

December 2007

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# MINNEKOTAN

Published by Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

## We Serve

Throughout our District we are seeing our first snowfalls. What a beautiful sight to see on a quiet night.

December is one of the busiest months for Kiwanians in our District as we perform service to our communities. As we all continue to give and to serve let's remember the joys we experience during this fantastic month of giving. We ring the bells for donations; pack baskets of food for the needy; sign at our local nursing homes; collect and distribute toys; donate coats, gloves and boots; serve a hot meal on a cold day to the needy. These are just a few of the many ways we give to our communities.



Just think how many hours we can add to the thousands of hours we give by adding new members to our clubs. We need to keep our eyes on the goal of developing new members. Imagine if we could create three or more new clubs in the District how many hours we could give.

Merry Christmas to everyone.

Bill Daugherty, District Kiwanis Governor

## Update from the Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer - December 2007

By Steve Handegaard, Minnesota-Dakotas District Secretary/Treasurer

Greetings! The holiday season is upon us and it is a great time to get involved in Kiwanis service and help others in your community! My wife Laura and I wish all of you and your families a very happy holiday season.



**Governor Elect Candidates:** If you are interested in running for Governor Elect for 2008-2009, please submit a picture and a short biographical sketch not to exceed 600 words, along with an endorsement from your home club, to the District Kiwanis Office, P.O. Box 735, Dalton, MN 56324 **no later than February 15, 2008**. Your information must be received by that date to be published in the March Minnekotan. Candidates can announce their intention to run at a later date, but will not be able to have an article in the MINNEKOTAN or district website. Governor Elect candidates must be a Past Lt. Governor. The election will take place at the District Convention in Moorhead next August. A complete list of rules and regulations for District Office Campaigns can be obtained from the District Office.

**Leadership opportunities:** If you are interested in being a future District Lt. Governor, Regional or District Chairperson, etc., please contact your Lt. Governor, other officer or myself. Each year the district is in need of interested and dedicated leaders. It can be a very interesting, rewarding and educational experience.

**Club Donations to Outreach:** Special thanks to all of the clubs that contributed to the Outreach

Program during 06-07. We look forward to seeing your contribution again in 07-08. Most Kiwanis clubs include this as an annual budget item. Dollars given to the Outreach Program are used by Key Club and Circle K District Boards to build new Key and Circle K clubs, to attend Kiwanis District Conventions and Kiwanis special meetings, and to acquire needed supplies and equipment. Our Circle K and Key Club District Boards are very busy and active. They need our financial support. Checks can be made payable to Kiwanis Outreach and mailed to me at the District Office.

**Club Liability Information:** All club secretaries should have received or will receive shortly a packet of information from Kiwanis International entitled, "General Liability 2007-2008 Risk Management Packet". The packet contains information about your club liability insurance and risk management techniques. Be sure that your members are aware of what kinds of activities are covered by the insurance and what is not covered.

**Another Reminder - Receive Monthly MINNEKOTAN via email:** Be sure to subscribe to receive the MINNEKOTAN directly to your email address. It is easy to do. Just go to the District Website and find the box that says "Sign Up to Receive News from Kiwanis". All you need to do is enter your email address and indicate which region you are from.

**Online Monthly Club Reporting:** Since our online reporting is so very important, I would like to once again review the process for the 07-08 year. Your club should be submitting your monthly club report online by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the following month. Your Lt. Governors, District Officers, District Office and Kiwanis International are able to view your reports without you having to send any additional emails or hard copies. For the few clubs that have not used the online reporting system, it is important that you begin filing your reports online. Among other things the online monthly reports will be the official basis for selecting the Distinguished Club Awards for 07-08. If you have any questions, please give me a call or send me an email.

**Tri-K District Board Meeting:** Kiwanis, Circle K, and Key Club District Boards will meet in Fergus Falls, MN on Friday, January 18 and Saturday, January 19, 2008. Check out some of our other District event dates on the District Website ----- <http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/story.php?articleid=628>

Thanks again for all your great work in Kiwanis!

