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ANNUAL REPORT | WORKERS WITH ABILITIES | THE DIRT ON DIRT
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contents | April/May

DEPARTMENTS
04 | VOICES
President’s message; quotes; letter; executive perspective; what they say
08 | NEWS
Detroit’s birthday party; membership month; playground prize; convention updates; new club bylaws
50 | SHOWCASE
Reading refuge; cardiac careers; collegiate computers; doggy duty; pickin’ and grinnin’; dinnertime
58 | PEOPLE
Going wild in Alaska
60 | ETC.
Teetering around; passing the buck; winning ugly; past encounters
66 | RETROSPECTIVE
The good ship Kiwanis

FEATURES
14 | SERVING A CITY IN NEED
Hard-hit, resilient New Orleans knows it can always rely on the tireless dedication of its Kiwanis family.
22 | WANTED: WORKERS WITH DISABILITIES
The abilities of employees with disabilities remain misunderstood and untapped by many businesses.
28 | DIRT

KIWANIS ANNUAL REPORT
30 | YOU ARE KIWANIS
In 2011–12, Kiwanians led our organization to local progress and global achievement.

Cover photo by Kathy Anderson

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time.

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Higher standards; true values

Accountability, responsibility, transparency: These are Kiwanis values.

Nonprofit organizations like Kiwanis realize that the publication of an annual independent financial audit is not just a “best practice.” It is an absolute necessity. The need for transparency requires Kiwanis to cling to its third Object, adopted in 1924. We remain an organization applying “higher social, business and professional standards.”

Our members and members of the general public who support Kiwanis’ local and global projects—whether large or small—need to have confidence that we are responsible stewards of their funds as well as their trust. Kiwanis leaders at all levels are expected to make prudent decisions and to determine the financial impact and consequences of whatever decision is made. The obligation to report, explain and be answerable for resulting consequences, financial or otherwise, is the very essence of transparency.

Accountability is not limited to accurate financial accounting. Moral accountability is equally important. While one might find it easy to dodge responsibilities, one should find it hard to dodge the consequences of dodging responsibilities.

This issue of the Kiwanis magazine provides a condensed balance sheet and statement of financial activities for the prior fiscal year. It is a statement that once again shows general financial stability with an underlying concern about unrestricted revenue shortfalls. It is obvious that our organization remains much too dependent on dues revenue from a declining membership base.

Acting responsibly under these circumstances requires your Kiwanis International Board of Trustees to prioritize and monitor expenditures carefully so that maximum value is provided to our member clubs. As the late Steven Covey put it, “Accountability breeds response-ability.”

As Kiwanis International continues to provide the services and benefits to its clubs and their members, you can be assured that your leaders will strive to be responsible stewards because as Kiwanians, we are accountable to the meaning of the third Object of Kiwanis.

Tom DeJulio | Kiwanis International President

www.kiwanis.org/store
What they say

What best describes the value of membership in Kiwanis?

Tom DeJulio | President
“Far greater than any material currency, a Kiwanis member is given the opportunity to receive the intrinsic reward of saving and protecting newborns and their mothers, shaping a young person’s life and making a difference in local and global communities. Touching the future is priceless.”

Gunter Gasser | President-elect
“Each one of us knows the deep and sincere feeling of happiness in supporting someone in need. But if you help as a group for a good cause, you also benefit from the satisfaction of teamwork and additionally enjoy fellowship and fun. You can find this in the worldwide Kiwanis family.”

Peter Mancuso | President, Kiwanis International Foundation
“Active participation in Kiwanis makes you feel good about yourself—who you are, what you stand for and what your role is in the world. As we enrich the lives of those in need through service, we add just as much value to our own lives, albeit in a very different way.”

John R. Button | Vice president
“The value of membership in Kiwanis: Having the opportunity to improve the lives of children and communities in an atmosphere of fun and fellowship.”

Stan Soderstrom | Kiwanis Executive Director

Executive Perspective

GOOD NEWS AND CHALLENGES

Following the practice established three years ago, we present this issue of Kiwanis magazine as a combined magazine and annual report for the 2011–12 year. We show a sampling of the program and service highlights of our clubs and Kiwanis-family members. We share some stories of the important work of our foundation. And we demonstrate why we believe it’s easy to justify membership in Kiwanis.

We also report the audited financial statements of Kiwanis, Key Club, Circle K and our Kiwanis International Foundation. You’ll see that due to a strong stock market and careful management of our investment portfolio over the long term, our balance sheet has continued to grow. Our total net assets in 2008 were slightly more than US$22 million. We ended 2012 at US$27.8 million. That’s good news.

But there also are challenges. Over the past two years, our declining dues base has caused us to operate at a net loss. Between 2011 and 2012, we trimmed more than a million dollars from our operating budget. But at the end of the day, our clubs lost more members than they added, and we showed a US$613,419 loss.

Ultimately, we want Kiwanis to grow, not because our financial statements will look better, but so our brand of community service will grow. As I look at all the challenging issues facing our communities today—gun violence, bullying, child abuse, hunger, homelessness—I know in my heart that more Kiwanis clubs and more Kiwanis communities would contribute to more community solutions.

We’re trying to diversify our revenue base by creating more partnerships that will help our clubs. In the past year, the Hershey Company, the US Army, Nickelodeon and Scholastic Books have all joined us to provide financial and program support to our clubs.

Most recently, we’re pleased to add playground equipment manufacturer Landscape Structures to our Kiwanis support network. Several hundred Kiwanis clubs support playground builds every year. Landscape Structures is ready to join us as we continue to build our communities.

Kiwanis has a great story to tell. If you’re not sure how to tell that story, use these annual report pages to inspire you. Tell a friend, a neighbor or a co-worker about your Kiwanis club. Invite them into the community of your club. Help them understand why and how Kiwanis can solve issues in your community.

Thank you for your Kiwanis membership.

John R. Button | Vice president
“The value of membership in Kiwanis: Having the opportunity to improve the lives of children and communities in an atmosphere of fun and fellowship.”
Opinion | An open letter to Kiwanis-family members

A HOLISTIC, FAMILY GET-TOGETHER

Fellow Kiwanis-family members, I’m excited and delighted to invite you all to join Kiwanis International President Tom DeJulio and me in Vancouver, British Columbia, this summer for the 98th Annual Kiwanis International Convention and the 58th Annual Circle K International Convention. Having both the CKI and Kiwanis conventions in the same city during the same week is a wonderful opportunity for our organizations to come together and celebrate the successes of the Kiwanis family during the 2012–13 year.

Having been a member of the Kiwanis family for nine years, I am very aware of the importance Kiwanians have in supporting Service Leadership Programs such as CKI. The opportunity to have both conventions in Vancouver this year is a unique chance for Kiwanians and Circle K’ers to learn more about both organizations. President Tom and I have many events planned that will connect the two branches together, making your overall convention experience more holistic of the Kiwanis family that we are all a part of.

I hope you’re as excited as I am about the 2013 Kiwanis International and CKI conventions. I look forward to meeting you in Vancouver this summer!

Josephine Lukito | CKI President

The editors would like to hear what you think about the contents of this issue of Kiwanis magazine; email us at magazine@kiwanis.org.

Overheard | Quotes from around the Web

“We’re partial to Kiwanis Park here in Visalia, CA. It just opened a few months ago, and it’s a hit!”

Visalia Parks and Recreation, California | Twitter

“So that lunch meeting with the Kearney Kiwanis? They pledged US$25,000 to the Emerson playground! The world is filled with amazing people.”

MissionMonday.com
Kearney, Nebraska | Twitter

“There is still good in the world! Logramos conseguirle la silla a Luis Angel. (We managed to get a chair for Luis Angel.) Gracias, #kiwanis.”

Laura Montana, Panama | Twitter

Grilled salmon was on the menu. So, too, was tender, juicy beef. With mashed potatoes, julienned vegetables and salad. And birthday cake, of course. Past Kiwanis International presidents attended, along with more than 200 guests, representing six US states and one Canadian province. A Salvation Army ensemble entertained with a mixture of swing (“This Little Light of Mine”), fanfare (“Cornerstone”) and marches (“A Shining Light” and “Ayr Citadel.”)

Happy birthday, Kiwanis! Happy birthday, Detroit Kiwanis Club No. 1.

This past January 26, the Hotel St. Regis in Detroit, Michigan, hosted Kiwanis’ 98th annual birthday party with plenty of spectacle to make all present eager for the 100th anniversary just two years away. Kiwanis observes January 21, 1915, as its official birth date. On that day, the State of Michigan granted the formal charter of the first Kiwanis club, Detroit.

“With so many clubs joining us, the atmosphere felt like and sounded like a mini-Kiwanis International convention,” said Detroit Kiwanian Herb Fuqua. “The festive music, the great food and the spirited interest in raising money for The Eliminate Project spread a joyful noise throughout the elegantly decorated ballroom. All in all, it was a night of Kiwanis laughter and smiles, of renewed purpose and determination, of professionalism and spontaneity. It was a party with a purpose.”

A silent auction, which received bids on food items, books, event tickets and beauty products, helped raise US$2,300 for Kiwanis’ campaign to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus and another $2,000 for the Detroit club’s charities.
Members are focus of May’s days

Year-round attention on membership can ensure that your club remains an effective service resource in your community, but the month of May is a time to pay special attention to recruitment. In the Kiwanis world, May is one of two Membership Months in 2013 (the other was in March).

Kiwanis International and districts have resources and assistance to help your club in May or any time of the year. Here are a few tips to help your club begin planning its membership activities:

Create a membership team, using the 1-2-3 method:
1. Get the right people on the committee, set goals and put the plan into action.
2. Keep goals visible to members and celebrate successes.
3. Recognize and reward members who contribute to your success.


