

May 2005

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MINNEKOTAN

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Team Sports, by Governor Walt Roetter

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Team sports are unique from individual sporting events in many way just as team leadership is different. In team activities the individuals, no matter how good they are, have to blend their talents to help the team rather than make themselves look good. There is a benefit to this though and that is the group is normally greater than the sum of the individual members. That is what we need in Minnesota-Dakota District.



In our District we have some very talented individuals who individually can do some wonderful things for our District, but if we can join together as a group we can accomplish even more. At the Governor level, Stewart and I have committed to bring Team Leadership into reality at all levels of the organization. Our Strategic Plan and the organization it created has done a great job of that at the Regional level with the Lt. Governor teams. What we need to do is get that same spirit at all levels in the organization, Club to International. President Case and President-Elect Steve have started the same approach at KI, so we are seeing it grow there.

Many benefits spring from team development, one of the most important is new ideas and solutions. No individual can have all the solutions for any challenge. By bring together several talented individual to work on a challenge you are far more likely to achieve the best solution. That is what we have done in the District in the communication and membership areas. Bill Zortman and his team from across the District continue to put together some great ideas for better way to tell our story because they are all contributing to the task. I have challenged them to do more by going out to the clubs and sharing those ideas directly with the clubs. In the membership area Stewart Ross took the lead to develop a membership growth plan for our district. It, combined with the ideas that Chuck Nielsen and his team of Membership Directors received at KI, should give us the tools we need to solve the challenge of membership if we apply them as a team.

These are but two of the many ways we are using team leadership in the District to meet the challenges, but to do that some other things must change also. To be an effective team members in a team leadership situation, the individual must bring more than the problem to the table. Anyone can sit back and say this or that is bad and complain how something is not getting done. To be part of an effective team leadership approach, after you identify the problem you have to offer a solution. That solution get the team started and other solutions or modifications to the original solution will develop as ideas are shared. I had a boss one time that had a great saying that I have carried with me through my careers. He said there are three thing you can do with a rule that is wrong, (1) openly violate it and that is wrong, (2) follow it but do nothing to change it and constant complain about how bad it is and that is equally as wrong, or (3) you can follow it and work to make it right, and that is the only productive solution. I think that applies to all challenges we face as individuals or organizations. The second thing that must change for team leadership to work is the egos of the members must be come secondary to the good of the organization. Open discussion of the issue is required, but once a solution is selected by the team then all the members of the team must adopt it as their solution. They must support it, work to implement it, and brag on how good it is even if it wasn't their idea. If one member of a team continues to challenge the adopted solution and talks against it, it will never succeed. Equally, they must not worry about who gets credit for success. Success of the organization is the important thing not success of the individual team members. If we succeed with membership this year, I don't care if somebody says "boy that was a great approach that Stewart and Chuck put together for membership growth". My reward as a team leader will be seeing us grow, not getting credit for helping develop the plan.

So lets get together as the Minnesota-Dakotas District team, face the challenges united and solve them so we can grow as an organization and better serve our communities

Update from the District Secretary/Treasurer

Steve Handegaard secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org

Greetings everyone! I have been in my new position as District Secretary/Treasurer for just a few days and I think I am managing to keep my head above water! There are many things to do and learn about this position, but I am really enjoying it. I am looking forward to meeting and working with many more of you as the year goes by.

Since the District Kiwanis contact information is new here it is again:

Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office
P.O. Box 735
Dalton, MN 56324-0735
Phone: 218-589-7581
Fax: 218-589-7582
Email: secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org

Some other reminders:

- **Club Election Reports Due June 1st:** Club secretaries will soon receive a letter from Kiwanis International with the Club Election Report form enclosed. It is very important that your club returns this report by June 1st with the very necessary officer contact information. You need to be sure to send one copy to Kiwanis International and two copies to the District Office. Please note: For your convenience Kiwanis International has also provided a fillable pdf. file online. Users with Adobe Acrobat can quickly and easily input information directly into the form and then print out multiple completed hard copies. Here is the address: <http://www.kiwanis.org/lit/download.asp?id=244> As always if there are changes in the names and addresses of your officers after you have submitted your report, please notify Kiwanis International and the District Office immediately. That includes email address changes.
- **District Kiwanis Convention:** District Convention Co-Directors Larry and Pat Rittgarn have been busy leading the planning efforts for the 2005 District Convention to be held August 12, 13, and 14 in Aberdeen. It is going to be a great time. Be sure to put the convention on your calendar! The Call to the Convention letter will be sent in the mail to all club secretaries the week of May 2. The mailing will include registration and delegate forms. The information will also be available on the district website soon.
- **Monthly Reports:** Keep those monthly club reports coming. Be sure to send a copy of your report to your Lt. Governor and also to the District Office by the 10th of the following month.