Steve

**Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office Contact Information:**

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P.O. Box 735  
Dalton, MN 56324-0735

Phone: 218-589-7581

Fax: 218-589-7582

Email: [secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org](mailto:secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org)

**This-and-That by District Governor Elect Bill Lardy**

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## KIWANIS: A GIFT TO YOUR COMMUNITY

An article in the November issue of the Region 6 newsletter states that membership in the Minnesota Dakotas District and Region 6 is falling. Indeed membership is falling throughout all of Kiwanis International. The thrust of that article, however, is to identify what can be done to slow that decline and maybe even reverse it.

In the November Minnekotan District Secretary Steve Handegaard states that throughout the past 12 months over \$700,000 was spent by District Kiwanis clubs on over 3,200 service projects providing 120,000 service hours. These are tremendous gifts to Minnesota Dakotas communities.

### District Clubs:

- Support a Key Club or Circle K Club, a Builders Club or K Kids Club
- Support the BUG program
- Award scholarships to deserving students
- Conduct Reading is Fundamental programs
- Hold After Prom Parties

The list could go on. The point is these projects are significant gifts to each community.

Kiwanians need to feel good about the impact we have and the good our clubs do. We should feel so good about the value we bring to our communities that we willing share those feelings with others who want to give back to our communities. Share Our Story. Spread it throughout the community. Share it so others will understand the value of membership and want to join and add to what Kiwanis is doing.

My wife Dixie and I send our very warmest greetings for this holiday season. We look forward to those times when we can greet you in person.

## 2008 District Convention planning is underway.

Your District Convention directors, Pat and Larry Rittgarn have been busy with early planning of the 2008 District Kiwanis Convention which will be held at the Marriott Hotel, in Moorhead, Minnesota on August 8-9-10, 2008.

The early inspection of the convention center has given Pat and Larry a good idea of the types of workshops and general sessions that will be possible.

The convention will again be one of exciting workshops as well as very informative general sessions.

Kiwanis business and family activities will be the center of the attractions, so begin now to plan your trip to Moorhead, Minnesota in early August of 2008.



## Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District Outreach Program

Annually, a Kiwanis club which sponsors a Key Club or Circle K Club provides an estimated \$500 to \$2000 – and sometimes more – to support the activities of that club. This money supplements club

dues, provides scholarship assistance to District Conventions and defrays transportation expenses to these conventions.

The Outreach Program allows Kiwanis Clubs which do not sponsor a Key Club or Circle K Club to aid these Sponsored Youth Programs at the District Board level.

Clubs are encouraged to give to the Outreach Program. Gifts are divided equally between Key Club and Circle K, unless specified otherwise. Interestingly, Kiwanis Clubs which sponsor a Key Club or Circle K Club are some of the most consistent givers to the Outreach Program.

Thank you to all of the clubs that have already sent in a donation for the 2007-2008 year.

If you or your club would like to give to the Outreach Program, make a check payable to: "Minn-Dak Outreach Program" and mail to:

Steve Handegaard, District Secretary/Treasurer  
P.O. Box 735  
Dalton, MN 56324-0735

The Key Club and Circle K Members of the Minnesota-Dakotas District thank you!

## **WHAT IS THE TERRIFIC KIDS PROGRAM?**

**"TERRIFIC" IS AN ACRONYM MEANING: THOUGHTFUL-ENTHUSIASTIC-  
RESPECTFUL-RESPONSIBLE-INCLUSIVE FRIENDLY-INQUISITIVE-CAPABLE.**

TERRIFIC KIDS IS PART OF THE K-KIDS GROUP WHICH ALSO INCLUDES K-KIDS AND THE B.U.G. (BRING UP GRADES) PROGRAMS.