Get back to basics. Conduct member and community analyses to ensure your club’s membership experience is filled with fun, fellowship and meaningful service. Try these ideas:
• Create a buddy system by pairing faithful, active members with inactive members.
• Organize a homecoming meeting to celebrate club history and recent achievements.
• Schedule a service project with your club’s Service Leadership Program members.
• Send “We miss you” messages to every member who misses two meetings in a row. You’ll find missing member postcards in the Kiwanis Store (www.kiwanis.org/store).

Recognize members’ and club accomplishments at every meeting. Share your club’s membership success stories by emailing details to shareyourstory@kiwanis.org.

Play to win playground prize

It’s not too early to start planning for Kiwanis One Day 2014. Kiwanis International and its Vision Partner, Landscape Structures, can help—with the Building Communities Through Play contest. It’s open to Kiwanis clubs worldwide, and it could help you build a playground in your community.

On or after April 7, 2013, just fill out the online entry form and explain why your community needs a playground.

When voting opens May 6, encourage everyone you know to vote for your entry at Facebook.com/Kiwanis. Facebook votes will identify the top finalists. A contest jury will select the winner.

To help launch a fundraising campaign or enhance an existing project, the winning club will receive US$25,000 in equipment from Landscape Structures’ diverse line of products, which includes inclusive-play experiences, nature-inspired structures and themed designs.

Start planning for 2014 Kiwanis One Day! On or after April 7, enter the Building Communities Through Play contest at Facebook.com/Kiwanis.

Photo courtesy Landscape Structures
Sign of friendship

“Everyone was friendly and so very willing to take time to talk and sign their names. At a place where we have so much to do, learn and see in a finite amount of time, my new friends slowed down to share a smile.”

That’s what Victoria Turney, a member of the Marietta, Georgia, Kiwanis Club, had to say about her experience during a recent Kiwanis International convention.

Thousands of Kiwanians from around the world attend Kiwanis International conventions. They share service project and fundraising ideas, learn recruiting tactics and elect new leaders. But one of the most rewarding aspects of a Kiwanis convention is meeting friends.

This June 27–30, at the 98th Annual Kiwanis International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, the International Signatures Hunt is back to help Kiwanians slow down, share a smile and meet one another.

Alumni gathering in Vancouver too

The Alumni Dinner, held during Kiwanis International’s conventions, gives Key Club International and CKI alumni a chance to reconnect with old friends and make new ones. This year, alumni and guests will meet on Friday, June 28, for an evening of dinner, giveaways and great conversation.

Tickets are US$25 and can be ordered on the Kiwanis convention registration form at www.KiwanisOne.org/convention/registration or through either of the alumni groups’ websites (www.keyclub.org/alumni and www.circlek.org/alumni).

Vancouver news

Here are five things you may find helpful if you’re going—or thinking about going—to the 98th Annual Kiwanis International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, June 27–30.


2. Show off your club’s best service or fundraising project at the convention’s Inspiration & Idea Center. There’s no charge to exhibit. Download the form at www.KiwanisOne.org/convention/servicefair and submit your application by May 17.

3. Enrich your Kiwanis-family experience by mingling with CKI members, who also will be in Vancouver for their convention. Visit KiwanisOne.org/convention/cki for details.

4. Put on your walking shoes, because Kiwanis and Circle K once again will work together to organize a convention walkathon, raising money for The Eliminate Project. Learn more at www.KiwanisOne.org/convention/myschedule.

5. Be sure to always carry your convention name tag with you. Many Vancouver attractions, merchants and restaurants will offer discounts to their badge-flashing Kiwanis guests. Learn more at www.KiwanisOne.org/discount.
You have a voice. You have a vote. You have a place in Vancouver.

You have a say in the issues that shape our organization. So lift your voice and add your vote—join us for the 98th Annual Kiwanis International Convention. Experience one of the world’s most beautiful cities. Enjoy the fellowship of people who share your Kiwanis commitment. Energize your club with new information and fresh inspiration.

Shape the future. Share the experience.
Register for the Kiwanis International convention.

www.KiwanisOne.org/convention
ON THE WEB

SNEAK PEEK

Club bylaws now online

In October 2012, the Kiwanis International Board adopted a new Standard Form for Club Bylaws, which provides greater flexibility and autonomy to clubs. It also includes club policies that may be personalized by each club.

The revised standard form, including mandatory and optional policies sections, is now available online, and all clubs are asked to adopt the new bylaws by the end of the 2013–14 administrative year. The new online submission process allows for easier editing, more secure archiving and self-serve access, which gives the club the ability to check approval status and download a copy anytime (once the new version is submitted online).

Since a club’s bylaws will be stored electronically, they’ll always be accessible whenever a copy is needed or if, later, the club wants to amend its bylaws.

For many people in Cameroon, life is a daily struggle. This Western African country is marked by deep poverty and high rates of child and maternal mortality. The average life expectancy is just 51 years. Despite these challenges, Cameroon recently celebrated some heartening news: The country has eliminated maternal and neonatal tetanus. UNICEF worked with the government of Cameroon to carry out a campaign to immunize women of childbearing age against tetanus in all 10 of the country’s districts. Between 1990 and 2010, the number of newborns protected from tetanus in Cameroon soared from 20 to 91 percent. Statistics can’t capture the true meaning of this progress—especially for those of us working with UNICEF to eliminate MNT. Behind each number is a life full of possibility, and a family kept whole.

“Our $100,000* commitment to The Eliminate Project fits nicely with our ‘100’ theme and growth plan for our 100th anniversary. Our gift is about saving babies—not just in our community, but around the world.”

—Jim Gerwe, president, Kiwanis Club of Cincinnati

Read more about the club’s vision to increase membership to 100, serve 100,000 children and raise US$100,000 for the campaign at www.TheEliminateProject.org/Cincy.

$100,000

Limited-edition 2013 Mother’s Day brooch

Honor someone you love with a Mother’s Day Zeller Fellowship. Find out how at www.TheEliminateProject.org/mothersday.

3 hot districts

These districts have something to brag about—the highest per-member average donations to The Eliminate Project in the world.

1. Japan $491.07
2. Western Canada $437.24
3. Australia $405.41

Figures are accurate as of February 15, 2013.
According to an August 2012 Seattle Times story, New Orleans’ homeless population was more than twice the numbers reported before 2005’s Hurricane Katrina. The Lantern Light, which offers a variety of services, turns to volunteers for help. Every other Monday, Dawn Buster Kiwanians are there, dishing out nutritious meals and trading smiles with more than 2,000 guests.

The Dawn Busters, Metairie, Kiwanis Club in suburban New Orleans, Louisiana, is so busy, so committed that sometimes it’s hard for President Michael Haffner to keep up.

Every other Monday, members feed the homeless. Once a month, they prepare meals for families of sick children. On Thursdays, they’re in the schools working with the next generation of Kiwanians. There are reading incentive programs and meal deliveries to shut-ins and projects for kids with cancer.

“Everyone has their niche,” says Haffner, who joined Dawn Busters nearly six years ago at the urging of a friend. “It’s a beautiful thing, giving back to the community. It’s contagious, and once you go, you’re hooked.”

Just ask Jack Villarrubia, a 12-year Kiwanian who couldn’t imagine not spending his lunch hour every other Monday serving up red beans and rice at Lantern Light, a St. Joseph’s Church ministry that, in addition to providing meals to the poor, offers legal advice, a place to shower, emergency financial assistance, résumé typing and other services.

“I just enjoy helping these homeless people,” Villarrubia said on a recent Monday at
Lantern Light, where he and several other members filled some 200 foam boxes with red beans and rice, cornbread and cake. “Just seeing the smiles on their faces when we hand them a box makes it all worth it.”

While Dawn Busters, with its 126 members, is the biggest Kiwanis club in the New Orleans area, it is by no means the only one with such a hectic, yet gratifying schedule of giving. The New Orleans area boasts more than a dozen clubs, and their activities run the gamut from blanket collecting and Bingo to home building and mentoring.

New Orleans needs their help—as does the state as a whole. Although Louisiana, long at or near the bottom of most U.S. child welfare lists, has begun showing glimpses of hope, the statistics are still grim. According to the latest Kids Count report by the Annie C. Casey Foundation, Louisiana ranks 47th for overall child well-being, up from 49th a year ago. The report measures such indicators as education, health, family income and risky behaviors.

Kenner Mayor Michael Yenni says he’s proud that two of the most active clubs—Dawn Busters and Kenner North—are based in his community and contributing so greatly to its welfare. Kenner is about 11 miles from New Orleans in Jefferson Parish.

Be it their work with high school Key Clubs, public schools or New Orleans homeless shelters, Yenni says, their projects epitomize the Kiwanis mission of changing the world “one child at a time.”

Yenni is a member of both clubs, which he says work tirelessly all year raising money to fund the activities. “The annual Turkey Fry by the Dawn Busters raises thousands of dollars for a number of worthwhile projects,” he says. “And Kenner North Kiwanis members are just as busy,” their most profitable fundraiser being Park-A-Boo, a three-day Halloween celebration at Lafreniere Park in Metairie.

Kenner North started Park-A-Boo four years ago to give suburban families a festival similar to Boo-at-the-Zoo at Audubon Park in Uptown New Orleans. Guests pay one price, and except for concessions and a costume contest, everything is included—trick-or-treating, game booths, face-painting and a not-so-scary haunted house.

“We wanted a safe, family-friendly event,” says Michael Koorie, president of the Kenner North Kiwanis Club. “We’ll run an average of 5,000 to 7,000 kids on the weekend.”

