "how to" type program that will be both fast moving and interesting and will include all areas of membership growth and related matters.

Paul will present ideas that have worked throughout the Kiwanis World, which will be of great use to your club in this vital area.

You have the promise of Governor David that your club members will be better-educated and motivated Kiwanis members by attending this Growth Summit. Above all, you will receive training from experts in the vital area of Membership Growth.

Governor David and the entire District Leadership Team look forward to seeing a large and enthusiastic from your club in Ellenville, NY on Saturday, March 6, 2010.

Mid-Year Details

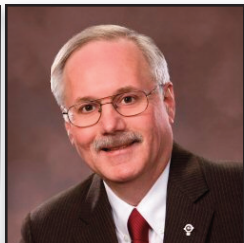
The Mid-Year conference will be March 5-7, 2010, at Honor's Haven Resort, Ellenville.

A video invitation from International President Paul Palazzolo can be viewed on the district web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org.

More information on the conference schedule and the program book also is available on the web site.

**District
Governor**

**David
Booker**



I hope that all the members of the District are as excited as I am about the start of our new Kiwanis Year! This promises to be a very dynamic and upbeat year for us all.

As you may have noticed our District Board has moved forward with some changes in the ESK and the District's web site. Rather than having these two very important means of communication with the membership operating independently the decision was made to combine the positions of Webmaster and ESK Editor. At the same time the web site has been overhauled and expanded - all the clubs are encouraged to forward any pictures and articles for inclusion on the web site. The result will be an always changing source of information about the events around the District while the printed ESK can then be a source of information on upcoming District events and general information. Be sure to read Marty Toombs' article

in this ESK about this change.

The International Convention is going to be in Las Vegas; Colin Powell will be the featured speaker at the opening session and as if that weren't enough our own Tom DeJulio is a candidate for International Vice President. If you have attended an International Convention when the District has had a strong candidate you know just how great a time it can be - be sure to read DPG Peter Mancuso's article for more.

The Mid-Year Conference promises to be one to remember. Two very dynamic forward looking International leaders have offered the assistance at the conference. It is always an honor to have the International President visit a district but President Paul Palazzolo is coming not for an "Official International President's Visit" but to roll up his sleeves and work with us. Our International Trustee/Counselor, Stew Ross, has rearranged his schedule so that he too can attend the conference. At the Albany Convention, Stew offered a forum on "Kiwanis Magic" which was very well received (he promises to have more of the "rabbit in the hat - 'Kiwanis Magic'" pins). The knowledge, experiences and insights of these two men when combined with the expertise of the "Two Joes" (the District's New Club Building and Membership Growth Chairs, Joe Eppolito and Joe Weiss)

should leave no one uninspired or unmotivated to "Take Their Club From Good To Great!" See the articles on the front page and by Secretary/Treasurer Ann for more information about this event. And do plan to attend.

Don't overlook any of the information in this issue.

I have to add that, for me personally, the start of the year has exceeded my expectations. The K Family Weekend was a great experience. To watch the members of the three NYD K-Family Boards interacting and working together was inspiring and I know new friendships were formed at all levels. I am looking forward to all future visits to the District's clubs and divisions. If those that I have completed are any indication I will have a most enjoyable time meeting new friends and learning firsthand about the great works being done by our Kiwanians in New York.

Lastly I must thank you, the Kiwanians of the New York District, for the individuals you have chosen to serve on the District Board this year. I can not envision working with any group of Lieutenant Governors, District Chairs or Officers that would be more motivated by the spirit of Kiwanis as they serve the New York District. I hope to see many of you in March at the Mid-Year Conference if not before.

**District
Secretary**

**Ann
Sewert**



Plans are under way for our Mid-Year Conference scheduled for March 5-7, 2010, at Honor's Haven Resort and Spa, in Ellenville, New York.

The focus of our Conference will be on Membership, club and member recognition and how to create a better Kiwanis experience for everyone.

Activities begin on Friday afternoon with a Club Leadership Training session for Presidents and Secretaries, and our New York District Board Meeting. Friday evening is our Sponsored Youth Dinner, followed by "Opening Session" where we'll hear from our Service Leadership Programs Leaders.

Saturday morning will be dedicated to our "Club Excellence Summit", presented by Paul Palazzolo, our Kiwanis International President. Paul and members of the Kiwanis International Staff will address "What Your Members Want to Know", in a fast paced interac-

tive forum. It's a forum you won't want to miss. After lunch, Membership Chair Joe Weiss will tell you how to get your club "Guest Ready" and New Club Building Chair Joe Eppolito will share his secrets on how to build a new club.