TERRIFIC KIDS IS A STUDENT RECOGNITION PROGRAM THAT PROMOTES CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT, SELF-ESTEEM, AND PERSEVERANCE. STUDENTS WORK WITH THEIR CLASSROOM TEACHER AND ESTABLISH GOALS TO IMPROVE BEHAVIOR, PEER RELATIONSHIPS, ATTENDANCE AND/OR SCHOOLWORK. STUDENTS THEN WORK TOWARD ACHIEVING THE GOAL DURING A SPECIFIC TIME PERIOD. THE TEACHERS AND PRINCIPAL DETERMINE THE BEST SCHEDULE FOR RECOGNITION. SOME SCHOOLS RECOGNIZE TERRIFIC KIDS DURING EACH GRADING PERIOD; OTHERS RECOGNIZE STUDENTS MORE OFTEN.

AT THE END OF THE DESIGNATED TIME PERIOD ALL STUDENTS WHO ACHIEVED THEIR GOALS ARE RECOGNIZED AS TERRIFIC KIDS. RECOGNITION INCLUDES BEING PINNED AS A TERRIFIC KID; A PIZZA, ICE CREAM, OR OTHER FOOD THEMED PARTY; AND PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES; AND OTHER GIVEAWAYS.

A SPONSORING CLUB HELPS SUPPORT THE TERRIFIC KIDS PROGRAM AT THE SCHOOL. THE CLUB PLANS TERRIFIC KIDS PARTIES, PROVIDES RECOGNITION, AND ESTABLISHES PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL COMMUNITY BUSINESSES TO SECURE SUPPORT FOR THE PROGRAM. SPONSORING BUSINESSES HAVE THE OPTION OF PROVIDING COUPONS, GIVEAWAYS, OR FOOD FOR TERRIFIC KIDS PARTIES.

THE TERRIFIC KIDS PROGRAM PROVIDES TEACHERS WITH A TOOL TO REWARD STUDENTS FOR SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS THAT MAY OTHERWISE GO UNNOTICED.

THOUGH THE TERRIFIC KIDS PROGRAM WAS DESIGNED AS A SCHOOL PROGRAM, IT ALSO CAN BE ADAPTED FOR USE IN COMMUNITY CENTERS OR OTHER ORGANIZATIONS THAT SUPPORT YOUTH. WHEN USED IN THIS SETTING, A STAFF MEMBER THEN WORKS WITH PARTICIPANTS TO SET GOALS AND MONITORS ACHIEVEMENT.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO [HAVE A PROGRAM PRESENTED TO YOUR KIWANIS CLUB](#) ON TERRIFIC KIDS, B.U.G. (BRING UP GRADES), OR K-KIDS, PLEASE CONTACT [DAWN FAIRBROTHER](#), THE MN-DAK DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR VIA E-MAIL AT [MUFFINS3@CHARTER.NET](mailto:MUFFINS3@CHARTER.NET) OR HOME TELEPHONE AT [507-451-5939](tel:507-451-5939) OR CELL PHONE AT [507-363-6766](tel:507-363-6766).

**IF YOU ARE THINKING ABOUT STARTING A TERRIFIC KIDS, B.U.G. (BRING UP GRADES), OR K-KIDS PROGRAM OR CLUB, PLEASE LET DAWN KNOW AND SHE WILL BE GLAD TO HELP YOU THROUGH THE PROCESS.**

YOU CAN ALSO GET A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE FOR IMPLEMENTING AND MANAGING A B.U.G. PROGRAM BY GOING TO THE WEBSITE AT [WWW.TERRIFICKIDS.ORG](http://WWW.TERRIFICKIDS.ORG) OR BY CALLING **1-800-KIWANIS, (1-800-549-2647) EXTENSION 390 TO ORDER.**

**THE KEY LEADER EVENT FOR NEXT YEAR IS OCTOBER 3-5 AT INSPIRATION POINT, CLITHERALL, MN**

### **K is for Kiwanis Readers**

Bob Worner, a member of the Otter Risers Kiwanis club in Fergus Falls, reads with 2nd graders in Mrs. Johnson's classroom at Adams School. Once a week, Kiwanians come to Adams to read with students in both Mrs. Johnson's and Mrs. Moore's rooms as part of a reading service project.