In fact, it was Koorie’s love affair with Halloween and his own decorating expertise that prompted him to get involved in the first place. Although he was a Key Club member in high school, he never considered Kiwanis as an adult; that is, until festival organizers asked him for advice on Halloween decorations.

“They wanted some pointers, and I said, ‘Sure,’” Koorie says. “When I learned about all the different activities they did, I was impressed.”

With proceeds from the event, volunteers sponsor a monthly fish fry at Chateau Living Center, a nurs-
Members of the Kiwanis Club of Dawn Busters, Metairie, often take time to volunteer at the Ozanam Inn, a homeless shelter in New Orleans. Deacon Biagio D. DiGiovanni is the director of the shelter, and also a member of the Dawn Busters club. When the club makes meals at Ozanam Inn, they often make enough to have leftovers for deliveries to Lantern Light, a St. Joseph’s Church ministry. They provide dinner and entertainment at Hope Lodge, an American Cancer Society inn for patients undergoing treatment. They deliver meals to shut-ins through Meals on Wheels. And they run two academic programs: a reading-incentive program at one school, a tutoring program at another.

“Their involvement is vital to public school systems,” says Larry Dale, president of the Jefferson Parish School Board. “School systems today are called upon to not only educate, but to accomplish so many other jobs in the lives of our students. Without parents and community organizations who pitch in and help, the work
The Kenner North Kiwanis Club’s reading and tutoring programs are changing children’s attitudes about learning: replacing groans with spirit. Plus, the schools appreciate the extra help, as their professional staffs take on increasing responsibilities and demands. Without the volunteers, one administrator says, the schools’ work would be “insurmountable.”

Robert Benoit, governor of Kiwanis’ Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District, agrees. “By reaching one child at a time and teaching them how to pay it forward, the end result is a better community.”

Nowhere is that more apparent than at Chateau Elementary School in Kenner, where volunteers with the Kenner North club tutor children in need of extra assistance. At nearby Schneckeburger Elementary, they sponsor Rewards for Reading, under which students win bicycles and other prizes for reading a designated number of books.

Schneckeburger Librarian Julie Broussard says students gleam when they see the Kiwanis volunteers on campus, especially in December and May when prizes are awarded.

“The Kiwanis club not only provides the awards and incentives but excitement, support and a hands-on approach to help readers develop into lifelong readers and learners,” Broussard says. “They are an extremely generous, loving and dedicated group of people whose time and hard work benefit our school and our students.”

Across the New Orleans metro area in St. Bernard Parish, the St. Bernard-Arabi Club is involved in similar reading incentive programs. This year, the group is focusing on alternative schools, where students often look at reading assignments as “punish work,” says member...
Patrice Cusimano, who is also a Kiwanis lieutenant governor.

“By awarding them with age-appropriate prizes,” she says, “we hope to change their attitudes about reading.”

Cusimano says her club is especially proud of its Terrific Kids program, which awards children for following the Golden Rule. “That’s a hit with parents because children who might not get awarded for scholastics or athletics have a chance of being recognized.”

Like many clubs in New Orleans, the Kiwanis Club of Algiers holds weekly meetings at 7 a.m. and has little trouble drawing a crowd. But Bobbie Whidden remembers a time when empty chairs were the norm. It was just after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The powerful storm flooded 80 percent of New Orleans, killed more than 1,800 and forced thousands to flee the area for good.

“Katrina took a huge toll on us,” Whidden says. “We met two weeks after Katrina and only about 10 people showed up.”

“We looked at what the biggest needs were among us—who needed refrigerators cleaned out, debris picked up. We started with our own group, the idea being that if you don’t fill your own teacup, you’ll have nothing to give anyone else.”

In time, membership began to grow. Today it stands at 85, and activities abound, with members fixing meals for teens in group homes, running Bingo games at a nursing home and providing Thanksgiving turkeys for poor families.

At a recent meeting, Gary Bair, community service chairman, announced a new service—volunteering with Kickoff to Rebuild, a National Football League-sanctioned home-building project in the McClendonville area of New Orleans the Friday before Super Bowl 47.

“It’s nice to write a check out, but let’s get out in the community and roll up our sleeves,” he says. “We’ll have our own house to work on. We’ll do mostly painting, and all you have to do is show up.”

Bair passed a sign-up sheet around, and almost everyone pledged to work. In a few weeks, they’ll be asked for their help again, this time to sell beer at the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival. For every can sold—and there are thousands of them—the group gets 19 cents. It’s one of their biggest fundraisers.

“It’s a lot of work, but we love it, because we know what it can support,” Whidden says.

The Dawn Busters club holds an annual turkey fry to help fund its projects, including lunch at Lantern Light. With help from Key Clubs and other groups, members deep-fry upwards of 700 Cajun spice-injected turkeys and sell them for US$40 each.

The homeless residents who lined up recently for red beans and rice at Lantern Light couldn’t have been more grateful, with several wishing the volunteers God’s blessings as they took their meals.

“It means the world to me,” Louis Coleman says of Lantern Light and the volunteers who give of their time. “It’s nice to be able to come here and get some food. It helps carry us through the night.”

Ronald Kujawa, who makes his home under a bridge, agrees.

“I don’t like coming here,” he says. “But everyone at some given point in time needs help, and these people are doing an awesome job. It shows the true spirit of America.”

Michael Haffner (left), president of the Kiwanis Club of Dawn Busters, Metairie, says the future of Kiwanis is in its Key Clubs and Builders Clubs, and he uses every opportunity to invite the youth and their parents to his club’s activities. At right, members of the Benjamin Franklin High School Key Club, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of New Orleans.
Wanted: Workers with disabilities

The abilities of employees with disabilities remain misunderstood and untapped by many businesses. Here’s what you need to know to help your enterprise grow with these driven workers.

By Nicholas Drake

Like most ambitious young people eager to take on more job responsibilities, Brett Eastburn was ready to try something new. After a year and a half as a customer greeter for a national department store in Mishawaka, Indiana, the outgoing Hoosier wanted to move up the ranks to store detective.

“They didn’t believe I could do the job while keeping myself safe,” Eastburn recalls. “So once I got the senior loss-prevention instructor in the room to explain my abilities, I caught him off guard with a karate takedown move. I showed him I could apprehend him without hurting him or myself. I made my point and landed the promotion.”

Today, 42-year-old Eastburn can look back with a smile at his early success. Born with no arms and no legs due to a congenital birth defect known as quadremeral limbs deficiency, he’s one of millions of individuals with disabilities worldwide who simply want the same career opportunities as able-bodied persons.

“The biggest obstacle is other people telling me no,” says Eastburn, who earned a green belt in martial arts despite his disability.

“Even then, I don’t think it’s an obstacle. The word no is like a big green light to me. It motivates me to prove to that person that I am going to figure out how to do it and get it done.”

One look at Brett Eastburn’s schedule as a professional motivational speaker/comedian shows the variety of audiences he faces: school assemblies, nightclubs, fundraisers, military groups and corporate retreats. Though his subjects may change, his core purpose is to raise awareness about the abilities of persons who live with disabilities. His motto, he says, is: “No Arms, No Legs, No Handicaps.”
“The number of clients and consumers with disabilities grows daily. Who better to find out how to serve these people in the best way possible than to ask an employee with a disability?”

In the United States alone, approximately 56.7 million people have disabilities in a population of about 303.9 million, according to the US Census Bureau. Of those individuals with a disability ages 21 to 64, less than one-half were employed—41.1 percent compared with 79.1 percent of people without disabilities. For adults with severe disabilities, employment is even more difficult to achieve. Just 27.5 percent were employed in 2010.

Recognized as a motivational speaker and author of the 2011 book “I’m Not Missing Anything,” Eastburn would like businesses to take a second look at hiring workers with disabilities.

“The number of clients and consumers with disabilities grows daily,” he says. “Who better to find out how to serve these people in the best way possible than to ask an employee with a disability?”

One of the biggest challenges people with disabilities face when seeking employment is having their skill levels and commitment levels recognized. Tony Dolan is chairman for the Council of Canadians with Disabilities, a human rights organization based in Winnipeg, Manitoba, of people with disabilities working for an accessible and inclusive Canada. He believes many employers hold broad misconceptions about the abilities of those with disabilities.

“We struggle to be included instead of excluded,” says Dolan, who uses a wheelchair due to a 1978 swimming accident that resulted in an incomplete quadriplegia. “Our exclusion is not deliberate but by default. We wish for more social integration. We don’t seek to be taken care of by the state. Our desire is to be employed. We want to be seen as part of society.”

Dolan cites ongoing studies commissioned by E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, which employs thousands of workers in more than 90 countries. In one study, DuPont followed more than 800 employees with varying disabilities and found that 90 percent rated average or better in job performance compared with 95 percent for employees without disabilities. Similar outcomes were found in DuPont studies from 1990, 1981 and 1973.

Along with misperceptions about skills and commitment, Dolan understands apprehensions employers may have in hiring persons with disabilities. How will they fit in? What accommodations will need to be made?

“A main concern is whether any adjustments will need to be made to the workplace,” Dolan says. “Will the whole office have to be changed? The answer is no. Adjustments don’t have to be overwhelming or expensive. I use a wheelchair. How will it fit under a desk? Raise the desk two inches and the challenge is solved. What about the coat rack? Lower it by a foot and we’re good to go. It’s not always that easy, but you can solve many issues with little effort.”

