About this newsletter

Every month, the Kiwanis International Update newsletter delivers news, announcements, and opportunities from your international organization, along with global examples of Kiwanis deeds of service. Through the Update’s content, we hope you feel a deeper pride in your organization, find helpful ideas and materials, and connect and interact with your International Office.

Who gets the newsletter?

Anyone. The newsletter is for all members. In fact, you are encouraged to forward the newsletter to fellow members by clicking one of the “Forward to a Kiwanian” links on the newsletter.

How can I get the newsletter?

It’s simple. If you received this month's newsletter by e-mail from Kiwanis International, you likely already are enrolled. Otherwise, just register.

How can I discontinue my subscription.

It’s simple. Just click the unsubscribe button at the bottom of the newsletter.

How much does it cost?

There is no cost. The Kiwanis International Update is offered to you as a benefit of membership.

What languages are available?

- Chinese
- Dutch
- English
- French
- German
- Italian
Journey for a cure

Rashale gets a second family

Rashale Arana misses her family and friends—and her cat, Tommy. All were left behind in Belize when the 9-year-old girl came to the United States for cancer treatment this past July.

Rashale, right, enjoys making crafts with her new "family" in North Carolina.

Read more about Rashale's journey for a cure.

Now Rashale’s surrounded by her second family—many of them Kiwanians—who will all be by her side through the ups and downs of her treatment.

Rashale will be in the United States about a year, but in just a few months she’s already touching countless lives.

Read more about how Kiwanians in the Carolinas District have played a role in Rashale’s journey for a cure in future issues of this Kiwanis International Update newsletter, as well as the February edition of KIWANIS magazine.

Grow for home

Every community deserves a healthy, active Kiwanis club to serve wherever there’s a need, to raise up leaders, and to reach out into areas of the world that need help.

The www.KiwanisOne.org portal (English) helps Kiwanis clubs remain—or reclaim—a healthy and active membership. The site's Grow Your Club page includes links to materials and ideas to:

- Improve your club
- Recruit new members
- Start a new club
It also provides tips for growth, recognition tools, and resources developed and used by Kiwanis' Together Achieving Growth (TAG) teams.

Check it out. Your community will thank you.

**Inspiring joy**

Read the December 2008 issue of KIWANIS magazine (English), which features stories about Kiwanis clubs that have brought joy, love, and hope to the children of the world.

**Remember**

December 19, 2008, is the deadline for submitting your club's Kiwanis One Day plans in order to qualify for consideration in the video/magazine contest. Two clubs' projects will be selected for Kiwanis International coverage—one with a professional video shoot and the other with a magazine article.


February 1, 2009, is the deadline for submitting nominations for the Kiwanis World Service Medal.

February 15, 2009, is the date proposed International Bylaws amendments and resolutions must be received in the Kiwanis International Office.

April 4, 2009, is Kiwanis One Day, when Kiwanis-family clubs worldwide engage in a global celebration of service.

June 25-28, 2009, are the dates for the 95th Annual Kiwanis International Convention (English) in Nashville, Tennessee.
Report your reading story

New this year, clubs that participate in Read Around the World should report the events via the online on-line monthly report form. This helps track and measure service projects, participation, and helps improve Kiwanis programs.

However, to request a banner patch, a club must complete the banner patch form. Patches will be sent only once per year, on or around October 1, 2009.

Patches for Kiwanis One Day and Young Children: Priority One projects will also be sent at that time.

Midyear: time to think convention

There's a time and a place to think about the 2009 Kiwanis International Convention: your district midyear conference.

Many Kiwanis districts will provide information about the organization's upcoming annual gathering in Nashville, Tennessee. At your district meeting, you also may meet new Kiwanis friends who also will attend the International celebration.

Make plans to meet on the streets of Music City, U.S.A., June 25-28, 2009.

Visit your district's Web site, contact the district office, or talk with your lieutenant governor to find out where and when your district midyear conference will be.

Happy birthday, Kiwanis

Did you know Kiwanis has a birthday coming up? Do you know when? Following are three important dates in Kiwanis' history. Just for fun, which one is the official anniversary? And what significant events occurred on the other two dates?

1. December 7, 1914
2. January 21, 1915
3. May 21, 1919

Answers:

1. On December 7, 1914, Allen Simpson Browne walked into Joe Prance's tailor shop in Detroit, Michigan, and introduced the concept of a business-networking organization that would become Kiwanis.
2. On January 21, 1915, the State of Michigan granted a charter to the first Kiwanis Club: Detroit. This date is recognized as the official anniversary of Kiwanis.
3. On May 21, 1919, delegates raised $17,500 in one-half hour to purchase the organization from its founder, Browne.