[http://www.fergusfalls.k12.mn.us/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=1475&Itemid=221](http://www.fergusfalls.k12.mn.us/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1475&Itemid=221)

### **International Club Builder & Past Governor to come to Region 3**

Ben Kocourek, our International Club Developer and Stewart Ross, our District Membership Director will be doing a training session on December 11th at the Applebees in Cloquet, from 6pm-9pm. It should be very informative and may give us a big step in adding new members to our clubs and maybe even help us develop a new club in the Region 3 area.

Please contact, Barb Fisher, [kiwanian2barbf@yahoo.com](mailto:kiwanian2barbf@yahoo.com) to make your reservation. Our seating is limited to about 25. I look forward to learning with you from the great Kiwanians.

## Bismarck Kiwanis Club Receives Park Award

Current Bismarck Kiwanis President, Al Jaeger, accepted a prestigious award on October 18, 2007 from the North Dakota Recreation and Parks Association. An Organization citation and a plaque was given by Steven Neu, Director of Bismarck Park and Recreation District and Randy Bina, President of the North Dakota Recreation and Parks Association.

The citation noted that the Bismarck Kiwanis Club has rendered outstanding service in the field of parks and recreation. The Bismarck Kiwanis Club has partnered with Bismarck Parks and Recreations District which has resulted in several updates to the Kiwanis Park located in south/central Bismarck.

Over the years, several projects have been completed through various fundraising and matching grant funds: picnic shelters, sand volleyball courts, sidewalk installations, restrooms, tree plantings, playground renovation, climbing rock addition (2005), Octa-Net addition (2006), and a new playground in 2007 serving 2 to 5 year-olds.

Most recently, Kiwanis has dedicated the playground in Kiwanis Park to Jack Vantine, a longtime Kiwanis member and also a longtime member of the Bismarck Parks and Recreation District Board of Park Commissioners.

For more information about the Bismarck Kiwanis Club or to ask how to become a member, please contact President Al Jaeger at 223-3017 or Secretary Brent Kleinjan at 223-2521.

## Region 4 & Region 5 Dodge Bullets, Pheasants to Meet

### East Meets West in South Dakota Kiwanis Conference

By Bill Zortman

Lt Governor 2006-2007, Region 5

Yes it was in the middle of hunting season that attracts riflemen from every corner of the country, yes it was play-off Saturday for High School football teams, and YES it was a meeting of Region 4 and Region 5 Kiwanians meeting to hear Governor's and speakers looking to help children -- one child at a time.

The date was November 3rd --- the place was Pierre ---- and while the luncheon was highlighted with a three-topping desert --- the important ingredient was looking to grow a Kiwanis culture that is challenged for the future.

Lt Governor Lyle Sonnenchien of Region 4 (Hot Springs) and Bev Werner of Region 5 (Aberdeen) pulled the strings that brought Kiwanians together. Jeff Mammenga -- 2006-2007 President of the Pierre Club set the stage with the past giving a history of the Capital Club that is now in its 86th year. The Pierre Singers led by President Brenda Forman and director Dave Bonde entertained with a pair of patriotic tunes and a song or two the 32 clubs in South Dakota might hear each week.

Governor 2007-2008 Bill Daugherty ---- favorite Kiwanis son of South Dakota -- having risen thru the ranks of loyal service from Sioux Falls and Region 5 --- delivered a message with "tears" that left many of us in South Dakota knowing our Governor Bill believes in what he is doing. Daugherty explained that while the goal is 1.5 million members by 2015 ---- every region of the country showed a loss in membership in the past year. Only one new club was built in 2006-2007 --- the Sioux Falls Diversity Club --- like the Mankato Diversity Club has enjoyed successes while suffering peaks and valley in the first year or so of operations. Even with the negatives --- Governor Daugherty believes that success in Kiwanis circles begins with working one community at a time.

Daugherty told of a trip that he and Al Herrboldt made to Redfield in 2006. The club was talking about folding ---- but letters from 4 students who had received scholarships -- help them point out how important Redfield is to their community. As Redfield reflected on what they have accomplished -- they decided to stay and continue being a difference maker in their community. Redfield celebrated its 85th Anniversary as a club earlier this year. Among those attending --- Bill Daugherty.