- **Kiwanis International Convention – July 2-6, 2005:** The deadline for club secretaries to submit Delegate Certification Forms to Kiwanis International was April 30. Only certified delegates may receive voting credentials. However, there is still time to register and attend the convention. As of the April 27 report we have 40 Kiwanians and 15 guests registered from our district. Our goal is 90. Come and join us!
- **Submit your news and stories!** Remember that your club, regional or district committee can submit articles and photos directly to the website and/or the electronic Minnekotan at the following address:

<http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/eventsadd.php>

Governor-Elect Stewart Ross Visits Rough Riders

Governor Elect Stewart Ross visits several Kiwanis clubs in Region 2.

Governor-elect Ross visited region 2 Kiwanis clubs during the week of August 4.



At each club the presentation was based on the club itself, along with the members of that club.

Club officers were also challenged with some future goals and ideas to help each club achieve their goals.

CLE (Club Leadership Education)

by Larry Rittgarn

There will be 18 sites and 11 different dates for President elects, Secretaries and Treasurers to attend Club Leadership Education sessions this summer.

Make plans now to attend one of the 18 CLE sessions that will be held in the Minnesota - Dakota District of Kiwanis Int'l.



June 11 through September 17 you will be able to attend one of the Club Leadership Education session.

There will be certified instructors at every location, along with your regional leadership team members, so plan now to have your officers at one of the locations.

NOTE THE LOCATIONS & DATES

June 11 - Duluth and Rochester

June 18 -Fergus Falls

June 25 - Rapid City SD, Montevideo MN, New Brighton, MN

June 30 - Sioux Falls

July 16 - Albert Lea

July 21 - Madison, SD

July 23 - Slayton, New Ulm, and Webster, SD

July 30 - New Rockford, ND

Aug 20 - Chamberlain, SD, and Bismarck, ND

Aug 27 - Fargo, ND

Sept - 17 - St. Cloud and Willmar, MN

A Service of Celebration and Remembrance for H.G. VanderVorst

H. G. VanderVorst died on March 28, 2005 in Chattanooga, Tennessee. His funeral Service was on Monday, April 4, 2005 in Mandan, North Dakota. He was born on May 30, 1911 on the family farm in Westfield, North Dakota.

Van was a Charter Member of the Mandan Kiwanis Club and served as Local Club President, District Lt. Governor, and District Governor. He received the Kiwanian of the Year award in two separate years. The Kiwanis Community Leadership Award was renamed the H.G. VanderVorst Kiwanis Leadership Award in December, 2004.

Van is survived by his wife, Darlene; his son and daughter-in-law Darwin and Irene of Mandan; stepson John Cooper of Burnsville, Minnesota; stepdaughter and her husband Diana and Al Westburg of Flower Mound, Texas. Many grandchildren, step-grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great great grandchildren also survive. H. G. had one sister and three brothers. His parents, a brother, and two infant sisters preceded him in death.

Bulletin/ Brochure Entry Deadlines

The criteria that the entries will be judged on were included in the January 05 Minnkotan. You may review them by clicking on that month on the Minnkotan web page.

The February 05 Minnkotan contains additional information on where to send your entries as well as the categories for judging. The list of your Regional contact is listed in that article.

Remember your entry **MUST** be sent to your regional judging contact for judging. **DO NOT** send them to the District.

I hope we have many entries to choose from. Communication is the key to a successful Club.

Interclub Information

Minnesota-Dakotas District Criteria for: INTERCLUBBING

Two members from a club must visit no less than

eight (8) clubs in their Region to qualify. They cannot visit the same club twice. A visit to a sponsored youth club counts as an interclub. Conventions and council meetings do not qualify as an interclub.

Interclub reports are due on June 15th.

**SEND TO:
JOE HESCH
3854 East Superior Street
Duluth, MN 55805**

Spring Rally Region 2

Terrific day, with over 60 terrific Kiwanians and guests as they gathered in Fargo for the Region 2 spring rally.

