Candidates for each office are listed alphabetically by office. Candidates or their campaign committees provided the information contained herein. For more information, including links to campaign websites, please consult www.Kiwanis.org/convention/candidates.

For president
John R. Button  2

For president-elect
Susan A. “Sue” Petrisin  4

For vice president
Jane M. Erickson  5
Warren F. Mitchell  6

For trustee—United States and Pacific Canada
Three (3) three-year terms to be elected at the 2014 Kiwanis International convention in Japan, July 17–20, 2014, by delegates from the United States and Pacific Canada Region only.

John M. Brown  7
M.A. “Fred” Dietze  8
John E. DeVilbiss  9
Arthur N. Riley  10
Dewey Smith  11
Barbara Thompson  12

At-large seat
One (1) three-year term to be elected at the 2014 Kiwanis International convention in Japan, July 17–20, 2014, by delegates from all regions. Candidates from all regions, except United States and Pacific Canada, are eligible.

Kenneth A. Alovera  13
Frank Arenz  14
Pierre Bourgouin  15
Daniel Vigneron  16

Asia-Pacific region
One (1) three-year term to be elected at the 2014 Asia-Pacific convention in Japan, July 17–20, 2014, by delegates from the Asia-Pacific region.

Koshiro “Kit” Kitazato  17

Please plan to attend the Meet the Candidates Forum on Thursday, July 17. At that important forum, you will learn about the candidates’ views on the issues of the organization. You will have an opportunity to meet and greet the candidates following the forum.
What experience and strengths would you bring to the board as president?
I was fortunate to have been raised in a household where service to the community was an integral part of the family fabric. I believe that those of us who have been blessed by geography, opportunity and circumstance need to be a blessing to others. It is a privilege to serve.

I believe in the philosophy and the practice of servant leadership where the focus is primarily on the growth and well-being of people and the communities in which they live. Servant leaders put the needs of others first and help them succeed. They invest whatever it takes, and then some, into the success of others.

And most importantly, I bring Debbie.

I have been caring for and advocating for children and families for over 35 years. As a family doctor, I made countless decisions daily, often, tough decisions. Over the years, I have delivered hundreds of babies and am committed to improving maternal and neonatal health. I was in at the beginning of The Eliminate Project. I have shared my passion for the campaign across the Kiwanis world. I want to be there, in 2015, when we proudly proclaim that we, Kiwanians, have eliminated maternal and neonatal tetanus.

What is your Kiwanis moment, a Kiwanis experience that made a difference in your life?
In the fall of 2004, the island of Jamaica was devastated by Hurricane Ivan. The hurricane destroyed 1,500 elementary schools as well as the entire banana crop. Bananas are the island’s chief export. The island, and its economy, was on its knees.

Over the Christmas holidays that year, the tsunami struck Southeast Asia.

As governor of the Eastern Canada and the Caribbean District, I made my official visit to Jamaica in March 2005. I visited the Kiwanis Club of Monneague. Monneague is a small town located in the Blue Mountains. This club is responsible for the town infrastructure. The president of the club was David James, a Rastafarian complete with dreadlocks tucked away in his black, yellow and green toque. The first thing that president David did was hand me three crisp US$100 bills. When I asked what they were for, he explained that they were his club’s contribution to tsunami relief. Club members had canvassed their town selling tsunami t-shirts and raised 24,000 Jamaican dollars to send half-a-world away to help people they did not and would not ever know and who would never be able to say thank you to the members of the Kiwanis Club of Monneague.

This was a Kiwanis moment for me and defines my sense of community.

Biographical information
Family: Wife, Debbie; one son; one daughter; two granddaughters and one grandson
Profession: Family physician (retired)
Education: Bachelor of Arts in Science (University of Western Ontario); Doctor of Medicine (University of Toronto)
Hobbies: Music, reading, photography, wood-carving, bird watching, the outdoors

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Susan A. “Sue” Petrisin

Club: East Lansing
District: Michigan

What experience and strengths would you bring to the board as president-elect?

First, I bring my passion for service and leadership. Since joining Key Club in 1978, I have committed myself to serving my community in a way that brings joy and happiness to those we serve. I illustrate an exemplary work ethic, a drive for results and a commitment to excellence.