Governor 2008-2009 -- Bill Lardy attended as well ---- and re-echoed the words of Governor Daugherty -- -- working together --- one child at a time. Ironically Lardy who lives in North Dakota was only 210 miles from home to Pierre while Governor Daugherty was 225 miles from Sioux Falls.

It was unique to see Governor Bill Daugherty and another Bill -- Bill Lardy sharing the podium together --- - a continuation of the plan that all three governors --- past, present, and future -- should work as a team. Lardy promised to be available for the Governor's conference in 2008 --- either with a statewide meeting at one location or in separate meetings in Region 4 and Region 5.

Governor Daugherty appointed Stewart Ross ---- Governor in 2005-2006 as Membership chair. Dr. Ross provided a keynote address on membership.

While just asking members to join Kiwanis is what we often hear --- Ross said it goes far deeper than that. He pointed out that since 1950 --- Kiwanis has only 1/10th of the membership. And if you ask someone which was easier --- quit smoking or join a service club -- you would be surprised as what is life threatening.

TV's and computers have caused people to drop out of service clubs ---- new generations don't easily buy into services clubs --- however when you look at a list of what clubs do for their community -- the answer is still simple -- YES WE NEED KIWANIS CLUBS!!

What is needed for good chemistry for a club?

- New Member inductions should be more than just a pinning ceremony and saying "welcome"
- New Member orientation cannot be overemphasized because orientation informs members about the benefits, responsibilities and expectations of membership.
- Is your club meeting fun? Fun doesn't just happen -- you need to plan for it.
- Fellowship is extremely important-- members need to believe that their fellow members care about them.
- Meetings should be well organized with complete, written agendas, good meeting place and good food at reasonable prices.
- Consistently good speakers are essential to good attendance and retention. A good program chair-person is essential.
- The most important thing we get out of our membership is the opportunity to make a difference in our community and especially in the life of a child.
- Assign a "mentor" for each new member. It should be an experienced Kiwanian who is dependable and will help to ensure the new member feels welcome and quickly understands Kiwanis and your club.

To drive the point home on the importance of children to our clubs -- Rosemary Hayward and Melissa Fluckey of the South Dakota Division of Child Care Services opened the thought process to working with Kiwanis Clubs. They provide services for low income families with children, for child care providers -- and even help with proper car seat installation. For more information you can go on line to [www.dss.sd.gov/childcare](http://www.dss.sd.gov/childcare) or contact their office in Pierre at 1-800-227-3020.

Yes there is still much to be done to help children with our Kiwanis Clubs in South Dakota. But it starts with making a difference in our own local clubs --- and getting together with other clubs to see how we can do even more.

## **FARGO SOUTH POINT KIWANIS CLUB IS GROWING!**

The Fargo South Point club meets on Wednesday at noon at the Old Chicago Restaurant and during the month of October, two new members joined, one by transfer, and one is a new Kiwanian. Mary Ann Berg, and Marlene Saar have joined the club and will be busy helping with a number of projects, including: Reading at Madison School, fill the dome food project, christmas wrapping at West Acres, and planning a all member Christmas party.

At the November board meeting the membership voted to purchase an electric Key board for the members to use to add more singing to the club meetings.

Jim Noehl is the current president, and Jim now has the distinction of serving as President of 2 clubs in the FM area and actually belonging to 3 clubs in the Fargo-Moorhead area since joining Kiwanis many years ago. Jim has also served as Lt. Governor of the District as well.

## **CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR WANTED**

There is an opening for a Certified Instructor to conduct CLE sessions in Region 1 during the 2007-2008 year.

The CLE instructor job is a 3 year committment, so if you are interested, please contact Larry Rittgarn - [lprittgarn@msn.com](mailto:lprittgarn@msn.com)

Requirements would include the fact that you would have to reside in Region 1, and have good Kiwanis knowledge and be willing to do some travel, as well as be skilled in working with people in class room settings.