Mid-afternoon, you will have an opportunity to "Ask the Experts" specific questions about your club, during a Question and Answer Forum with International President Paul, International Trustee Stewart Ross, Kiwanis International Staff member Lanton Lee, Membership Growth Chair Joe Weiss and New Club Builder Joe Eppolito.

Late afternoon we will hear from "Team Tom", Tom DeJulio and his team will share their plans for Las Vegas, the importance of registering early and sending a full delegation from your club.

Saturday evening, we will honor Immediate Past Governor Doreen Pellitieri, First Gentleman Peter and their team of Lieutenant Governors, for their dedication to the New York District.

Throughout the weekend you can purchase tickets for our Annual Basket Raffle. Carole Anelli and her committee will collect items from the "Kamp Wish List". (The Wish list can be found on the New York District web site at www.kiwanis-ny.org.) Governor Elect Mike Malark will be collecting items for Disaster Relief. A list of Disaster Relief items can be found on our district web site.

The 2010 Mid-Year Conference will be full of fun, fellowship, celebrations and sharing. Be sure to make your reservations early as we are expecting many Kiwanians to attend..

Rooms will be available on a first come, first serve basis, so register early. Mail or fax your registration to Honor's Haven Resort and Spa, Att: Kiwanis Desk, 1195 Arrowhead Rd., Ellenville, New York 12428. Fax: (845) 210-1612. Our conference will end with breakfast on Sunday morning. Hope to see you all in Ellenville.

**The Empire State
Kiwanian**

**Official Publication of
the New York District
Kiwanis Foundation Inc.**

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ESK

% Martin Toombs

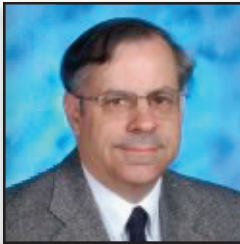
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**ESK Editor
Webmaster**

**Marty
Toombs**



This issue of the Empire State Kiwanian looks different than what you have been accustomed to seeing, but it marks a change in more than appearance.

Over the years printing and postage costs have increased even as more and more Kiwanians have gotten access to the Internet, which is seen by the fact that traffic on the district web site is now 10 times greater than it was eight years ago.

During the past few months, district officials have taken a new look at the way the district was communicating with its members and have decided it's time to update how that is being done.

Under the new plan, the Empire State Kiwanian will continue as the print publication for District Kiwanians, as part of a coordinated communications effort that calls for increased use of the district's web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org. With the appointment of a single person as ESK Editor and Webmaster, the intent is to make the best possible use of both the ESK and the web site, taking advantage of the strengths of each.

Publication deadlines and space limitations are always a factor for any print

publication. Often items don't get the attention they are due because of timing issues, and cost issues prevent print publications from growing to accommodate the volume of information that might be available.

Those issues don't apply to a web site, which can be updated continually and has no space limitations. Web sites also can include other media, such as videos.

This new plan means that many items of division and club news that previously had to wait until the next issue of the ESK for publication can now be published quickly on the web site, and without the space restrictions of a print publication. The changes in the web site needed to accommodate the club and division news were implemented Oct. 1. During October and November, 44 news items were published. Included are Hixson award presentations, club service projects, K-Kids and Circle K projects, and honors received. Many items feature multiple pictures from the events.

The latest news items are featured on the site's front page, and those that have been posted remain available and can be searched by club name and in other ways.

While the web site has those advantages, this printed publication has advantages as well. It arrives in the mailbox of every district Kiwanian without requiring them to remember to look at the web site, and provides a source of information which does not require a computer. The ESK remains a key part of the district's communica-

tions plan.

In its new role, the ESK will focus on upcoming Kiwanis events in the New York District and in Kiwanis International. This issue features information about the upcoming Mid-Year Conference, which will include a visit from Kiwanis International President Paul Palazzolo.

The ESK focus will be on information. Items such as registration forms for district events will be posted on the district web site for easy download. These changes mean there will be fewer and smaller issues of the Empire State Kiwanian than in the past, but the total quantity of information published in the newsletter and on the web site will be much greater than ever before.

Every club in the district is welcome to be a part of the new effort by submitting information on club projects to be added to the district web site. Fund raising efforts, service projects and special awards are all welcome.