Second, my Kiwanis International family experience, through Key Club, Circle K, Kiwanis International, the Kiwanis International Foundation and as an executive committee member of The Eliminate Project has prepared me to lead our organization.

My professional work experience includes strategic thinking, working to build cohesive and synergistic cultures between partners and financial accountability.

Third, I am dedicated to the success of others so that we may succeed. We each have a passion for serving, for being servant leaders. And as society changes, so must we. We must work to identify how to help members be more successful and determine how to deliver this value that is both convenient and accessible.

As Kiwanis members, we are not just concerned about ourselves; we think globally and make a difference in the world today, tomorrow and in the future. I am a “Kiwanis member for life”.

Biographical information

Family: Mother Elaine; four brothers; three sisters; seven nephews; seven nieces
Profession: Associate Director, Michigan State University Alumni Association
Education: Michigan State University: Masters, Human Resources and Labor Relations; Bachelors, Food Science, Dietetics; FranklinCovey Certified Facilitator
Hobbies: MSU Spartans, traveling, reading, crafts

Jane M. Erickson

Club: Bellevue-Offutt
District: Nebraska–Iowa

Why did you decide to run for office?

For Kiwanis to thrive in an ever-changing environment we need to adapt with creative vision and bold actions. I believe I can energize and inspire our organization and potential partners; together we can build a stronger and more vibrant system which will improve membership, service, image and fiscal responsibility.

What qualifies you to become an officer of Kiwanis International?

My education in personal/organizational health and leadership, profession as a leadership and organizational development consultant and my extensive Kiwanis background will assist in cultivating effective solutions. I have a proven ability to unite teams toward a common goal and am passionate about being part of a positive organizational transformation.

How will you leave your mark on Kiwanis?

I want my passion for helping children and communities to help transform Kiwanis into a stronger, more viable organization which serves more children and enjoys a higher level of awareness worldwide with members and partners who are not afraid to tackle large projects to grow happy, healthy, safe and loved children.

Biographical information

As a 23-year Kiwanian, I have served in almost every leadership position from club committee chairman to president of the Kiwanis International Foundation. I have consulted, facilitated training sessions and volunteered worldwide. My husband, Past Governor Gus Erickson, and I have five grown children and seven grandchildren.
**Warren F. Mitchell**

*Club*: Greeley, Colorado  
*District*: Rocky Mountain

**Why did you decide to run for office?**
Kiwanis is at a crossroads. At 100 years of age, our membership numbers have steadily been declining over the last two decades. This trend must be reversed, and it is my sincere belief that, while I have but one vote on the board, I can motivate the direction of Kiwanis.

**What qualifies you to become an officer of Kiwanis International?**
Great question. Having held every office at the club level, all distinguished, and distinguished lieutenant governor, distinguished district governor, and having served on several KI committees, I took a hiatus from KI and returned to my club. I firmly believe that we, as an organization, need to give Kiwanis back to Kiwanians!!

**How will you leave your mark on Kiwanis?**
Leaving "my mark on Kiwanis" will be a decision made by Kiwanians throughout the world. One person can make a difference, but the members must accept and buy into that difference. Kiwanis needs to assist the communities where they now exist and expand those communities where possible.

**Biographical information**
*Family*: Wife, JoAnn; a son and a daughter; two grandsons  
*Profession*: Entrepreneur – Business Forms Distributor for 38 years  
*Education*: B.S. in Accounting (University of Northern Colorado)  
*M.S.* in Accounting (Colorado State University)  
*Hobbies*: Coins, Stamps, Kiwanis

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**John M. Brown**

*Club*: Tooele, Utah  
*District*: Utah–Idaho

**Why did you decide to run for office?**
To give a voice to the smaller districts of the Kiwanis Family; to encourage and foster better communication between Kiwanis districts and the Kiwanis International Board; to encourage Kiwanians to run for district and Kiwanis International offices by showing that it is what is in your heart and actions that count.

**What qualifies you to become an officer of Kiwanis International?**
My life has been spent working with people with differing needs and opinions. I have been able to help them work together to solve their problems. I will bring my problem-solving ability to the Kiwanis International Board. I understand that it is Kiwanis members who make our organization strong.

**How will you leave your mark on Kiwanis?**
My term in office will lead to a better working relationship among the Kiwanis International Board and districts through improved communication. I will work to increase diversity within our Kiwanis membership, in all areas. Membership will be increased because of improved club member retention and new member recruitment.