Both Dolan and Eastburn encourage employers, hiring managers and fellow employees to ask questions of their colleagues with disabilities. They believe that clearing the air helps remove real or perceived awkwardness that might arise.
“Take the kid gloves off,” Dolan advises. “Get the discussion up front and out in the open as soon as possible. Some people may think having a disability leads to emotional instability. They think their inquiries will be met with negative reactions. My experience is that most people with disabilities welcome frank discussions.

“For managers, simply ask obvious questions. Are there accommodations you might need? Do you need parking close to the building? What needs might you have for your workspace? It doesn’t have to be awkward.”

Eastburn believes such questions are part of the normalization process for persons with and without disabilities.

“All people have questions,” he says. “Why are you in a chair? Where are your arms and legs? What happened to you? Those are great questions. If I met someone like me, I would want to ask the exact same things. First impressions really do mean a lot. I offer a smile, a handshake or a joke to break the ice. I want to make everyone feel comfortable and not uneasy about the elephant in the room—me.”

So how can businesses better serve potential job candidates who have disabilities? Jim Gibbons is president and chief executive office of Goodwill Industries International based in Rockville, Maryland, which trains and employs millions of workers worldwide facing challenges. This includes many individuals with disabilities. He offers some practical advice to hiring managers.

“Employers should never imagine themselves as the person with the disability they are interviewing or employing,” says Gibbons, who at the 2011 Aktion Club conference, Craig Eastburn—born with no arms and legs—proved his can-do words by throwing a football with a perfect spiral and karate-chopping a stack of boards. He challenged attendees not to accept limitations set by others. “You can do anything you want to do,” he encouraged. Several Aktion Club members related stories of successful careers, from photography to craft sales.
experienced macular degeneration as a child and became completely blind in college. “That often leads to erroneous assumptions. Keep focus on what the person brings in terms of talents, skills and abilities in the context of the job requirements, not what he or she doesn’t bring such as the ability to see, walk or hear.

“Communication is key. Ask the person with a disability what he or she needs. Colleagues should bring a perspective of open-mindedness. You will find with technology, a few accommodations and thinking differently, the team member with a disability will not only be engaged as a contributor but the entire team will function more effectively because their minds have been open to new ways of thinking, new ways of doing things and new ways of achieving the team’s objectives.”

Magician Jeff Smith has long enjoyed new ways of thinking. This past June during the Kiwanis International convention in New Orleans, Louisiana, the St. Paul, Minnesota-based Smith presented a magic show to a group of Kiwanis Aktion Club members. Billed as “The Amazing Jeffo,” Smith is an example of someone who clearly beat the odds of employment. Born with sight, he lost it during his teens due to rheumatoid arthritis, for which he also uses a walking cane.

“Most people do react at an emotional level when first meeting or seeing someone with disabilities,” says Smith, who has performed some 3,000 magic shows over 18 years and recently authored the book “Seeing Light in the Darkness.” “Once a relationship is established, the prominence of the disabilities diminishes and the personality dominates. Natural curiosity is to be expected and is OK. But please don’t stare. It makes no difference to me, but it bugs my wife.”

Read the complete interview with Jim Gibbons, president and CEO of Goodwill Industries International, at http://kwn.is/kigibbons.

Jeff Smith, who spoke and entertained at the 2012 Aktion Club conference, earned a degree in advertising journalism but couldn’t find a job “to do something that matters.” So he created his own opportunities and became a professional magician and advocate, challenging people’s perceptions about other persons’ abilities.
DIRT


By Alyssa Chase
This could be the infield of a baseball diamond. Or the well-worn ground beneath a tire swing. Or the vacant lot where you played as a kid.

Dirt. It’s where Clostridium tetani, the bacterium that causes tetanus, lives.

It’s why your parents told you not to go barefoot. It’s why people rush to get a tetanus shot when they step on something sharp. An infection doesn’t always happen, but sometimes it does. Immunization can prevent it.

In many places in the developing world, dirt is inside and out—where food is prepared, where a baby is born. It’s not about cleanliness—it’s about poverty.

Imagine a newborn baby in an environment like this, wrapped in a blanket. Her aunt cuts her umbilical cord with an unsterile instrument, such as a shard of glass or a piece of metal. She treats the wound with ash from the family’s cooking fire.

This is where maternal and neonatal tetanus begins: dirt and an open wound. A mother who hasn’t been immunized can’t pass on her immunity to her newborn baby.

On this day, at the site of the wound, tetanus toxin from the soil enters the baby’s body. After a few days, the baby’s jaw becomes so stiff, she stops nursing. She arches her back in convulsions. Eventually, she stops breathing.

In countries still fighting maternal and neonatal tetanus—most of them in sub-Saharan Africa, South and Southeast Asia and the Middle East—this is an everyday story.

A baby dies.

Because her mother wasn’t immunized.

Because her umbilical cord was cut with a piece of glass.

Because she was born on a dirt floor.

Find out what Kiwanis and UNICEF are doing to fight maternal and neonatal tetanus at www.TheEliminateProject.org.
You are Kiwanis

IN 2011–12, KIWANIANS LED OUR ORGANIZATION TO LOCAL PROGRESS AND GLOBAL ACHIEVEMENT. | By Tony Knoderer

No other Kiwanian is exactly like you.
After all, your individual reasons for serving and giving are uniquely your own. Your community presents particular challenges and opportunities. And your Kiwanis club has a specific culture and traditions, with a special mix of people and talents.

In 2011–12, the Kiwanis family’s accomplishments were an accumulation of what individual clubs and members contributed to our mission. Our steady present and our bright future are the results of your inspiration—and your determination. From new highs to ongoing successes, Kiwanis and the Kiwanis International Foundation depended on members like you.

Because you are Kiwanis.

PASSION AND PROGRESS

When it comes to local effort and global impact, The Eliminate Project is a shining example. Our Global Campaign for Children is a partnership with UNICEF—and a commitment to help eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus from the face of the Earth.

Administered by the Kiwanis International Foundation, The Eliminate Project kicked off in July 2011 with a fundraising goal of US$110 million by the end of 2015. As of September 30, 2012, the Kiwanis family was ahead of schedule, pledging and raising more than US$16.7 million. (As of October 1, 2012, the combined Kiwanis/U.S. Fund for UNICEF total was more than $18.2 million.)

The early measure of our success, however, was defined by participation as much as money. Through 2011–12, more than 4,000 Kiwanians had begun working as club, division and multi-division coordinators, putting their training into practice as fundraisers and campaign leaders.

Kiwanis’ impact is felt the world over. In Guinea, Africa, Kiwanis members witness firsthand how The Eliminate Project is helping save babies through vaccinations against maternal-neonatal tetanus (left). And the Kiwanis Club of Sequoia, Visalia, California (right), uses funds from a Kiwanis International Foundation grant to provide horse-riding activities and therapy for children and adults with disabilities. The grant helps provide tuition for the riders at the camp.

Photo by Judy Kramer
As a result, clubs and their members drove the campaign’s growing success. By the end of the Kiwanis year, overall club and individual gifts were adding up. There were:
- 221 Model Clubs
- 23 100K Clubs
- 10 Lead Gifts
- 42 Major Gifts
- 2,454 Walter Zeller Fellows
But the most important figure of all kept falling: the number of countries where MNT has yet to be eliminated. As of February 2013, we’re fighting MNT in just 30 countries—down from 40 at the beginning of 2010–11. The Eliminate Project was designed to change the world. Thanks to the Kiwanis family, that change is underway.

**YOUNG MEMBERS MAKE THEIR MARK**
The Eliminate Project protects young lives and brightens the future. So it makes sense that younger members of the Kiwanis family are deeply engaged in the campaign.
In fact, members of our Service Leadership Programs contribute in ways that draw upon youthful passion and creativ-ity. They’ve participated in fun fundraising activities—from dance events by CKI clubs at New Jersey’s Rutgers University and the University of Michigan to a “sand-sculpting tournament” that included Florida Key Clubs in Fort Myers Beach.
Even K-Kids, the youngest Kiwanis-family members, got into the spirit. For example, a contest for shoebox floats helped them learn about tetanus and the fight against the disease, while also raising others’ awareness. (The winners were displayed at the Kiwanis International convention in New Orleans.)
Key Club alone—the world’s largest service organization for high school students—raised more than US$900,000 for the campaign by the end of the year. Some of those funds were raised through Key Clubbers’ annual Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF program, which again was dedicated to The Eliminate Project—and resulted in pledges of more than US$100,000 this past year.

Members of our Service Leadership Programs have stepped up to help the Kiwanis family reach our US$110 million goal for The Eliminate Project. For example, Key Club members at Florida’s Hialeah High School created a talent show (right) to protect the connection between mothers and their babies in places like the Philippines (left).

“Jeri and I were so impressed with the variety and extent of service that clubs perform. Kiwanis increased service hours worldwide, celebrated 25 years of Women in Kiwanis and embraced The Eliminate Project. We had a banner year—because of members’ dedication to improving the lives of children and families in their communities. Our organization’s strength is our local clubs.”

**Alan Penn, 2011–12 president, Kiwanis International**
Kiwanis International Foundation grants are helping some very powerful projects get off the ground. In Ethiopia, doctors are being trained by a surgical team from Belgium so they can give the best care to children with cleft palates and burn scars. The team recently helped 100 children in the town of Mek’ele. Photos by Antonio Fiorente

support what they do. With contributions of time and effort as mentors and advisors. And with gifts to the Kiwanis International Foundation that fund the programs’ operations.

**GRANTING THE POTENTIAL FOR HOPE**

All year, Kiwanians showed how consequential service can be. They raised money for local programs and organizations. They completed clean-up and renovation projects. They got involved in their communities and became a part of young people’s lives.