When sending news, be sure to include all the information that will be needed to explain the event to people visiting the web site. The preferred method of submission is by e-mail to webmaster@kiwanis-ny.org; e-mails will be acknowledged. Printed information and photographs can be sent to me at 84 Bridge St., Seneca Falls, NY 13148.

If you are looking for help with preparing articles or taking good pictures, that's available on the web site at www.kiwanis-ny.org/esk.htm.

Your comments are always welcome at webmaster@kiwanis-ny.org.

**Pediatric Lyme
Disease**

**PG John
Gridley**



Using antibiotics appropriately, your health care provider may effectively treat your Lyme disease. In general, the sooner you begin treatment following infection, the better. Antibiotics such as doxycycline, deferoxime axetil, or amoxicillin, taken orally for a few weeks, may speed the healing of the EM rash and may prevent subsequent symptoms such as arthritis or neurologic problems. Doxycycline also may effectively treat most other tick borne diseases. When Lyme disease occurs in children younger than 9 years, or in pregnant or breast-feeding women, they may be treated with amoxicillin, cefuroxime axetil, or penicillin because doxycycline may stain the permanent

teeth developing in young children or unborn babies.

If you have Lyme arthritis, your health care provider may treat you with oral antibiotics. If your arthritis is severe, you may be given ceftriaxone or penicillin intravenously (through a vein). To ease discomfort and to further healing, your health care provider might also give you anti-inflammatory drugs, draw fluid from your affected joints, or surgically remove the inflamed lining of those joints.

Some people with Lyme disease who go untreated for several years may be cured of their arthritis with the proper antibiotic treatment. If the disease has persisted long enough, however, it may permanently damage the structure of the joints.

If you have neurologic symptoms, your health care provider will probably treat you with the antibiotic ceftriaxone given intravenously once a day for a month or less. Health care providers usually prefer to treat people with Lyme disease who have heart symptoms with antibiotics such as ceftriax-

one or penicillin given intravenously for approximately 2 weeks.

Following treatment for Lyme disease, you might still have muscle aching, neurologic symptoms such as problems with memory and concentration, and fatigue.

NIH-sponsored researchers are conducting studies to determine the cause of these symptoms and how to best treat them. Studies suggest that people who suffer from chronic Lyme disease may be genetically predisposed to develop an autoimmune response that contributes to their symptoms.

Researchers are also conducting studies to find out the best length of time to give antibiotics for the various signs and symptoms of Lyme disease. Unfortunately, a bout with Lyme disease is no guarantee that the illness will not return. The disease can strike more than once if you are reinfected with Lyme disease bacteria.

Tri-K Weekend brings Kiwanis,



Above left, participants make beaded bracelets; above right, a group puts 14 Kiwanis events into chronological order; bottom left, Key Club Gov. Allen Yu addressing the Key Club Board; lower right, Past Gov. Thomas DeJulio.



Key Clubs and Circle K Together

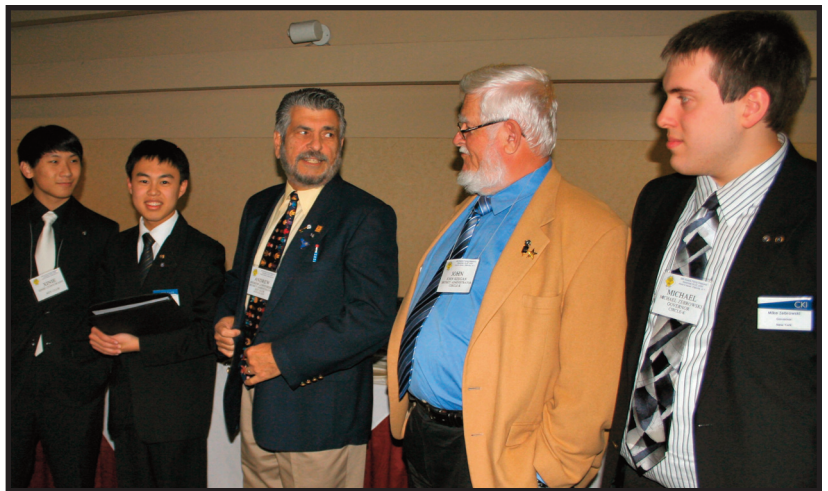


The annual Tri-K Weekend took place Nov. 20-22 at Honor's Haven in Ellenville. The event brings leaders of the district's Kiwanis, Circle K and Key Club organizations together for joint sessions and exercises.