Working knowledge of Kiwanis and also having electronic equipment such as computer, over head projector or in focus projector is helpful, but not required if equipment is available in the area to use.

CLE sessions each year normally are 2 in Region 1, and will be held during the months of May-June.

You may also have the occasion to conduct other education programs for the region.

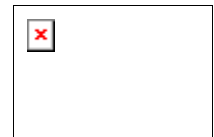
Certification will be done this winter at a convenient location.

Some budget it available for this position as well as a stipend for conducting the sessions.

### **Region 7 Kiwanis Education Day and Governor's Visit**

Greetings Fellow Kiwanians!

I would like to take this opportunity to re-cap our Region 7 Kiwanis Education Day and District Governor's visit that was held on November 10, 2007 in Red Wing, Minnesota.



We had topnotch presenters who addressed our two reoccurring themes:

#### **Potential Relevant Service Project Ideas; and Membership, how to reach out to younger community members.**

**Carolyn Fick**, Case Manager, U.S. Veterans Administration, Twin Cities Office – Operation Iraq Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom, spoke to us about Iraqi War conditions and its impact on military persons and their families. She emphasized the issues faced by military families during the absence of the military person and readjustment issues upon their return to the family unit. So many of these troops are Reserve or National Guard members who joined for many reasons, thinking they were in for monthly drill and two weeks of summer camp and perhaps flood duty, only to find themselves in a whole new situation.

The stress of interfamily relationships is very real, with many challenges for the person gone and for those at home. For instance, there are changing roles during the absence and the readjustments that must be made upon return.

**Some suggested service project ideas mentioned:**

- \*Talk with the Veteran's Service Officer at your County Courthouse;
- \*Talk with VFW and Legion Posts in your community;
- \*Use school contacts to identify families that have someone in the service;
- \*Contact your National Guard Armory;
- \*Ask club members if they know of returning vets with disabilities;
- \*Determine what your club can do to assist families or returning veterans; and
- \*Ask them to join Kiwanis.

**Bruce Klair**, our own Region Service Director, talked about "Kiwanis One Day," a worldwide initiative to have all Kiwanis clubs, along with sponsored youth groups, take part in service projects, **Saturday, April 5, 2008**. He distributed blue carry bags made with that date on them as a reminder of the Kiwanis One Day! He introduced members of the Fridley High School Key Club who announced they would organize a Region-Wide event, April 5, 2008, to produce "trauma dolls." Watch for details.

**Elwood Caldwell**, member of North Suburban Golden K, shared information about a potential service project. *The Central Asian Institute* is an effort to educate girls in Afghanistan. This project has gained notice in the book, *Three Cups of Tea*. This is a remarkable effort to educate young women in a country that does not do that.

**Dick Mussell**, Lt. Governor, reviewed, "Read Around the World," a Kiwanis project providing several levels of service involvement for our clubs to consider. It shows ways to team up with your local schools to enhance reading and be able to enrich school media centers (libraries). He touched on K-Kids and B.U.G. (Bringing Up Grades) as two ways to get involved in your community's elementary schools.

**Diane Sparks**, Immediate Past President of St. Anthony Kiwanis Club, shared how their club had a 20% increase in membership this past year by doing some "thinking outside the box."

They changed one of their noon meetings to an early morning time one day a month. That, along with an invitation letter listing their service projects, brought in six new members, some of whom are coming to noon meetings as well.

She spoke with passion and conviction about how Kiwanis Clubs must adapt to generational changes, i.e. the radio generation, baby boomers, generation X, followed by generation Y. Generations X and Y have embraced technology, internet, cell phones and blackberries. ***These young people are very interested in the service projects we do. They want to participate, but they are less interested in our traditions. They will join us on their terms. They will bring new projects with them and perhaps, in time, they will tap into the traditions. Fun, Fun, Fun, and More Fun, all while doing good service projects, is what it is all about.***

Diane shared her frustration when she Googled volunteerism and found Rotary on page one and Kiwanis mentioned thousands of stories below. She said, "We need to fix that."