A full day of action packed performances by leaders of our region and from our District Governor Walt Roetter, and his wife Susan.

As the members gathered for this day they were treated to a public relations and communications workshop with Bill Zortman and Bob Swanson.

Web sites and communication were a top subject for the first hour, and then the formal business meeting took center stage for the rest of the morning.

With the changing of leadership in the are of District Secretary/Treasurer, and Lt. Governors, we watched Lori Larson become Region 2 Lt. Governor, and Steve Handegaard take over the reins of Dist. Sec/Treas.

Governor Walt brought us all together for a wonderful message and where we are in the Kiwanis world.

The afternoon was filled with so much information and ideas for recruiting, and retention of membership. Bruce Messelt was our guest presenter for this workshop, and members in attendance were treated to a wonderful workshop.

To complete the day a reception for Tom and Marcia Horan and their families was held.

Kiwanis 1st Lady Stresses Fundamental Reading Needs

The 2005-2006 District 1st Lady explains in her own words why she choose reading as her Service Project. It can serve as a beacon for others in Kiwanis to put down the TV controller long enough to read a book to a child. Thanks to Susan Roetter for all she has done for Kiwanis in South Dakota, North Dakota, and Minnesota.

When my husband was elected Governor, I was asked if there was a service project that I would like to be a part of. Reading has always been a very important part of my life, so "Reading is Fundamental" was an easy choice.



In this age of cable, television, internet, and cell phones, I feel that children are loing sight of the joy of holding a book in their hands

and reading. The first step is to read to a child. You point to a letter, letters become a word, words become a sentence, sentences become a paragraph and paragraphs become books. The second step is to give children books that can treasure. Books become the **foundation** that open doors to the world of information.

"Reading is Fundamental is a major emphasis program for Kiwanians and it fills the requirement for Young Children Priority One. This is a wonderful program for a club as a service project or as a joint service project with Golden K, Key Club or Circle K. The possibilities are endless. It only takes your time and effort to find what fits your club. I believe the one that will have the most impact is to participate in Read Around the World. All Kiwanians can embark on an exciting journey and celebrate reading with children. This is an ongoing process of providing reading activities, increasing access to books, motivating and inspiring children.

I want to thank all the clubs that have reading programs and any club that is interested, please check <http://www.Kiwanians.org> for updates and information on the Scholastics, Inc. If a club representative will call 1-800-Scholastics and answer a few questions, they will give your club a 10-digit number. You then go to <http://www.Scholastics.com> and use your number and receive 20% off books plus free shipping and handling!!!

I hope all of you have a great summer!

Susan Roetter

"Hustle to Hawaii" Weekend

The weekend of April 7th-10th was action packed for Minn-Dak. International Kiwanis President Case Van Kleef and his wife Susan came to the metro area and participated in many different events put on by my local Kiwanis members and the Fridley Key Club.

The Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis and Key Club hosted International Kiwanis President Case Van Kleef and his wife Susan April 8-10th. President Van Kleef and Susan enthusiastically participated in every event. They learned how Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanians and Key Clubbers serve young children. It was a fun packed weekend.



Fridley High School Principal David Webb and the Fridley Key Club Executive Board presented the kick off program Friday, April 8th at 8:30 am at the Citizen's Forum held at the Roseville Civic Center. Their topic was "The Impact of Key Club on the Fridley High School". Fridley Key Clubbers shared experiences with their projects Homeless Sleepout, Adopt A Family, Tines for Troops, Teeter Totter Marathon, Relay for Life, Pie Em' for Stevi and Football Cleanup. Showing a humorous touch to his presentation, David Webb put on a pink boa and pink flamingo hat. This outfit was an earlier gift from the Kiwanis Key Club Advisor, Crzy Mry Bowen. She stressed that everyone needs to have fun while doing community service.

The Fridley High School hosted an All Night Dance Marathon for all Key Clubbers in the Minnesota-Dakotas District on Friday night. The contest started at 9:00 pm and ran until 6:30 am. Much to the surprise of the chaperones, nine students qualified as winners! Each received a \$25 Target gift certificate. Those who did not dance the night away had options of playing games such as Uno, Twister, Dance, Dance Revolution, watching videos or resting. Many sleeping bags and pillows crowded the video room, and nearby friends heard occasional snores.