Pictured at left is the Circle K participants. Center left are the three governors: Key Club Gov. Allen Yu, Kiwanis Gov. David Booker and Circle K Gov. Michael Zebrowski. Center right are Key Club International Trustee XinLei "Tony" Wang; Key Club Gov. Allen Yu; Andy Lowenberg, Key Club Administrator; John Keegan, Circle K Administrator; and Circle K Gov. Mike Zebrowski.

At bottom are "Booker's Builders", the Kiwanis Board, sporting their helmets.

Photos by Janice Seyfried



Leadership Committee

PG Peter Mancuso



At the Kiwanis International Convention in Las Vegas, from June 24-27, 2010, Past International Trustee Tom DeJulio will be running for the office of International Vice President. By winning that election, he will be assured of serving as our International President two years later.

KI is greatly in need of solid, principled leadership in these very difficult times of declining membership and financial uncertainty. There is no one better suited to provide it than Tom. His professional background, Kiwanis experience and temperament are perfectly suited to the task, and his record of Kiwanis achievements at every level of our organization is exemplary. If you would like to learn more about him and what he brings to Kiwanis, please go to our campaign website, www.tomdejulio-forvp.com.

Our goal is to have 600 members of our district at the Las Vegas convention, 400 of whom will need to be voting club delegates. These delegates will join with many others expected to support Tom from districts throughout the Kiwanis world.

Las Vegas

Las Vegas is a fantastic place for a vacation, and a very family friendly one at that. In addition to the gambling and entertainment for which it is famous, there are many museums, botanical gardens, nature tours and attractions

Convention Headliner: Colin Powell

American statesman Colin Powell will speak at the Opening Session of the 95th Annual Kiwanis International Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada, June 24-27, 2010. Powell served as United States Secretary of State from 2001 to 2005.

And Jerry Mathers, an American actor known to many as "Beaver" on television's *Leave it to Beaver*, will be the Keynote Speaker for the Kiwanis Breakfast on Saturday.

Mathers, a former Key Club member, will speak about his years in television and his memories of Key Club.

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outside of the immediate area for the entire family. To learn more, check out the Las Vegas Convention promotional video on the Kiwanis International website (www.kiwanis.org). Just click the convention tab and follow the instructions. And if you're looking for even more information about tourist attractions in Las Vegas, an excellent source of information is the visitor's guide from the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority that can be downloaded from its website, www.visitlasvegas.com. Just click on to the request for the guide at the bottom of the screen and follow the instructions.

The International Convention Experience

If you have never been to an International Convention, it's a wonderful experience at which camaraderie is shared by thousands of Kiwanians and their families from all over the world. Our delegates there will reach decisions affecting Kiwanis for decades to come. The workshops and programs will offer the best ideas on membership growth and retention, fund raising and community service projects. You will also be there as history is made with the expected launching our next Worldwide Service Project. And there is nothing like an International Convention to boost your enthusiasm for Kiwanis service and fellowship when you get home.

Early Registration a Must

The Kiwanis registration form for the convention is now on line, and can be accessed from <http://www.kiwanis-ny.org/referic.htm>.

It is terribly important that we have a strong early registration from our district, and thus far, we're off to a good start. As of mid-November, 76 members and guests from our district had already

registered for the convention. These early attendance figures will be watched carefully throughout the Kiwanis world as a sign of the depth of the support that Tom enjoys in his home district. In any event, you'll certainly want to register before January 31, 2010, when the registration fee jumps from \$195, which it was in Nashville, to \$250.

Air Travel - Staying for the Vote

Air fares from most New York area airports to Las Vegas are now running between \$190 and \$230 round trip. When the time comes to book your travel, please plan to stay for the entire convention. The election is scheduled for Friday, June 25, but please don't schedule yourself to fly home any time that day. Believe it or not, we have lost races in the past because members scheduled their flight home before the vote in a runoff election actually took place. In this case, we not only want to make sure that "What Happens in Vegas Stays in Vegas", but we want to make sure that all of us stay in Vegas too until it happens.

Outreach

If you have friends who are Kiwanians in other districts, perhaps ones who have moved elsewhere because of work or retirement, we ask you to reach out to them to share our enthusiasm for Tom's campaign and ask for their support. This would be very helpful to our efforts and much appreciated. And again, it would send a powerful message as to the support that Tom has in our own district.