With the Kiwanis International Foundation, they also extended their Kiwanis impact. Throughout the year, Kiwanians found children in need around the world. And our foundation helped reach them—in ways that clubs and districts couldn’t afford otherwise.

In Northern Ethiopia, children with cleft palates and burn scars were treated by a surgical team from Belgium—thanks in part to a grant from our foundation. During a 10-day volunteer mission in November, the six-person team of plastic surgeons, anesthesiologists and a recovery-room nurse served 100 children in the town of Mek’ele.

One of the surgeons was Dr. Romain Vanwijck, a member of the Kiwanis Club Stavelot Principauté in Belgium. After the team’s three previous missions in Ethiopia

“I’m extremely positive about our foundation’s future. I’m especially pleased that we had about 4,000 Kiwanians working on The Eliminate Project. Eventually we’ll have almost 8,000 members involved—and that’s just one way people will get more familiar with what we do, and feel encouraged to give.”

**Hugh Siggins, 2011–12 president, Kiwanis International Foundation**
since 2009, grants to the club from our foundation and the club’s district foundation brought similar hope to children in Mek’ele. The team also trained area doctors to carry on these medical services.

In Poland, the Kiwanis Club of Poznan Koziolki Poznanskie extended its members’ impact to children and young people in their own country. In fact, the Kiwanis International Foundation’s grant to the club will result in The Institute of Blind Children in Owinska serving more than 160 students who are blind or visually impaired.

The institute houses students age 6 to 23, most of whom are from very poor families. The Kiwanis club’s support will continue the kinds of services that parents and other adults simply can’t afford—from primary education and trade-school training to medical attention and activities such as music classes and computer training.

This past year, the Kiwanis Club of Springfield (Downtown), Missouri, helped children close to home. With a grant from our foundation, the club helped provide cribs and mattresses to The Kitchen, a local organization that provides shelter to homeless families.

The Kiwanis Club of Sincelejo, Colombia, also used a grant in its hometown. In a region marked by violence and displacement, demand for admission to My First Steps Preschool keeps increasing. A grant from our foundation helped expand its admissions and operating hours. As a result, more children will receive education, nutrition, recreation and health services.

In communities from Springfield to Sincelejo—and beyond—the kindness of Kiwanians made an immediate difference. It wasn’t just the clubs and Kiwanians who received the grants. It was every person and every club who has made a gift to the Kiwanis International Foundation—and whose generosity made those grants possible in the first place.

“The smiles say it all at the Institute of Blind Children in Owinska, Poland, where students who are blind or visually impaired get an education, medical attention and fun activities—thanks to a Kiwanis International Foundation grant to the Kiwanis Club of Poznan Koziolki Poznanskie. The club requested the grant because most of the students, ages 6 to 23, come from poor families.

Photos by Bartek Krupa

Ann Updegraff Spleth, COO, Kiwanis International Foundation
CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE
For Kiwanians, it’s no secret that individual members of the Kiwanis family often make an extraordinary difference. But in September, that knowledge went national—to the U.S. capital, in fact.

The White House honored 14 Kiwanis-family members as Champions of Change during a two-day event in Washington, D.C. Every branch of the Kiwanis family was represented, from K-Kid Emily Lang to Aktion Club member Brenda Batschelet and several adult Kiwanians.

Accompanied by 2011–12 President Alan Penn and 2012–13 President Tom DeJulio, they were recognized for their service in their communities—and in some cases for their impact far from home. They also attended White House staff briefings, took part in panel discussions and met leaders in the federal government.

For the Champions of Change, a running theme in conversations with White House staffers, members of Congress and other Washington denizens was the presence of Kiwanis programs in their personal and family histories. It was another reminder that the future of leadership, at any time and in any town, always includes the Kiwanis spirit of service and fellowship.

EXTENDING YOUR KIWANIS IMPACT
Bringing Kiwanis-family members together from their respective communities is nothing new. It’s one of the best features of the organization’s annual conventions. In 2011–12, that togetherness reached new heights during convention season: The Kiwanis International convention was held simultaneously in New Orleans with Circle K International’s convention and the Aktion Club Training and Leadership Conference.

It was just the latest sign that the Kiwanis family is a worldwide network of local clubs—with opportunities suitable for every stage of life. In fact, it was a demonstration of how we work together to make the most of Kiwanians’ generosity. During the conventions in New Orleans, for instance, the Kiwanis International Foundation hosted leaders of club and district foundations to discuss opportunities for assistance and collaboration.

Shared commitment, cooperative effort—they’re time-tested elements of Kiwanians’ effect on communities. They’re also key components of our future. Thanks to your gifts, the Kiwanis International Foundation will be a part of it. Supporting the Kiwanis mission as you serve children in your community. Enhancing the fellowship you enjoy with others in your local Kiwanis club. Extending the impact that ultimately begins with the meaning of Kiwanis in you. KM

A White House invitation brings Kiwanis-family members to Washington, D.C., where our “Champions of Change” were recognized for their service and participated in panel discussions (left).
The Kiwanis Year

Goodbye, Oscar
The Kiwanis family lost one of its most beloved and respected members when Oscar Knight III died on April 1, 2012. A Kiwanis International trustee, Oscar had been a Kiwanian since 1979. His accomplishments and his reputation grew in equal measure. He served as club president, lieutenant governor and 2007–08 governor of the California-Nevada-Hawaii District. He also inspired people to remember him as a friend. Among the tributes from an “In Memoriam” Facebook group was Jennlyn Laughlin’s: “A true gentleman and a true leader among his community and around the world.”

Celebrating women
Throughout 2012, the Kiwanis family commemorated the 25th anniversary of women’s membership. Club and district celebrations culminated in various events at the Kiwanis International convention in New Orleans, where history was remembered and made. Highlights included the awarding of the Legion of Honor—given for 25 years of Kiwanis-club membership—to its first group of female honorees.

A smart phone choice
The first Kiwanis “app” was introduced in 2011–12. The downloadable smart phone application gave members a tool to track their Kiwanis activities while connecting them to Kiwanians worldwide. Apps were also available for Key Club and CKI—resulting in more than 7,000 downloads for the three apps all together. Users found Kiwanis news, invited recruits to club meetings, gave to The Eliminate Project and more. The Kiwanis app was the latest, but certainly not the last, way for Kiwanians to keep up with the times—and with the rest of the Kiwanis family.
Kiwanis International
Board of trustees, 2011–12

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Kiwanis International Foundation
Board of trustees, 2011–12

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Daniel Vigneron, Vielsalm, Belgium

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Indianapolis, Indiana

Executive Director Stan D. Soderstrom,
Pike Township-Indianapolis, Indiana
Kiwanis International | financial statements

2011–12 annual report for Kiwanis International

On behalf of the Kiwanis International Board and staff, I am pleased to provide the following financial summary from our 2011–12 audit report. To receive a complete copy of the audit report, visit www.KiwanisOne.org/annualreport, send a written request to Kiwanis International, Attn: Audit Report, 3636 Woodview Trace, Indianapolis, Indiana 46268 or email your request to finance@kiwanis.org. The audit report is available only to Kiwanis-family members. —Stan Soderstrom, Executive Director

## STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION (US$ 000’s)

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS:</strong></td>
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<td>Cash and investments</td>
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<td>Receivables</td>
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<td>Advances to affiliates</td>
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<td>Merchandise inventory</td>
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<td>Prepaid expenses and other</td>
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<td>Property and equipment</td>
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<td>5,874</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>$32,076</td>
<td>$30,026</td>
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| **LIABILITIES:**       |            |            |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses | $1,827 | $1,682 |
| Accounts payable to affiliates          | 222       | 120        |
| Funds invested for Key Club International | 1,310 | 1,003      |
| Liability insurance claims              | 875       | 1,061      |
| Other liabilities                       | 41        | 151        |
| **TOTAL LIABILITIES**              | 4,275     | 4,017      |

| **NET ASSETS (DEFICIENCY):**    |            |            |
| Operating/Service Leadership Programs | 10,445 | 9,038     |
| Magazine                           | 3,562     | 3,525      |
| Kiwanis International convention   | (1,571)   | (1,286)    |
| Liability insurance                | 10,044    | 9,411      |
| Property                           | 5,321     | 5,321      |
| **TOTAL NET ASSETS**              | 27,801    | 26,009     |

| **TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS** | $32,076 | $30,026 |
## 2011–12 annual report for Kiwanis International

### STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES (US$ 000's)  
Years ended September 30

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<tr>
<th>REVENUES:</th>
<th>2012</th>
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<td>Sponsorship income</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUES</strong></td>
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<th>EXPENSES:</th>
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<th>2011</th>
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<td>Membership services, growth and education</td>
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<td>Communications</td>
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<td>Service Leadership Programs</td>
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<td>Kiwanis International Foundation</td>
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<td>The Eliminate Project</td>
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<td>Currency exchange, bad debts and other</td>
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<td>Depreciation and gains or losses on disposition</td>
<td>820</td>
<td>845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>17,051</td>
<td>18,186</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS       | (613)  | (1,610) |
| Realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments | 2,405 | (160) |

| CHANGE IN NET ASSETS                       | $1,792 | $(1,770) |
# Kiwanis International Foundation

## 2011–12 annual report for Kiwanis International Foundation

### STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION (US$ 000's)  
As of September 30

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS:</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and equivalents</td>
<td>$2,391</td>
<td>$2,887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>11,938</td>
<td>10,075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions receivable</td>
<td>6,682</td>
<td>1,484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash value of life insurance contracts</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficial interest in assets held by others</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advances to affiliates</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>$21,509</td>
<td>$14,912</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
<td>$18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payable to affiliates</td>
<td>499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants payable</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annuities payable</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>715</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET ASSETS (DEFICIENCY):</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>(438)</td>
<td>(508)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>10,086</td>
<td>3,190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted</td>
<td>11,146</td>
<td>10,861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>20,794</td>
<td>13,543</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS | $21,509 | $14,912 |

### STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES (US$ 000's)  
Years ended September 30

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUES:</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions and grants</td>
<td>$13,659</td>
<td>$7,033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income (loss), net of fees</td>
<td>1,826</td>
<td>(88)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUES</strong></td>
<td>15,485</td>
<td>6,945</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES:</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>2,992</td>
<td>1,396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program and education</td>
<td>673</td>
<td>843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>1,029</td>
<td>751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>3,292</td>
<td>1,861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad debt expense</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in value of annuities</td>
<td>(61)</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>8,234</td>
<td>4,968</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| CHANGE IN NET ASSETS          | $7,251 | $1,977 |
# Circle K and Key Club

## 2011–12 annual report for Circle K International and Key Club International

### STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION (US$ 000’s) As of September 30

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Circle K International</th>
<th>Key Club International</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and equivalents</td>
<td>$62</td>
<td>$1,001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,310</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from Kiwanis International</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>$81</td>
<td>$2,484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due to Kiwanis International</td>
<td>$3</td>
<td>$320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other liabilities</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets-unrestricted</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>2,121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets-temporarily restricted</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>$81</td>
<td>$2,484</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES (US$ 000’s)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership dues</td>
<td>$216</td>
<td>$235</td>
<td>$1,665</td>
<td>$1,634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Leadership Program fees</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration fees</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>721</td>
<td>631</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income (loss)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>(7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsidies from Kiwanis International</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>521</td>
<td>756</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions and grants</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising and other</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUES</strong></td>
<td>602</td>
<td>610</td>
<td>3,695</td>
<td>4,114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governance</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership, education and development</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>1,155</td>
<td>1,101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magazine</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership and club development</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>677</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General and administrative</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>437</td>
<td>557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>580</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>3,284</td>
<td>4,013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</strong></td>
<td>$22</td>
<td>$74</td>
<td>$411</td>
<td>$101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kiwanis International and Affiliates
Consolidated Statements

2011–12 annual report for Kiwanis International and affiliates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION (US$ 000's)</th>
<th>As of September 30</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS:</strong></td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and equivalents</td>
<td>$4,975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>34,433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions receivable</td>
<td>6,682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchandise inventory</td>
<td>933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses and other</td>
<td>921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficial interest in assets held by others</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advances to affiliates</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash value of life insurance contracts</td>
<td>211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and equipment</td>
<td>5,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>$53,909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
<td>$1,845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable-affiliates</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants payable</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue and other liabilities</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liability insurance accrual</td>
<td>875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annuities payable</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>3,082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS (DEFICIENCY):</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>29,561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>10,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted</td>
<td>11,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>50,827</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>$53,909</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# 2011–12 annual report for Kiwanis International and affiliates

## STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES (US$ 000’s)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership dues, fees and subscriptions</td>
<td>$16,198</td>
<td>$16,558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>13,383</td>
<td>6,395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchandise sales</td>
<td>1,700</td>
<td>1,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income (loss), net of fees</td>
<td>4,771</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Leadership Programs</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and other</td>
<td>473</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUES</strong></td>
<td>37,227</td>
<td>25,456</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership growth and education</td>
<td>2,891</td>
<td>3,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>1,328</td>
<td>1,114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate relations and branded programs</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiwanis International convention</td>
<td>2,045</td>
<td>2,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Leadership Programs</td>
<td>693</td>
<td>393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global services</td>
<td>995</td>
<td>964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchandise, including cost of sales</td>
<td>1,794</td>
<td>2,155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magazine</td>
<td>1,491</td>
<td>1,406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liability insurance</td>
<td>1,349</td>
<td>1,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants, programs and education</td>
<td>3,727</td>
<td>2,882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General and administrative</td>
<td>4,339</td>
<td>3,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership services</td>
<td>1,430</td>
<td>1,462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governance</td>
<td>1,689</td>
<td>1,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>3,292</td>
<td>1,861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currency exchange, bad debt expense and other</td>
<td>469</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in value of annuities</td>
<td>(61)</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>27,750</td>
<td>25,073</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>$9,477</td>
<td>$383</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“While Kiwanis International is a strong and vibrant organization with cash and investments exceeding US$24 million, we must recognize the sad reality that we are losing members at a rapid pace,” says Bob Broderick, CFO, Kiwanis International, noting that 2011–12 operating results of Kiwanis International were disappointing.

The operating loss was more than $613,000, but investments rebounded nicely in 2012, resulting in over $2.4 million in investment gains. As a result, Kiwanis International ended the fiscal year with a surplus of $1.79 million.

“Overall, membership revenue continues to decline annually. But, we were able to shave $1.1 million from operating expenses. Even with these cost-cutting measures, we had an operating deficit of $613,000 in 2012,” Broderick says. “These cost-cutting measures clearly demonstrate the board’s commitment to prudent, fiscal management of the organization’s assets. Ongoing, the organization must reverse its downward trend of membership revenue and diversify its revenue stream with new sources of revenue. This is a major emphasis of the Kiwanis International Board of Trustees.”

Approximately 57 percent of operating revenue is from membership dues. This percentage skyrockets to 76 percent when magazine subscription and liability insurance fees are included—both of which are predicated on membership.

Kiwanis International operating revenue—2012

- Membership dues and fees 57%
- Liability insurance fees 12%
- Magazine subscription fees 7%
- Merchandise sales 10%
- Adv., sponsor, grants & other 3%
- Convention fees 8%
- Investment income 1%
- Service Leadership Programs 2%
Kiwanis International has seen a 16 percent decline in membership revenue since 2007. This trend continues despite the various growth initiatives and rebate programs that have been implemented. The Kiwanis International Board and staff are working to develop a strategic plan that will address the declining membership trends and diversify the organization’s revenue stream.

**Declining membership revenue (US$ 000’s)**

![Graph showing declining membership revenue from 2007 to 2012]

$1.815 million or 16.3% decline since 2007.

Over the past seven years, North America’s paid membership has declined 21.5 percent. Kiwanis ended the year with 162,894 North American members. If this trend continues, membership in the United States, Canada and Caribbean will be 128,000 in seven years. While membership in other Kiwanis nations is growing, it cannot keep pace with the loss of North American members.

**Declining membership 7-year trend**

![Table showing paid membership from 2005 to 2012]

North American membership has declined 21.5% since 2005.

**Membership projections (based on 2005–20012 actual performance)**

![Graph showing membership projections from 2012 to 2019]

The projected growth rate in Europe, Asia/Pacific and Latin America/Africa will not offset the projected decline in North American membership.
The history between the Deerfield Beach, Florida, Kiwanis Club and the Deerfield Park Elementary School is detailed and the dedication of the Kiwanis club to its mission of serving children apparent. This year, the club’s annual provision of school supplies and dictionaries expanded thanks to a special promotional partnership with Scholastic Books.

Deerfield Park was the first elementary school in the United States to benefit from a partnership between Scholastic Books and Kiwanis International to develop a Community Reading Oasis Room—a special gathering place that serves as a fruitful and safe environment for at-risk students and their families. Here, the students and families can access books to read together.

“Scholastic’s motto is ‘Read Every Day, Lead a Better Life,’ and we hope that by your children coming to the Reading Oasis, they have more opportunity to really dive into that book and go to those magical places,” says Ellie Fleury, a representative from Scholastic Books.

Unlike a school library, which closes when school is closed, a Community Reading Oasis Room is open all summer and before and after school hours, thanks to volunteers who dedicate their time to staff the room. Scholastic offers support to the school—both financial and logistical—during the entire process, from conception to completion. For a school to be selected for a Community Reading Oasis Room, there must be some Kiwanis involvement with the school. Other factors include the percentage of poverty in the community, student reading scores and enthusiasm for the program.
“There wasn’t even a hesitation in getting involved,” says Deerfield Beach club President Avis Swenson.

At the grand opening of the Deerfield Elementary School Community Reading Oasis Room, Swenson details the work members did in painting the room. But their work didn’t stop there. When the club learned the annual Scholastic book fair would be held during the grand opening, they asked the community for donations that would allow every student a US$5 voucher.

“I hope this inspires you all like it inspired us to talk to your children, friends and family about how important it is to read—not only for children, but their friends, their grandparents,” Swenson told attendees.

Students, teachers and community members smiled wide as a giant ribbon was cut to open the space. The Kiwanis club and Scholastic each donated US$5,000 for the colorful Community Reading Oasis Room. The reading room is filled with 1,200 books for all elementary reading levels, furniture and a listening library.

As the children chose their favorite books and sat down to read with Kiwanians and Deerfield Beach Mayor Peggy Noland, it was the start of a new chapter in the Kiwanis club’s legacy of service.

Learn more about the Kiwanis/Scholastic partnership by clicking on “Promotional Partners” at www.KiwanisOne.org/partners.

Children were thrilled to pick out new books at the Community Reading Oasis Room. A group of children took time to read a poem by Jane Yolen, asking the community to “Read to me riddles and read to me rhymes, read to me stories of magical times ... read to me spaceships and cowboys and then, when you are finished—please read them again.”
Cardiac careers

At 15 years old, Tahirou Dembélé already knows he’d like to be a doctor. Perhaps some of his ambition has to do with the difference cardiologists made in his own life, after a life-changing operation four years ago.