**Biographical information**
*Married to Louise for 35 years; four children. Life devoted to service: United States Army, Law Enforcement, Firefighter, EMT; Advocate of Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault; Board member of the Tooele County Children’s Justice Center; Volunteer tax preparation for low income families; Kiwanis leadership at club and district levels.*

Please plan to attend the Meet the Candidates Forum on Thursday, July 17. At that important forum, you will learn about the candidates’ views on the issues of the organization. You will have an opportunity to meet and greet the candidates following the forum.
M.A. “Fred” Dietze

Club: Greater Hudson, Wisconsin

District: Wisconsin–Upper Michigan

Why did you decide to run for office?
I am hooked on Kiwanis. However, I see an ever-increasing divide between the clubs and Kiwanis International. For Kiwanis to grow as a strong organization, the bond between the two must be strengthened. I will bring my experience and dedication to the position of trustee to make that happen.

What qualifies you to become an officer of Kiwanis International?
My military and civilian careers have enabled me to identify problems and develop solutions. As governor of the Wisconsin–Upper Michigan District, I established a restructure plan to create clear and direct lines of communication between clubs and the district. I build personal relationships easily and am adept at rallying support for concepts, ideas and projects.

How will you leave your mark on Kiwanis?
My mark on Kiwanis will be measured by three things: A turnaround in membership losses; increased attendance at district and Kiwanis International conventions; and an increase in the number of clubs that support our Service Leadership Programs.

Biographical information
My 20-year U.S. Army career was spent in a wide range of leadership and senior staff positions. After retiring from the Army, I worked in several human resources positions and subsequently successfully ran my own human resources and management consulting business. Now retired, I focus my time on Kiwanis.

John E. DeVilbiss

Club: West Alexandria

District: Ohio

Why did you decide to run for office?
Kiwanis has a great legacy of service to meet the needs of our fellowman. We must make sure that Kiwanis is positioned to meet these needs, both now, and in the future. I feel my experience in Kiwanis and my management experience will help Kiwanis to attain this goal.

What qualifies you to become an officer of Kiwanis International?
I have been a Kiwanis member for over 46 years. I have 41 years of management experience in the financial industry, both in banking, and as a school treasurer. Since retirement, I now help satisfy my need for service by serving others as an Emergency Medical Technician in my communities.

How will you leave your mark on Kiwanis?
Being a part of the Kiwanis International Board will allow me the opportunity to guide Kiwanis to meet the needs of the Kiwanis member, club, district, and Kiwanis around the world. Kiwanis must always strive to position itself to expand the service provided by clubs to their communities.

Biographical information
John and his wife Wanda, a Kiwanis member, have been married 42 years and reside in West Alexandria, Ohio. They have two children and four grandchildren. John is the recipient of the George F. Hixson Fellow award, Walter Zeller Fellowship award and the Tablet of Honor. He has received numerous awards for his community service.
Why did you decide to run for office?
Kiwanis has great potential to address the needs of children and communities in the next hundred years. As a trustee, I want to contribute my administrative and business experience to create a more effective organization that will focus on club growth, youth support, name recognition and empowerment of members.

What qualifies you to become an officer of Kiwanis International?
My experience in Kiwanis, business and community organizations has prepared me to be a trustee. I have acquired and demonstrated the ability to explore new ideas, build effective teams, manage challenges and establish a consensus with large teams. I enjoy working with people in planning, evaluating, organizing and implementing new ideas.

How will you leave your mark on Kiwanis?
My primary goal is to strengthen all segments of Kiwanis. The mark I would love to leave on Kiwanis would be that I promoted and advocated for Kiwanis and Kiwanis youth to the point that Kiwanis is recognized as the leader in growing youth into outstanding world citizens.

Biographical information
A resident of Westminster, Maryland, Art is a Capital District Kiwanian. Professionally, Art is a pharmacist and successfully owned and managed several professional venues. He is active in his community and church and has been married to Vickie for 41 years and they have three adult children and three grandchildren.

Arthur N. “Art” Riley
Club: Westminster, Maryland
District: Capital

Why did you decide to run for office?
With a great deal of experience in creating budgets and cutting cost, I think I can help guide Kiwanis financially. As a Kiwanis International-appointed five year district chairman for The Formula, I want to be part of the decision-making process that will affect Kiwanis in a positive and prudent way.