**Monica Premasukh**, Fridley Key Club President, shared highlights of her trip to Uganda. Monica was one of eight Key Club members chosen worldwide to travel to Uganda and work on building a school for the young people of rural Uganda. What a great impact Key Club members are having around the world.

**Governor Bill Daugherty** finished the session with his comments and his thanks for the work being done in our communities.

\*\*\*\*\*To view 20 photos of the event go to the following link:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/districtk>

*Holiday Greetings!*

**Dick Mussell, Lt. Governor, Region 7**

## **Region 3 Kiwanian of the Month of October Announced**

Jodi Rochon was surprised on Thursday, when the Lt Governor of Region 3, Barb Fisher, called her forward to award her with the very first Kiwanian of the Month for Region 3.

Jodi, as most Kiwanians is dedicated to helping children and her community, but what also makes Jodi special is the wonderful newsletter she publishes for her Superior Club. With Jodis, many computer skills she has helped the Superior Key Club with events and also been there to share her knowledge with those of us that are less talented in this area.

Jodi has also agreed to help us with the publishing of a quarterly news Letter for the Region. **THE REGION 3 REVIEW** watch your e-mail for the upcoming publication. Thank you Jodi for all you do for our community and world.

[you are one that does make a difference](#)

## **Local Kiwanian Gets International Award**

It has been quite the month for Superior Kiwanis member, Jodi Rochon. First she was awarded "Kiwanian of the Month" for October and Thursday she was presented with an award for her Club from Kiwanis International.

The Superior Club won first place in an international newsletter competition. The Superior Club is one of 8,000 clubs in 96 countries. Rochon stated how honored she felt to receive an international award. " I enjoy the creative aspect of creating the monthly newsletter. More importantly, this is yet another way I can help my club and giving back to my community through Kiwanis is very important to me. I feel very blessed to be part of such a wonderful club".

Jodi is the Administrative Assistant for the Superior Business Improvement District. For more information about Kiwanis or to attend one of their weekly meetings, please call Jodi at 394-3557.

## **AKTION CLUB DEVELOPMENT**

First, a club member needs to access other individuals and organizations in their community that give support to developmentally delayed adults. A call to Kiwanis International at 1-800-KIWANIS will bring a packet of material which will speed you on your way.

Perhaps members of your club could meet with directors, social workers or other individuals within their organizations to discuss the possibilities of forming a group that could become an AKtion Club. Such a club would be comprised of people who would be interested in gaining experience in developing leadership skills, providing community service or assisting the sponsoring club with service projects such as road cleanup, park maintenance, ringing bells for the Salvation Army and/or fundraisers.

There are representatives in each Region to assist with the formation of new AKtion clubs and advise us how to serve this delightful group of people and our communities.

The December issue of the Kiwanis magazine on page 20 features AKTION Clubs across the country including a half page picture of the Mankato club members. Personally speaking, we have been involved in the year old AKtion Theater Club in Mankato and have found fulfillment in observing the improvement of self esteem and confidence in the members through the process of electing officers and board members, conducting business meetings, setting goals, making new friendships, accepting responsibility, and above all else enjoying the frivolity at their biweekly meetings. They have performed a few times and are working on a play that was written by a playwright member.

Their fund raiser was selling containers of cookie dough and at this writing the results are beyond expectations. Several members will be assisting sponsoring Kiwanis members with ringing bells for the Salvation Army this year. The club adviser is a member of the downtown Kiwanis Club and is most dedicated to making AKtion a truly vital organization in providing these adults an opportunity to develop initiative and leadership skills.

We would like for all club sponsors to share their ideas, suggestions and questions with us to be shared with other Kiwanis Clubs interested in becoming a sponsoring club.

Contact us: Dwain and Carole Petersen; 124 Sapphire Court; Mankato, MN., 56001-6262. Our email is d2pete@aol.com or c3pete@aol.com.