Following the dance, Club Members hosted their Key Club friends from Austin, Grand Rapids and Virginia. It was a short rest as Key Clubbers returned to the Fridley High School to help bag rice for an All-K Service Project "Kids Against Hunger". Production line set up started at noon with rice bagging from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. This experience was beyond description! Rice, dehydrated vegetables, fortified soy, chicken flavoring and vitamins and minerals were packaged into the bags. Teams of five would count "One," "Two," "Three," "Four," "Five." Each person added one ingredient to the bag, and then they started all over again.

Those who danced the previous night away responded by remote control to their number. Many had to be jabbed in the ribs to add their ingredients when their number was called. The bags were weighed, sealed and packed into corrugated boxes. Over 175 K-Family Members participated. When the afternoon ended, the Kiwanians, Key Clubbers, Builders Club, Boy Scouts and Fridley Community Members had bagged over 66,528 meals in 11,088 packages. Upon hearing these numbers the assembly line workers cheered! The rice will be shipped to Tanzania next week. What a feeling of exhilaration and pride everyone had!

The final event of the weekend was a Saturday evening banquet at the Mermaid Hotel and Conference Center in Mounds View. All attendees dressed in Hawaiian clothes. It was a colorful, festive end to the weekend.

As Fridley High School Key Clubbers look back over this weekend, they are proud of their school and community for their support. They are also honored to have been hosts of such a rewarding event!

Janine AbouAish, Publicist
Nick Bullock, Publicist
Fridley High School Key Club
4/13/05

Communicators Ask for Help in Region 2

By Bill Zortman, District Public Relations Chair

On the day that the nation stopped, remembered and then waited for the news of John Paul II's death --- it was just one more graceful gift that the Pope gave us all.

We not only remembered how he was a uniter of all groups of International People but the Great Communicator and was the first Pope to send an e-mail and develop one of the world's largest website.

At 84 --- the age that at least a handful of our Region 2 Conference attendees admitted to -- the Pope can serve as an example to all of us -- regardless of religion -- on the importance of sharing our stories all over our Region, our District and even the world.

I was so surprised to see 2 dozen people show up for a pre-session -- including the Governor, Region 2 Lt Governor (now District Treasurer-Secretary), outgoing Secretary-Treasurer, Education and Administration Chiefs, Lt Governor-Elect Humble, and many others. What we discussed with a danish, juice, and coffee -- was ways to communicate and improve our Kiwanis System. Co-Chairman Bob Swanson showed just how easy it was to submit a story or event on the District Web-page -- and how the Minnekotan Electronic Version is growing.

Education's Larry Rittgarn promises to educate Lt Governors at the session in Wellmer on May 6th-7th-8th with a session behind the keyboard that will teach reading and writing electronically. At the District Conference in Aberdeen in August --- their will be 2 computer workshops to help those that want to learn the ABC's of computer, Kiwanis communication.

My special thanks to Lori Larson --- our George Washington of web-mastering --- now serving as your Lt Governor in Region 2, and Mr. Swanson for their dedication to improving the communication channels. Also Vickie Apel in Mankato for agreeing to educate on writing stories and tooting our own horn(s). In all we have 48 people that are now receiving information to help the 6000 or so Kiwanis members grow in submitting and reading our stories on line.

If Kiwanis is to succeed --- we have to work together -- save money where we can --- and look for ways to attract members that will follow the trail of many of those attending our club, regional and district meetings.

While Minneapolis and Duluth are the Cradle's of Civilization in the three states for Kiwanis -- many of the 'difference-makers' are in this modern Cradle of Civilization.

If you want to join our Communications Crew -- email me at billtell.pre@midconetwork.com .

Sioux Falls Clubs Plan Picnic, Prayer Breakfast, Governor-Elect Visit

There are 219 members in the 5 Sioux Falls Kiwanis Clubs. And while some are suggesting that the meetings of the 5 clubs will just fade away with time --- the President's are 100% in attendance each month in 2005.

While some enjoy a patty melt and chicken noodle soup --- others try other fare from the Fryin Pan.

What's cooking with the five Club's and their President's is a way to not only increase membership --- but find ways to provide meaningful volunteer and comraderie opportunities for the members. It seems to be working with some key projects coming up in the next 90 days.

At the April meeting --- Lt Governor Bill Daugherty reminded the 5 clubs that Club Reps are needed. Some clubs in Region 5 outside the Sioux Falls area have been firmly planted in the sand -- holding their position against involvement from outsiders. Its hoped that with each Club having a Club Rep --- stories of what they are accomplishing can be shared by a simple click of a keyboard.