What qualifies you to become an officer of Kiwanis International?
• Kiwanis 27 years, 21 Kiwanis International conventions
• District secretary/treasurer
• Distinguished: governor, lieutenant governor, club president
• District foundation president. Lead role in combining two foundations into one, included writing new bylaws and policies and procedures.
• Chairman of budget committee
• Several Kiwanis International committees
• Kiwanis-appointed district chairman for The Formula

How will you leave your mark on Kiwanis?
When it is all said and done, I want to leave the Kiwanis International Board knowing that Kiwanis gained significantly in membership and remained financially sound while under my watch.

Biographical information
Born: Charlotte, North Carolina
Present: Albany, Georgia
Eagle Scout; Scoutmaster
Married: 46 years, Cookie Young, Tallulah, Louisiana
Two sons, four precious grandchildren
Education: Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina, BA Business Administration
Church Affiliation: Baptist; deacon, trustee, finance committee, Sunday school teacher
Owner, Mini Warehouse complex
Private pilot

Dewey Smith
Club: Albany
District: Georgia

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Barbara Thompson  
Club: Florissant Valley, Missouri  
District: Missouri–Arkansas

Why did you decide to run for office?  
I see a need to grow and diversify membership, the key to increasing service and financial stability. If “we build,” we can continue “serving the children of the world,” our reason for being. I also seek to improve collaboration and communication throughout Kiwanis to match our culture with our vision.

What qualifies you to become an officer of Kiwanis International?  
My career and continued education as teacher, administrator, and consultant; other community service; and experience in Kiwanis have provided me with skills that will transfer to the office of Kiwanis International trustee. My passion for Kiwanis and for helping others to live their best lives inspires me to do the work.

How will you leave your mark on Kiwanis?  
I hope to serve Kiwanis International so that we improve the lives of ever-increasing numbers of children and communities in significant ways, including the elimination of maternal and neonatal tetanus. I envision a growing, caring, responsive organization, one that inspires its members to serve and to invite others to join.

Biographical information  
I am married to Charlie, a Kiwanis lieutenant governor; we live in a suburb of St. Louis, Missouri, and have two adult children. My career in education has included teaching, staff development, and administration. I am honored to have served in leadership positions in Kiwanis and in The Eliminate Project.

Kenneth A. Alovera  
Club: Roxas City and Iloilo City, The Philippines  
District: Philippine South

Why did you decide to run for office?  
We, in the field, know what needs to be done if we want Kiwanis to attain its goals. Membership growth and new club building have been the clarion call for all Kiwanians. We need to accelerate our pace by fine-tuning our policies. I believe I can help.

What qualifies you to become an officer of Kiwanis International?  
I am experienced in litigation where I use critical thinking. This aptitude makes me a good addition to the board, where new ideas can bring about positive changes. This, coupled with a vision for Kiwanis growth, are essential qualities that could enhance our success at shaping new directions for Kiwanis.

How will you leave your mark on Kiwanis?  
I would like to be remembered as a trustee who worked for a common aspiration of building a better Kiwanis. I would like my predecessors and contemporaries to appreciate me as a co-believer and doer of positive changes.

Biographical information  
I am married to Eugenia, with whom I have three future Kiwanians: Klarence, Klarisse and Klarina. I joined Kiwanis in 1988–89, became club president in 1994–95, lieutenant governor in 2001–02 and governor in 2011–12. Kiwanis has always been a part of my life, and it was reinvigorated when Eugenia became a Kiwanian.
**Frank Arenz**

*Club: Saarbruecken*

*District: Germany*

*Why did you decide to run for office?*
I was encouraged to run for trustee in Frankfurt during the Germany District convention 2013. I would like to continue working for Kiwanis and taking responsibility for our wonderful organization. I like to speak to new people, see (and solve) new problems and help Kiwanis where it is necessary.

*What qualifies you to become an officer of Kiwanis International?*
I speak English, French and German, and I like to travel. During my 18 years as the leader of the dentists' association in my home state, I learned to speak to people and to convince them of the things that had to be done, good ones and bad ones. As district governor, I worked hard, organized well and decided with responsibility. I have been a Kiwanian for 26 years.

