Kiwanis International Update

July 2009

Convention updates

Kiwanis delegates elect Palazzolo

At the 2009 Kiwanis International Convention June 25-28, the House of Delegates elected Springfield, Illinois, Kiwanian Paul Palazzolo to lead the organization as its 2009-10 international president.

President-designate Palazzolo emphasizes the importance of growing club membership to better serve children and communities worldwide. “We grow by doing the right things the right way,” he says. “That means running great meetings, doing service that makes a difference and offering true fellowship.”

The House of Delegates also elected these new 2009-10 officers and board members:

- President-elect: Sylvester Neal, Kiwanis Club of the Valley, Auburn, Washington
- Vice president: A. Alan Penn, Medina Breakfast, Ohio
- Region I Trustees: Pam Fleming, Sheffield, Alabama; Jerome E. Peuler, Waldorf, Maryland; Stewart Ross, Mankato, Minnesota

President-designate Paul Palazzolo will be joined on the 2009-10 international board’s executive committee by President-Elect Syl Neal Immediate Past President Don Canaday and Vice President A. Alan Penn.
Two other Kiwanis members will join the international board. At the 2008 Eastern Canada and the Caribbean District Convention, John Button, a member of the Ridgetown, Ontario, Kiwanis Club, was elected to represent Region II (Eastern Canada and the Caribbean and Western Canada districts). Piero Grasso of the Italy-San Marino District was elected Region III (Europe) trustee at the 2009 Kiwanis International-European Federation Convention.

House considers money topics

All amendments considered by the House of Delegates at the 2009 International Convention dealt with money matters. Here are how the decisions will affect clubs.

**Adopted**

- Clubs now have the flexibility to pay insurance premiums from their service accounts, administrative accounts or both. Previously, clubs were required to pay at least 25 cents per member from the administrative fund.
- Kiwanis International’s annual billing date for all clubs will become October 1. The change will be made over a three-year period for some clubs. Since 2004, three payment dates were set according to a club’s organization anniversary date.
- Kiwanis International may adjust dues from clubs in any country where the gross national income is less than $10,000. The amendment was proposed to encourage continued membership growth in nations experiencing difficult economic times.

**Defeated**

- A proposal to eliminate the spouse waiver for the magazine subscription fee. When both spouses are members of a Kiwanis club, one may still choose not to subscribe to the magazine.
Kiwanis Story

A face for the future

Though he was 13 years old, Kimpoy never progressed beyond a first-grade education. Classmates ridiculed him, and schools gave up on him. But when Kiwanians in the Philippines found Kimpoy and his family living along a railroad track, they saw potential.

Doctors had operated on his cleft palate when he was 4 years old, but his family failed to take him for follow-up consultations. He developed severe speech problems, and in frustration, he lost interest in school. That’s how members of the Kiwanis clubs of Laguna Gems and Chrysanthemum of San Pedro, Laguna found him earlier this year.

“When I first saw him, I knew he has a lot of things to offer in life,” says Laguna Gems, San Pedro, Laguna Kiwanian Tess Ordiz.

She and fellow Kiwanians from the Laguna Gems and Chrysanthemum, San Pedro, Laguna clubs accompanied Kimpoy and two other children to a hospital in Dasmarinas, Cavite, where he was screened—and accepted—for surgery.

“Last March 27, our patient had a successful operation,” Tess reports. “Thanks to the Operation Smile doctors, I can now witness how beautiful my friend Kimpoy’s smile is.”

President’s Message

Build for the future

By Don Canaday, Kiwanis International President

Though the Kiwanis International convention is over, we are but one-third of the way through our annual convention season. Meeting this month in Dallas, Texas, Key Club International is celebrating service with workshops, speakers, entertainment, a service fair and fundraising for the Children’s Miracle Network.

Then in August, the stars fall on Alabama when Circle K International members meet for their convention in Birmingham. During the 2009 convention, Circle K students plan a full range of activities, including a blood drive, service fair and elections. Prior to gaveling their convention to order, students will arrive a few days early to take part in Circle K’s Large Scale Service Project.

This year, Circle K has chosen several projects, and the students’ work will make a difference in the lives of a number of children and a number of agencies and organizations during their visit.
Some of the most important work we do in Kiwanis is building the future for young people through the Kiwanis family of organizations—Kiwanis Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, Circle K, Aktion Club and Key Leader. Through these programs, young people and adults living with disabilities can earn scholarships, experience the fun and fellowship of conventions or help a community through a service project.

I encourage members and clubs to support Kiwanis’ youth programs, to help student members to discover more about themselves and the world by participating in service projects, leadership training and awareness-building experiences such as Key Leader.

By investing your time in their success, you sow the seeds of growth, demonstrating that they will always have a home with Kiwanis. With this, we can harvest that growth—that lifelong commitment of service and caring—for the good of children everywhere.

Support Service Leadership Programs. Charter new clubs and help chart Kiwanis’ future.