Tahirou (right, in blue and red striped shirt) is one of several Malian children who have benefited from a cardiac operation in the principality of Monaco. The Bamako-Mali Kiwanis Club selects children, places them with a host family and manages administrative matters such as obtaining visas and passports. And when it’s time for the patients to return home, the Kiwanians arrange a homecoming ceremony. The surgeries are financially supported by the prince of Monaco via the Monaco Collectif Humanitaire—an initiative that allows children from developing countries to benefit from surgeries or medical care in the principality.

A resident of Koutiala—a city 400 kilometers outside of the capital—Tahirou couldn’t work in the field, play basketball or even make the trip between school and home without resting several times. Years after the operation, the once small and frail boy is the tallest and largest member of his family and an avid soccer player. He confidently states that he carries himself well now and can do anything he wants, as well as anything others his age can do. —Courtney Meyer

Collegiate computers

Some say one man’s trash is another’s treasure. This saying may never ring as true as it does when applied to computers given to schoolchildren in Timor-Leste.

When a merger left Bell Potter—an Australian securities and financial analysis company—with some extra office equipment, staff members were asked which charity to donate its 180 computers. One employee—a Moorabbin Kiwanis Club member—knew exactly where to send them.

After the strife in 1999 that brought Timor-Leste (East Timor) independence, the Kiwanis Australia District-in-Formation began a 10-year program that provided milk for children there. Using these connections, project coordinator Kevin Wood quickly proposed giving the computers a new home in Timor-Leste. “Having been there many times and being harangued by the local students asking about access to computer learning, I am both excited and very humbled at this giant leap in their education prospects,” he says.

Coordinating multiple trips with a moving company that donated its time, a small group packaged, delivered and installed the computers at a handful of carefully selected work locations, the dairy and the Salesians of Don Bosco Colleges in Fulioro, Comoro, Laga, Lospalos and Maliana.

Father Jose Vattaparambil shares Wood’s positivity. “Yes, the computers are a great boon to our students,” he says. “For the first time, many of them got an opportunity to touch a computer. They’re just learning.”
IT’S TIME TO GET EVERYONE INVOLVED.

Raise funds. Spread the word. Join other Kiwanians—and the SLP clubs you sponsor—for service projects and fun events in your community. After all, it’s an exciting time to be part of the Kiwanis family. Share the excitement. Join the team. Help protect the connection.

Get inspired and engaged at www.TheEliminateProject.org.
Turbo enjoys spending time with his best friend on the bus, at the beach and at home. But this American Labrador is no ordinary dog.

Turbo was specially trained to be not only a companion, but to meet the specific needs of a New Zealand child and his family. His charge is Luke, a 13 year old who is autistic, suffers from epilepsy and is non-verbal.

“Early in 2008, we visited a friend who had a dog from 4 Paws,” reflects Luke’s mother, Maria.”We were amazed when soon after arriving, Luke started to interact with the dog by snuggling into it—a reaction we’d never seen before.

“We made contact with 4 Paws in America and found out that the only way we could obtain a dog for Luke was to fundraise.” Luckily, the community was behind them.

“I think the fact that autism had been in the news quite a bit at the time, and also that Kiwanis (clubs) are there to support children, we felt it an ideal cause to pursue,” reflects Diane Hodgson, secretary of the Morrinsville Kiwanis Club. Funds from the club’s Easter raffle combined with those from the local Lions, Rotary, Fitness Centre and still more organizations helped the family buy the dog.

Initially trained in the United States before making the final journey to New Zealand for more instruction, Turbo soon proved to be an asset to his new family. He can track Luke if he strays from home. He rides with him to school on the bus, and protects him from climbing fences or going too deeply into the ocean.

“Turbo’s a good companion to Luke and is much loved by every member of our family,” Maria says. —Courtney Meyer

Kiwanis members in Swainsboro, Georgia, prune grape vines as part of an ongoing project. In the summer, they head back to the vines to pick about 500 pounds of grapes that they then deliver to retirement facilities all over the county.

Kiwanis members in Swainsboro, Georgia, can sometimes be a picky bunch. But it may not mean what you think.

For many years, the club has had a fun, signature project that takes members out into the field. They have a great time and it is, of course, for a great cause.

“(It all started when) Kiwanian L.H. Weiss was producing more grapes than he could use,” says Kiwanian Homer S. “Chip” Durden. “A fellow Kiwanian asked if he could get some of the grapes for his wife, who was in a nursing home. The men decided sharing the grapes was good idea—and thus the project began.”

Kiwanians prune the vines, pick and deliver the grapes.

“It provides an opportunity for the members to be together and provides a service for the elderly while preventing fruit from being wasted,” Durden says.

And L.H. Weiss couldn’t be happier.

“We gladly share them,” he says. “I hope someone will remember my love of grapes and bring me some when I am no longer able to pick them for myself.”
Check your district website for times and locations.

New club presidents have to hit the ground running. Get the knowledge you need before you begin—with Kiwanis International’s club president education. Choose between an online or classroom setting. Get started on the knowledge your position demands…and the respect every successful president earns.

Gain knowledge. Earn respect.
For more than a decade, members of the Kiwanis Club of Morristown, New Jersey, have been preparing dinner for homeless and working poor residents staying at Homeless Solutions, a shelter that houses men, women and children. The club has been at the shelter every month, with few exceptions.

“This has been ongoing for many years,” says club member Art Klein. “One of the few times we couldn’t do it was a couple months after Hurricane Sandy, because there was no power at the shelter. We’ve been doing this so long that we have a standard shopping list.”

That list accounts for about 50 to 60 dinners—enough to feed about 25 to 30 people and then to prepare about 20 “leave-behinds.” The club packs these extra meals into containers to be heated at a later time, because “there are always people out working late in the afternoon, and they may get back to the shelter late,” Klein says.

Morristown Kiwanis Club President Steve McKinley often makes time for the shelter dinner, chopping potatoes, prepping the ham, setting tables. He says the project is one of his favorites—and has been since he joined Kiwanis 26 years ago. “We’ve been doing this for 25 years, and the Key Club helps out as well,” says McKinley. “It’s a fantastic project.”

McKinley says the menu has remained fairly consistent throughout the years: ham, potatoes, green beans, pineapple and ice cream for dessert.

“We have real mashed potatoes,” he points out, laughing. “A few times, someone has tried to sneak in with boxed potatoes, but as long as I’m around, we’re going to have real mashed potatoes.”
Going wild

TEXAS KIWANIAN LEARNS ABOUT THE LAND AND HERSELF DURING VOLUNTEER ADVENTURES.

Mary Carunchia is always up for a challenge. A journey. She loves to meet new people, learn new things and give back whenever—and wherever—she can. So it goes without saying that when she heard about the Wilderness Volunteers through a friend, she was game.

Carunchia, a member of the Kiwanis Club of Plano, Texas, spent seven days with about a dozen other Wilderness Volunteers in the Chugach National Forest in the Prince William Sound area south of Anchorage, Alaska. Their jobs: dig a new privy (outhouse), clear brush, clean trash along a shoreline and update an old fire ring. And anything else that came along.

“It was an adventure,” says Carunchia, a food scientist with a leading soda company. “There was still snow at the first site—in July!—and we had to hike in 1.7 miles with our gear and the additional equipment needed for working, including shovels, shears, Pulaski clippers, hard hats and other tools. Due to the snow, it was quite a challenge to get everything back to the work site.”

But the strenuous exercise and unpredictable weather didn’t stop the volunteers or keep their spirits down. In fact, Carunchia had a specific reason she wanted to be right in the middle of all this action.

“I wanted a personal challenge as well as an opportunity to give back,” she explains. “Plus, I had never been to Alaska, and it was a good excuse to go north.”

A working vacation, so to speak. And while the land got a lot out of Carunchia, Carunchia got a lot out of the land.

“(Before the trip) I didn’t have a good understanding of how the (US) national parks differ from national forests,” she says. “Parks are about conservation, while national forests are about conservation and about business. The national forests can be used as logging land or other commercial uses.”

And as for what she learned about herself?

“I learned that I was capable of physically pushing myself more than I had thought possible.”
ON THE BLOG
To read more about just how far Mary Carunchia had to push herself during the trip, visit http://kwn.is/kiwilderness.

THE WILDERNESS VOLUNTEERS
The Wilderness Volunteers is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote volunteer service to America’s wild lands. The group works with many other agencies, including the National Park Service, the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.
Some fundraisers teeter on the brink of crazy. But if you have a cache of caffeine and sugar to keep you awake, friends and games to interact with and a tradition to keep, teeter tottering for hours and hours … and hours on end … may turn out to be fun.

Since 1998, the Fridley Senior High School Key Club in Minnesota has used its annual teeter totter marathon to raise money for Kiwanis International’s campaign against iodine deficiency disorder, local community projects and now The Eliminate Project.

Once a teeter totter was designed and built by two Kiwanis members, the fundraising began in a room at Key Club Advisor Mary Bowen’s home. Most years, the students log between 54 and 75 hours.

They report for duty in pajamas, bearing snacks, games and sleeping bags to keep them occupied and fed while they take turns diligently logging the hours to match the community’s financial pledges.

“When you’re huddled up at three in the morning and your legs are tired, that’s the best time to be a Key Clubber,” co-chairwoman Kati Stevenson says.

The project yields more than money.

“The beauty of this project is that it breaks down cliques and forces students to interact with those they would not normally,” says Bowen. “With a club around 200 in membership, this is very important.”