*How will you leave your mark on Kiwanis?*
During the year I was governor of the Germany District, I founded the “Kiwanis-Foundation Germany”. In October 2012, I started with my idea. In November 2013, the task was completed. As trustee, I will fight for The Eliminate Project. At the board level, I will work for the bright future of Kiwanis. The new youth exchange can be a promising project to create growth.

*Biographical information*

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**Pierre Bourgouin**

*Club: Troyes-Chrestien de Troyes, France*

*District: France-Monaco*

*Why did you decide to run for office?*
One of my goals is to assist in engaging the European media, for example in the context of the 100th anniversary. I would like to serve Kiwanis in Europe and in the world by promoting The Eliminate Project campaign. The promotion of our organization’s rejuvenation is important to me, and I intend to develop Key Club in Europe.

*What qualifies you to become an officer of Kiwanis International?*
My wife and I dedicate 100% of our time to our organization. I am always available to clubs, districts and members when they have questions. My abilities in French will allow me to identify new Kiwanis grounds throughout the francophone countries of the world and create new clubs there.

*How will you leave your mark on Kiwanis?*
I plan to increase female membership by promoting mixed clubs in Europe, and to open clubs in Africa (north and central), where children need our help the most. I would like to work in collaboration with The Eliminate Project to create clubs on that continent. I am ready to work in the field and establish connections.

*Biographical information*
Born in France, June 1, 1944. Retired and living in the Champagne region with my wife Monique, we have two sons and seven grandchildren. I was an electronics engineer at international electronics companies until 2002. I have been working for the France-Monaco District since 1985, as club secretary and president, lieutenant-governor, governor, and currently staff member.
Daniel Vigneron
Club: Vielsam, Belgium
District: Belgium–Luxembourg

Why did you decide to run for office?
My Kiwanis International friends convinced me to run for trustee at the Tokyo-Chiba convention. After one sabbatical year following seven years of work at high level positions for Kiwanis International, I think that it is time for me to bring my expertise and my skills to the Kiwanis International board.

What qualifies you to become an officer of Kiwanis International?
My experience as president of the Kiwanis International European Federation gave me the opportunity to work very closely with Kiwanis International President Don Canaday. This fruitful year taught me skills I will bring to Kiwanis. Along with my foundation trustee experience, that is what I can offer to Kiwanians and Kiwanis International.

How will you leave your mark on Kiwanis?
We must improve Kiwanis International so we can help more and more children all over the world. We must reach our goal for MNT. We must embrace more and more noble causes to serve children. We must build bridges between Kiwanis International and the members. This will be my building block for Kiwanis.

Biographical information
Having joined Kiwanis 28 years ago, I have fulfilled a lot of different positions in the Kiwanis world. President of Kiwanis International European Federation and Kiwanis International Foundation trustee were my highest positions. Together with my wife Faby (member of KC Bastogne), we have three children and four grandchildren.

Koshiro “Kit” Kitazato
Club: Tokyo
District: Japan

Why did you decide to run for office?
I believe in the great future of Kiwanis. At the same time, I feel the urgent need for radical transformations so Kiwanis can meet the rapidly changing world of diversity. With the Tokyo club celebrating its 50th anniversary, I humbly thought I could contribute to Kiwanis with Asia-Pacific as a growth engine.

What qualifies you to become an officer of Kiwanis International?
My strength is leadership in cross-cultural environments, a skill acquired through my global career. This was proven by the remarkable success of The Eliminate Project Campaign by the Japan District with my leadership as district coordinator. I will bring my experience and passion to the Kiwanis International board for a stronger and more viable organization.

How will you leave your mark on Kiwanis?
I would like to raise awareness of the Kiwanis brand in the global world as an organization helping children and the community. Through this heightened awareness, we will secure more members and upgrade the motivation of our current members engaged in volunteer activities.

Biographical information
I served in senior executive positions with global IT corporations for more than 40 years. As a 14-year Kiwanian, I contributed much to the growth of the Japan District, supporting global and community projects such as The Eliminate Project and the Kiwanis Doll project. I am married, have one son and two grandsons.
The Objects of Kiwanis International
The following principles have guided Kiwanians’ work since 1924:

To give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life.

To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.

To promote the adoption and the application of higher social, business, and professional standards.

To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive, and serviceable citizenship.

To provide, through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service, and to build better communities.

To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism, and goodwill.