Kiwanis International Update

Special Convention Edition: Geneva 2011


Your invitation

Ueli Mühlemann, governor-elect of the Switzerland-Liechtenstein District, invites fellow Kiwanians to the 2011 Kiwanis International Convention in Geneva, Switzerland, July 7-10. View the video in French, German, German (with English subtitles) or Italian.

Spend a day with Lucie

Take a virtual tour with convention co-chairwoman Lucie Wiesner.

Welcome the world

For the first time since 1993, Kiwanis International is taking its annual convention to Europe.

For European Kiwanians, that means you have a chance to welcome the world and show off your Kiwanis hospitality by welcoming Kiwanians from the Americas, the Caribbean and Asia-Pacific.

For Kiwanians everywhere, the Geneva convention offers the trip of a lifetime: an experience of amazing scenery and the sumptuous cuisines of Europe.
Steps to go

- Review the tours; then, plan your arrival and departure accordingly.
- Review the convention's special ticketed events.
- Book your hotel accommodations with Kuoni Travel and get your free tour of Annecy, France.
- Register for the convention.
- Get certified as one of your club's two delegates. Earlier this month, this Update newsletter reported the slate of candidates for the 2010-11 Kiwanis International Board. Adding her name to the list is Jane M. Erickson of the Nebraska-Iowa District, declaring her candidacy for United States and Pacific Canada trustee.
- If you need to make flight arrangements, use Star Alliance discounts.
- Rent a car with Hertz discounts.
- Sign up for e-mail updates.

Be a part of history

Conventions often play significant roles in Kiwanis history: At the 1919 Birmingham, Alabama, convention Kiwanis purchased itself from founder Allen Browne. Washington, DC's 1987 convention opened membership to women.

You'll want to be in Geneva, Switzerland, July 7-10, when—once again— Kiwanis makes history with the kickoff of its next global campaign for children, The Eliminate Project: Kiwanis eliminating maternal/neonatal tetanus. Forums, a luncheon and general session activities are planned to celebrate the launch. Be there.

Get the facts

What currency does Switzerland use? What can you do at night in Geneva? How do you tip in Europe? The Geneva convention website answers these and other frequently asked questions.
What a show!

If you’ve never been to a Kiwanis International convention, you’ll be amazed by the experience:

- It's a big show, with internationally known speakers and entertainment. U.S. Statesman Colin Powell addressed the 2010 convention.
- It's certainly global. You’ll make friends from Asia, the Pacific, Latin America, Canada, the Caribbean, Europe and the United States. And the sessions and workshops are presented in English, French and German.
- At the Business Session, you’ll join other club representatives and plan Kiwanis's future by electing officers and considering proposed Bylaws amendments.
- At the Exhibit Hall, you can collect numerous ideas to help your club serve, raise funds and grow its membership.
- Kiwanis experts lead forums and workshops. Plus, you can shop at the Kiwanis Family Store and purchase European souvenirs.

Listen to this

Your convention hosts are eager to get to know you. Replay Robert Jenefsky, Christophe Santschi and Lucie Wiesner's webinars: English, French or German.

Be part of the Kiwanis Hit Parade!

Does your club or division have a successful service project you would like to share with Kiwanians from all over the world? If so, let us know. Kiwanis International will devote a section of the exhibit hall in Geneva to showcase some of Kiwanis’ best service projects and most outstanding fundraisers. The Kiwanis Hit Parade is an opportunity for your club to share your success story!

- Exhibits should be limited to table top displays.
- Materials, such as handouts, brochures and leaflets, are encouraged.
- There is not a charge to exhibit, however, all members staffing the booth must be paid registrants for the convention
- Hit Parade Exhibits are informational only. No sales of any kind should be made from this booth.

More details and applications will soon be available at www.kiwanis.org/convention.
Everything you need

The December 2010 KIWANIS magazine includes a 16-page convention, complete with registration and housing forms. View it online or as a downloadable pdf.