Celebrate Success

Audience: Entire club

People get involved when they know they’re doing something meaningful. They stay involved when their efforts are recognized. And what gets recognized gets repeated.

Ways to recognize members include:

- Praise them verbally (publicly and privately).
- Give them a note.
- Buy them a small gift.
- Smile and say “thank you” often.
- Plan a social get-together.
- Send flowers, cookies, balloons, etc., to their place of employment (which also gives your club visibility).
- Hand out Special K bars.

And here are some ways to celebrate your Service Leadership Programs:

- Involve them in joint community service projects (such as Kiwanis One Day in the fall), and give silly awards such as, “Person with more paint on them than the project.”
- Ask them to participate in division council meetings and make time on the agenda to praise their clubs efforts on recent projects.
- Make longstanding SLP faculty advisors honorary members of the club. Hold a ceremony at the SLP club so its members can see that Kiwanians take time to celebrate their leaders.
- Host an annual springtime “Kiwanis Celebration of Service Leadership” program in which the SLP members are asked to share their observations from the year.
**RECOGNIZE YOUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

Many of your Kiwanis club’s successes are the result of the relationships and partnerships you have developed to support large-scale projects. Without this support, the impact and scope of these projects would be diminished. Acknowledge your club’s partners and sponsors. This will help your club:

- Inspire others to become involved.
- Build community support for future initiatives.
- Emphasize community service.
- Highlight community issues.
- Show that like-minded people, working together, can accomplish great things.
- Make those engaged in community service feel valued.
- Provide examples for the rest of the community.

Consider these other opportunities for recognition:

- **An achievement in which sponsors or partners played a significant role.** It may be an endpoint or a major milestone in a large, long-term project or initiative.
- **A club event specifically to honor collaborators and partners.** Say thank you at a club meeting, a special dinner or other recognition event.
- **Special occasions.** Global observances such as Earth Day, Universal Children’s Day and Mandela Day present opportunities to praise those who work on the issues they represent.

Ways to honor collaborators and partners:

- Thank them with a gift, donation or award at a club event, community meeting or even in a radio or TV interview.
- Mention or highlight them on your website and/or event posters.
- Write a press release or article, and/or invite the press to an event.
- Present a gift or award at a public event.
- Host a party in their honor.
- Create a “community hero” night and honor them.
- Make a donation to a local project in the person or organization’s name.