Look for more ways Kiwanis-family clubs and members are raising Eliminate Project funds in the June/July 2013 Kiwanis magazine.
Passing the bucks

Money may not grow on trees, but under the right circumstances it can be harvested from grassy road-sides. Just ask the Builders Club of Riverwatch Middle School, whose members gathered almost US$1,400 while cleaning up a roadside in their Su-wanee, Georgia, hometown.

The sixth- and seventh-grade students were picking up trash as part of an Adopt-A-Road project when 12-year-old Lan Nguyen made a valuable find. “She ran up to me with a $100 bill in her hand,” Faculty Advisor Dana Hunley recalls, “and said, ‘Mrs. Hunley, look what I found! Can I keep it?’ I said we needed to think about it and not a moment later, the next student came running up with four $100 bills in his hand.”

Hunley gathered the students around, and all agreed the right thing to do was to call the sheriff’s office and turn the money in. Their soul searching complete, the students went back to searching for money while waiting for a deputy to arrive. All told, the students recovered almost $1,400 in various denominations, along with a driver’s license and some credit cards all belonging to the same woman.

Police returned the cash and cards to their rightful owner. And though the Builders have never heard from the woman, Hunley believes its members reaped something more valuable than thanks and kudos. “It’s awesome that the group decided to do the right thing,” Hunley explains. “Modeling such behavior for others makes them great role models and exemplifies character building, which is one of Builders Club’s goals.” —Dick Isenhour

Going higher to breathe better

For most people, taking the stairs is an easy way to get in a little exercise. But for some members of the American-Asians, Las Vegas, Nevada, Kiwanis Club, climbing steps goes way beyond exercise.

The club’s Fight for Air Climb may seem crazy. It’s certainly not for couch potatoes, claustrophobics or acrophobics. Participants race to scale 108 floors and 1,455 stairs inside the Vegas’ Strato-sphere to raise money for Nevada’s American Lung Association. Many are on personal missions, quite literally taking steps to end lung disease for brothers, sisters, grandparents or children with asthma, lung cancer and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

“For some of us, it was akin to a bucket list thing to do,” says Calvin Lee, past president of the club. “For others, the challenge of competing for a top fastest time was a goal toward which we planned our training during the weeks prior. And some of us also had family members who had lung cancer.” —Courtney Meyer
Efforts of the Kiwanis Club of Del Mar, California, to better its community have gone to the dogs. It’s nothing to hound members about, though. Rather, the club’s annual Ugly Dog Contest raises thousands of dollars and has become something to bark about. “Over its 18 years, the Ugly Dog Contest has had great success, with each year building into attendance being more than 2,000 and drawing a large number of new and repeat entrants,” notes Leslie Jackson, club president. “Our event has received worldwide recognition, with special attention from the likes of Rachel Ray and Ellen DeGeneres. Animal Planet has even filmed a documentary about it. “We like to think of ourselves as the first—and best—Ugly Dog Contest. Of course, no dog is really ugly, so we like to refer to them as having ‘pretty potential.’” The contest was the brainchild of Sheila McDonnell, whose dogged determination and unleashed enthusiasm, Jackson says, convinced the club “to do something new and different to raise funds to support programs that benefit children.” The event is staged jointly by the club and the San Diego Coastal Chamber of Commerce.

Corporate sponsorships and admission costs raise the “scratch” And, of course, each dog has fees—US$6 per category entered. Categories include Ugly Dog, Best St. Patty’s Day Costume, Most Unusual Markings, Dog Who Most Looks Like Its Owner and Best Mutt. —Dick Isenhour

Past encounters

In the past couple issues, Kiwanis magazine has reported on recent Kiwanis events that have involved national and international celebrities. Rubbing elbows with the famous and popular, however, is nothing new to the Kiwanis family. For example:

Helen Keller: This past year, the Plainview, Texas, Herald drew from its archives to publish a story about Keller’s Kiwanis and Junior League-sponsored appearance in March 1941. She told the audience she felt their applause with her feet “through the floor.” She also expressed her concern about the global war that, within the year, involved her homeland, saying. “It fills my heart with darkness. But my faith never wavers because I believe that out of this darkness mankind will emerge into a new light of understanding and brotherhood.”

John Glenn: Four years after becoming the first United States’ astronaut to orbit Earth, Glenn accepted an invitation to attend a Kiwanis Club of Brussels-Toison d’Or, Belgium, luncheon. Before the day was done, Glenn had been awarded the club’s distinguished service award and had been installed as an honorary member.

Shirley Temple Black (left, middle) stopped in at a 1968 meeting of the San Francisco, California, Kiwanis Club. There, club President M. Lyman Gerould (left) and California-Nevada-Hawaii District Governor Clyde L. Hurley (right) presented her with the Kiwanis Kaydee Award for decency in entertainment.
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See what’s new at www.kiwanis.org/store.
Birthdays

These clubs are celebrating anniversaries in May and June 2013. For a complete list of club birthdays, visit www.kiwanis.org/birthdays.

75TH—1938
Southwest Chicago, Illinois, May 2
Palmyra, Missouri, May 5
Patchogue, New York, May 5
Alliance, Nebraska, May 17
Dover-Foxcroft, Maine, May 9
West Liberty, Kentucky, May 10
Camden, South Carolina, May 17
Elizabethtown, New York, June 7
Mars, Pennsylvania, June 16
Jackson County, Kentucky, June 30

50TH—1963
Tehachapi, California, May 1
Pine Bluff-Intercity, Arkansas, May 6
Lynden, Washington, May 8
University Place, Tacoma, Washington, May 14
Lynnwood, Washington, May 23
Andover, Kansas, May 27

Berlin, Wisconsin, June 4
Munster, Indiana, June 5
Hidden Valley, Escondido, California, June 6
Fife-Milton, Washington, June 18
Yukon, Oklahoma, June 21
Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, June 24
Festus-Crystal City, Missouri, June 25
Bensenville/Wood Dale/Franklin Park, Illinois, June 25
Easton-Suburban, Pennsylvania, June 26

25TH—1988
Stony Hill, Jamaica, May 2
Orleans, Ontario, May 3
Byron, Illinois, May 6
Edward R. Murrow Golden K, North Carolina, May 9
Clinch River, Richlands, Virginia, May 12
Fort Scott Pioneers, Kansas, May 12
Pavia Ticinum, Italy, May 16
Brisbane, Australia, May 17
Corcoran, California, May 18
Sergeant Bluff, Iowa, May 19
Mariscal Robledo, Cartago, Colombia, May 20
East Burke, Icard, North Carolina, May 23

Sturgis Golden K, South Dakota, May 24
Toulouse Hermes-St. Exupery, France, May 28
Mühlviertel, Austria, May 28
Ragusa, Italy, May 29
Knonauer Amt, Switzerland, May 30
Freiburg-Herdern, Germany, May 31
Chin Lan, Kao Hsiung City, Taiwan, June 4
Joigny, France, June 6
Bozen, Italy, June 6
Hsin Hsing, Hsin Chu City, Taiwan, June 8
Sperry, Oklahoma, June 13
Ligonier Valley, Pennsylvania, June 15
Porto, Portugal, June 16
Hijas Ng Antipolo, Philippines, June 19
Reedbeds, Lockleys, Australia, June 22
Ederbergland, Germany, June 22
Muncy Area, Pennsylvania, June 23
Byrgin, Norway, June 27
Gladstone, Michigan, June 28
Vahine Papete-Tahiti, French Polynesia, June 29
Duren, Germany, June 30
Nordlingen-Ries, Germany, June 30
Bad Homburg-Taunus, Germany, June 30

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During the 1860s, few United States cities had more strategic military importance than Cairo, Illinois. There, at the confluence of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, the community truly was situated at the crossroads of the American Civil War. Its status as a transportation hub continued well after the final battle, and the local railroad and ferry businesses thrived.

That is, they both thrived until 1889, when the Illinois Central Railroad built a bridge across the Ohio River, causing the number of ferry fares to dwindle. Fortunately, for Cairo’s boatmen, another type of customer soon arrived. By the early 1920s, an increasing number of newfangled horseless carriages needed to cross between Cairo and its riverfront neighbor, Birds Point, Missouri.

To serve this growing trade, the Cairo Ferry Company commissioned the construction of a sternwheeler from builders in Dubuque, Iowa. The vessel was named after another new arrival to the Cairo community: Kiwanis. The majestic, steel-hulled “Kiwanis” arrived in Cairo in 1923—140 feet long by 29 feet wide with a draft of 4.9 feet. It was awaiting passengers when a photographer captured a postcard-perfect scene (above) of cars lined up along the city’s levee road, ready to board.

Alas, more bridge building spelled an end to the Cairo Ferry Company’s heyday, and the Kiwanis was sold in 1933 to the Greene Line, renamed the “Evergreen” and entered as a packet ship in the Cincinnati, Ohio-Huntington, West Virginia, trade.

According to Smithsonian National Museum of American History, the former Kiwanis’ last days were spent as a sand dredge before sinking and being dismantled near Louisville, Kentucky. The Kiwanis, however, is not completely lost. The pilot wheel, which once stood high above the vessel’s deck, is on view at the Smithsonian’s permanent exhibition “On the Water: Stories from Maritime America” (http://americanhistory.si.edu).

In 1936, the ferry steamer Kiwanis was sent to the Dravo Neville Island Marine Railway in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (left), where the vessel—its sternwheel temporarily removed—was placed on rails for repairs.

The good ship Kiwanis

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE ONCE DESCRIBED CAIRO, ILLINOIS, AS “THE CROSSROADS OF THE CONTINENT,” LARGELY DUE TO THE SERVICE PROVIDED BY FERRIES LIKE THIS HARD-WORKING, WELL-NAMED STEAMER.
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