## **SERGEANT CHRIS COOK CELEBRATES VETERANS DAY WITH KIWANIANIS!**

The Golden "K" Kiwanis Club of Owatonna, Minnesota was honored to have **Sergeant First Class Chris Cook**, who serves in the U.S. Military, come and not only speak to our Kiwanis members; but, also celebrate and thank all those Kiwanians who served in the U.S. Military, via the Army, the Army Air Force, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Gulf War.

**Sergeant Chris Cook**, who has served in the U.S. Army for 14 years, has served two tours of duty in Korea and also served two tours of duty in Iraq. **Sergeant Cook** may be returning to Iraq next year. **Sergeant Cook** is originally from Waterloo, Iowa.

He remarked that many of the accomplishments his unit achieved, in Iraq, were under-reported by the mainstream American media. **Sergeant Cook** advised the Club that, in the Province to which his unit was posted, 80% of the homes had electricity and potable running water 24 hours per day. His Brigade also refurbished 20 schools, cleaning out trash, repainting, and equipping the buildings with desks, books and school supplies. All items were entirely supplied by his Brigade, which, in turn, was supplied by the soldier's friends and family members in the States.

His Brigade also contracted with a local Iraqi builder to construct a bridge over a canal, giving the children direct access to one of the local schools, rather than walk a mile to another bridge and a mile back. The Brigade paid the contractor out of their own pockets. **Sergeant Cook** said morale among the troops in Iraq is very high.

After **Sergeant Cook** finished his remarks, **Sergeant Cook** graciously consented to pose for pictures with the 28 Kiwanians who served in the U.S. Military, via the Army, the Army Air Force, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Gulf War.

## **U.S. MILITARY VETERANS, WE SALUTE YOU!**

The following Kiwanians were honored for their dedication to serving in the U.S. Military so

all of the rest of us, in America, can continue to live and enjoy our freedom:

**U.S. Army Air Force: Orville Hanson.**

**U.S. Army: Bob Wilke, Carroll Evans, Tom Byrne, Fred Bosacker, Sergeant Christ Cook, Nick Nikoley, David Myers, Merle Brekke, Don Loveless, and Orville Hanson.**

**U.S. Air Force: Don Klaessy, Maynard Burt, and Berlyn Staska.**

**U.S. Marine Corp: Maynard Albers.**

**U.S. Navy: Del Cass, Ken Mjoen, Bob Hollinger, Clem Schroeder, Allan Peterson, Cliff Hokanson, Elmer Lamont and Jim Gerths.**

**Kiwanis Veterans not present for the Veterans Day Celebration:**

**U.S. Army: Don Voll, Worth Gallentine, and Wayne Knutson.**

**Dawn Fairbrother**, 2007-2008 Kiwanis Club President, decided that a Veteran's Day celebration was needed and helped start it last year. **Dawn** felt it was important to honor **ALL VETERANS** who have served in the Military. **Dawn**, and the **Club members**, created a nice way to honor the Veterans with rolls and coffee, certificates of Recognition, Red, White and Blue crosses, and in place of the Kiwanis "Million Dollar Pens" gave the Veterans "Million Dollar Pencils" since most of them love to do crossword and word find puzzles; but don't want to use a pen to do the puzzles! **Dawn** and the **Club members** are already working on ways to celebrate Veterans Day next year!

## **November Kiwanian of the Month**

Region 3 has chosen a Kiwanian of the Month for November. However, our Lt Governor hasn't been able to meet up with the winner to make the award, so next month we may show two Kiwanians of the Months of November and December.

Thank you for your patience with this. Respectfully, Barb Fisher

## **SAY CHEESE PLEASE!**

The Early Risers Kiwanis Club of Faribault, MN. held their annual Chili and Grilled Cheese sandwich fundraising event at the VFW in Faribault. The Club had a good turnout of people in the Faribault and surrounding area.

The \$1,270 in funds raised will be used for their various projects with kids during the year; especially the purchase of school supplies for all of the elementary schools in Faribault to give to students who have challenges purchasing the needed supplies. The Club also

purchase books for Early Childhood and Head Start students. The Club also provides bags with personal supplies for children in foster care.



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