The next event for the 5 clubs is the Great Plains Zoo Earth Day on April 23rd from 1-3. Volunteer sheets were given to each President to take back to membership to provide support. Earth Day is the first of 5 volunteer opportunities for Kiwanis Members to work together.

Daybreak Kiwanis Club is offering 50% return for purchase of candles before April 25th. May 6th --- Sioux Falls South is offering a roast beef dinner at the American Legion Hall. May 12th Sioux Falls (Downtown) Kiwanis has a 7AM Prayer Breakfast at Augustana.

May 18-19 -- Governor Elect Stewart Ross will visit three Sioux Falls Clubs in a 24 hour period. He'll speak at noon on the 18th at Westward Ho to the Sioux Falls Kiwanis Club, 7:00AM on the 19th at Sioux Valley Vocational to the Daybreak Kiwanis, and at noon on the 19th to Sioux Falls South at Sioux Vocational.

Lt Governor Daugherty is planning an event at 5PM on May 18th for the Governor Elect to meet with not only Sioux Falls Clubs but those interested in Region 5. Ross brings an energy for the Governor's chair that some report is infectious. It will give Kiwanis members a chance to hear the 2005-2006 Minnesota-Dakotas Governor and to ask questions about the future for our clubs. Governor Walt Roetter took time to speak to three Sioux Falls Clubs in a December visit that was well received.

Also on the calendar --- Daybreak Kiwanis has its 3rd annual Golf Tournament at Elmwood Country Club on Friday June 10th. There is a 1:30 two-person shotgun start. Entrants should contact Jaysen STEvenson at stevenson39@sio.midco.net or Heath Driscoll and heath.driscoll@greatwesternbank.com.

June 21st is the City-wide picnic at Sertoma Park. \$6.00 charge for hot dogs, brats, burgers, chips, and drink. No charge for younger children.

The Kiwanis Sioux Falls President's and other officers will meet again on May 13th at noon.

Worthington Early Risers Kiwanis and Worthington Optimists Cooperate To Form Middle School Club

We have a very unique situation at the Worthington, Minnesota Middle School. About a year ago the Worthington Early Risers Kiwanis Club and the Worthington Optimist Club joined forces to form a club at the local Middle School. It is chartered as a Builder's Club with Kiwanis International and as an Optimist Youth Club with the Optimists. The same members belong to each club. Last spring the members elected to call the club the VOKK Club. VOKK is the acronym for Volunteer Optimist/Kiwanis Kids Club. The Early Risers pay the Builder's Club dues and the Optimists pay the Youth Club dues. Other expenses are shared equally between the Early Risers and the Optimists. Both Kiwanis and Optimist advisors and members attend VOKK meetings.

During this first year of existence the VOKK Club has about 20 members. We hope to increase membership next year. The Worthington Early Risers Kiwanis Club sponsors a K-Kids Club at the Worthington Prairie Elementary School and the Optimists sponsor a Youth Club at St. Mary's Elementary School. These are feeder programs into the VOKK Club.

During the first year of existence the VOKK Club has already done the following:

1. Last spring the VOKK Club was organized and had election of officers. At the end of the school year a celebratory party was held to recognize the new club and the end of the school year. Grilled hot dogs, chips, root beer floats and games were enjoyed by all.
2. Last spring VOKK members helped the Optimists with their bicycle safety program.
3. In September VOKK members helped the Early Risers Kiwanis with their pop and peanut sales at the annual Worthington King Turkey Day celebration.
4. In October the VOKK members raised \$300.00 which was sent to Hollandale, MN to help restore a children's park and playground that was damaged in a flood.
5. A Christmas party and gift exchange was held for members.
6. VOKK members designed and made over 100 Valentine cards which were delivered in person to nursing home residents.
7. VOKK members participated in a Math-a-thon and raised \$500.00 for the St. Jude's Children's Hospital.
8. VOKK members filled hundreds of plastic Easter eggs with candy and helped the local Optimist Club with their annual Easter egg hunt for community children.
9. VOKK members will be cleaning 2 miles of road ditches in May.
10. VOKK members will end the school year with a party and games to celebrate a successful year and the end of the school year.

Robin Medill is the Worthington Middle School advisor for the VOKK Club and Pat Henderscheidt is the advisor from the Worthington Early Risers Kiwanis Club.



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