Thank you again for all that you will be doing over the coming months to support Tom's campaign and see to it that the New York District's convention attendance in Las Vegas is our best ever.

Clubs must file new IRS forms

Beginning in 2008, some organizations in the United States that were not required to file tax returns with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) - including Kiwanis clubs - got a new filing requirement: the new electronic postcard Form 990-N.

Small, tax-exempt organizations whose gross receipts normally are \$25,000 or less are not required to file IRS forms 990 or 990-EZ. But the Pension Protection Act of 2006 requires these organizations to file the new electronic form annually. Failure to file for three consecutive years could result in revocation of the organization's tax-exempt status.

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 ad-

dress (if applicable), employer identification number (EIN), annual tax period date, and a statement that annual gross receipts are still normally \$25,000 or less. Because Kiwanis International operates on a Oct. 1-Sept. 30 fiscal year, filing will be for the tax period that began Oct. 1, 2008 and ended Sept. 30, 2009, with a filing due date of Feb. 15, 2010.

Many Kiwanis clubs may already have received a notice from the IRS regarding this new requirement. If your club hasn't been notified, refer to the IRS Web site to see if the new ruling applies to your club.

Links to additional information can be found on the Kiwanis International website. At the home page, click on the big red members button, then Club Leader Tools, then Club Treasurer.

New York District Kiwanis Foundation

District
Foundation

Sal Anelli



As the Christmas, Hanukah, and Kwanzaa season approaches I would firstly want to wish all Kiwanians and their families a very happy and healthy holiday season. May you get everything you wish for, may you enjoy all of your family and friends, they are a valuable commodity to have, tell them so.

As I always do, I want to express my gratitude to all of you who have done so much for the Kamp, I hope you never stop. The 2010 season will be upon us before you know it and I hope that your club had the Kamp in mind when you drew up your budget. We had a good season last year, however it has to be better in 2010.

We have kept the Kampership price the same, but we will be once again be asking you to get on board with the "One More Kamper" program, I certainly hope that you can help with it.

Happy holidays to the New York District of Kiwanis.

Kamp Kiwanis Preparing for 2010

The cost for Kamp Kiwanis will remain at \$425 for tuition and \$100 for transportation in 2010, the third year in a row at those rates

The cost for adult kampers will rise to \$700; the transportation is an additional \$150.

The fourth annual Kamp Kiwanis Baby Shower will take place at the Mid-Year Conference; it is featuring a cereal drive this year.

The kamp also has an "Add a Kamper" program called "Summer Scoops".

Clubs will receive an initial cone patch for adding a kamper and an ice cream scoop patch for adding a kamper each year.

The 2010 Kamp Open House work weekend starts on Thursday, May 13; the open house will be on Saturday, May 15.

More information on the 2010 Kamping season will be available soon on the kamp's web site, www.kamp-kiwanis.org

2010 Kamp Kiwanis Schedule

Session

Adult Week 1
Adult Week 2
Kiwanis Child Week 1
Kiwanis Child Week 2
Kiwanis Child Week 3
Kiwanis Child Week 4
Kiwanis Child Week 5
Kiwanis Child Week 6

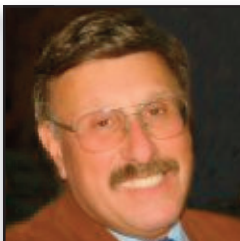
Dates

June 27 - July 2
July 4 - July 9
July 11- July 17
July 18 - July 24
July 25 - July 31
August 1 - August 7
August 8 - August 14
August 15 - August 21

Note - Kiwanis Child Week 2 and 6 are the only child weeks in which Kamp will be accepting children with any type of nut allergy.

KPTC

PG Joseph
Corace



In the past few months, Kiwanians across the district have been supporting our Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Centers through fund raising and service. Whether you helped your club purchase a trauma kit for your local fire department or ambulance corp, attended the Black & White Ball, bid in our annual auction, awarded a Kiwanian a KPTC Fellow, rocked the night away at our Doo Wop, supported a child safety program or was involved in one of the many other KPTC activities this past year, we truly appreciate your efforts.

In September the KPTC Foundation at North Shore-LIJ held its annual Black & White Ball. This highly successful fund raiser gave us the opportunity to celebrate the work of many Kiwanians through the presentations of numerous KPTC Fellows and several Diamond Level Fellows. With our re-

cent additions, our list of Diamond level Fellowship recipients has grown to six.

In addition, our KPTC Doo Wop brought out K-Family members of all ages to enjoy a night of music. In fact, our KPTC Service Leadership Committee members really got into the event by donning leather jackets and poodle skirts. The Doo Wop was truly a night of great music enjoyed by all.

We are especially excited by the increased involvement of our Key Clubs and Circle K Clubs in the KPTC mission. The expansion of the KPTC Key Club Committee into the KPTC Service Leadership Committee has strengthened our partnership with these branches of the K-Family and allowed us to get the message of child safety out into local communities even more effectively.

Our KPTC Service Leadership Committee Co-Chairs Key Club-Division 6 LTG Chris Severance and Circle K - Long Island Division LTG Rickie Santer have expanded the committee's partnership with the NYS Safe Kids Coalition. Through this expanded partnership, 18 Circle K members were trained by professional health educators to train Key Clubbers to run Safe Kids workshops in their local schools and communities.

These Circle K'ers trained 13 additional Circle K'ers and 69 Key Clubbers in an interactive format that included not only safety content but also lesson design and teach-backs for quality assurance.

The KPTC year ended with our Annual Meeting, during which EMT-D.I.T. Associate Director Ro Ennis reported on KPTC's positive impact on the hospital as well our support for the Safe Kids program. She was followed by LTGs Chris and Rickie who reported on the work of our KPTC Service Leadership Committee and did a demonstration of a Safe Kids training workshop. After a trauma kit presentation, the Foundation Board presented a check for \$30,000 to the hospital to continue our support of the trauma center and its educational programs. Lastly, elections were held for our 2010 Foundation Directors. Newly elected as Directors were Thomas Destio and Rich Santer.

Once again, thank you to all of you who have supported your area KPTC and best wishes for a happy holiday season and a healthy new year.

Membership Growth

Joe Weiss



Many of us give our all for Kiwanis and each of us gives in the best way that we can. Our giving is in many directions. We give money, we give time, and we give ideas. We give so much that Kiwanis makes an incredible contribution to our communities and to the world.

I am proud to be a part of this incredible organization, and have been captivated by the attitudes of our outstanding membership as I have traveled through the state in my last two years as a District Chairperson.

We fund raise our hearts out and then we give our money and labors throughout our communities. We give until it hurts and then still wonder how we can give more. We spend hours helping in the community without thought of personal gain. Yet, many of us are missing our most important role in Kiwanis.

A longer version of this article with additional information is available on the district web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org.

To define this role, I would like to first review the three missions of being a Kiwanian (in my opinion). First, we must fund raise to have a foundation of money to give out in our community. Secondly, we must find ways to help in our community with both collected monies and our labors, looking for appropriate causes for our dollars and our work. Finally, the third mission is that we must develop our clubs in strength and size.

This third responsibility of being a Kiwanian is often overlooked and frequently under done. A seriously missing piece, the mission of helping our clubs to grow. A club that is not continuously adding membership each year becomes less and less effective and reduces its ability to help in the community.

A club that is growing continuously increases its ability to be of assistance in the community. This basic fact may not be surprising to most but there is more to the story. A club that stops growing begins a slow death as its members become fewer and older.

Simply put, a growing club will do more in the community and will be around for a longer time. A stagnant or declining club will ultimately get so small that it either dies or substantially loses its ability to support its community. Sometimes, members even exacerbate the problem by unconsciously trying to keep the club at "status quo" without re-

alizing that they are causing their club to become "status dying". Do we really want to kill our clubs in order to keep them the way they used to be? Of course not.

What can you do? First, of course, you must be sure that your club is vibrant and interesting; a club that others would want to join. This requires that a club has fun and that its members feel valued. Additional emphasis should be placed on welcoming and monitoring new members (and guests) for the first year, as this is the year that we lose most members.

Then comes the third mission, perhaps the most important task in today's volunteer world: making the time, spending the time, and finding many ways to bring in new members. The most important single thing that we can do to accomplish this is to run club or divisional roundups twice a year.

A roundup is a meeting in which members commit to bringing a qualified guest to an interesting meeting at which they can hear all about Kiwanis and its accomplishments and needs.

Call me at 631-647-3712 or email me at joeweiss@optonline.net and we will find a way to start the process for you immediately. I am part of a team of dedicated Kiwanians that stand ready to help the clubs in the New York District develop a growth plan.

**Empire State Kiwanian
New York District Kiwanis Foundation
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Newark, NY 14513**

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