



Buckeye Bulletin

Ohio District Kiwanians,

It looks like fall has arrived and winter is right behind it. As we visit with our SLP's members at meetings and events, let's work to make certain there is not an unmet need with these students. Whether a student may need a warm coat, shoes or even food to take home; we are our SLP's extended families we need to make sure we can do our best to keep them healthy. Speak with the school advisor or guidance counselor on ways your club can make a direct impact.

Tim Cornelius

Governor

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What's new from Kiwanis International? There was a conference call with the Northeast Region Governors and International President Daniel Vigneron. The agenda for this call was:

- Res, Non Verba (actions not words)
- strengthening the clubs created these last 3 years.
- work on the clubs not in good standing: less than 15 members
- determine the locations where it would be possible to create new clubs
- working in the continuity with the Governor and Governor-Elect

Kiwanis members, we are in a critical need to invigorate our clubs, especially those with below charter membership numbers. As you may know, we have lost another (10) clubs in the past 13 months mostly because the clubs had shrunk to the point where they could no longer support the community service and fundraisers they had developed over the years.

Even with the new clubs built this last year we are still down over 180 members from the start of last year. This is a tremendous amount of lost service to our kids and communities.

We need to remember *why* we joined Kiwanis, the service, teaching, fun, and meaningful things our clubs and us have done to improve our children and communities.

As Kiwanians we need to look for areas where Kiwanis clubs have closed shop, learn why it happened, and adapt to the concerns of the communities and decide if this is a potential location of a "new" Kiwanis Club. It will take both strengthening our existing clubs, nurturing our (1-3) year old "new" clubs, and building "new" clubs in communities without existing Kiwanis Clubs to keep our Kiwanis Organization alive.

"Happy Thanksgiving Holidays to you and your families"



Notes from the Executive Director

We received our final membership numbers for the 2018-19 Kiwanis administrative year. The bad news is we lost membership again this year with our year-end membership on October 1, 2019 at 6,529 members compared to 6,716 members on October 1, 2018. That is a loss of 187 members. The good news is that is still our second smallest loss in the past 6 years. The district welcomed four new Kiwanis clubs last year – Kenton (Div. 2), Short North (Div. 10W), Greater Euclid (Div. 15), Shaker (Div. 15). We had a total of 77 clubs finish the year at least a +1 in membership and 35 clubs maintained their membership. Congratulations to the following Kiwanis clubs for leading the district in net growth at the end of last year with +5 or more members:

Lancaster (Div. 10S) +15

Mount Vernon (Div. 11N) +12

Cuyahoga Falls (Div. 16) +9

Granville (Div. 10E) & Independence (Div. 24) +7

Coldwater (Div. 2), Kettering-Centerville (Div. 4), Lebanon (Div. 5), Ravenna (Div. 15) and Marietta (Div. 18) +6

West Park, Cleveland (Div. 14), Ashtabula (Div.22), Kirkland (22), Strongsville Area (Div. 24) +5

For the 107 clubs that lost members, 45 or 42% of those clubs lost only 1 or 2 member(s). What could we do in our clubs to retain or replace those 1 or 2 members (or more) that would give us more hands and hearts for service in our communities? Check out Membership Coordinator Bill Pee's article in this month's newsletter about tools and resources to help your club retain members.

2018-19 Distinguished Awards Process

Thank you to those clubs that have submitted their applications for distinguished status. If your Kiwanis club has fulfilled the necessary criteria you should submit your information for consideration of distinguished status for the 2018-19 year. To facilitate this, an online form can now be completed at kiwanis.org/distinguished. This form should be submitted only once by either the outgoing club president or secretary. **The deadline for submissions is November 30, 2019.**

Along with this, club presidents and secretaries are encouraged to submit nominations for 2018-19 distinguished members from their Kiwanis clubs. An online form for this award can also be found at kiwanis.org/distinguished. **The deadline for submissions is November 30, 2019.**

Links to both forms are also located under the LINKS section of each club's secretary dashboard found on the [Kiwaniis Connect](http://kiwanis.org) reporting site.

Seal of Appreciation

The Kiwanis Club of Delaware recently had surprise visitors at their Safety Stop Trailer. Past Kiwanis Governor Diana Keplinger and Jim Fought were handing out refreshments to weary travelers off Highway 71North when, to their surprise, they realized two of their "customers" were Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and First Lady Fran, with two of their grandchildren.

Diana and Fran chatted about the Imagination Library Reading Project several Ohio Kiwanis clubs support to promote reading throughout the state.

Governor Mike was very friendly and appreciative of the service provided by the Delaware Kiwanis Club.

Pictured are: Jim Fought, Diana Keplinger, Governor DeWine and First Lady Fran with two of their grandchildren.



Lanton Lee

Executive Director

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Harry Potter and Young Children:Priority One

In J.K Rowling's *Harry Potter* series, we see the battle between good and evil personified as Harry strives to defeat the evil Lord Voldemort. But does this story have any relationship to the Kiwanis Young Children:Priority One beliefs?

The Young Children International Committee firmly believes that recent research demonstrates that young children are most likely to succeed in life when given safe, nurturing, low stress environments with a loving caregiver in the earliest years of their lives. The 0-5 year age range is when the brain is laying the foundations for reasoning, problem solving and developing social and emotional skills. Babies are born learning!

Young Children:Priority One

Steve Steinbrunner

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Dr. Shirley Gracias, a specialist in infant child and adolescent psychiatry, writes in the handbill for *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, "Harry and Lord Voldemort's early childhoods were similar, both suffered at the hands of unloving alternative caregivers who didn't delight in them, but their experiences in very early infancy differed immensely. In his first year, Harry was cared for in a way that established the world as a positive place, where pain could be tolerated and resolved. His mother, Lily, cared for him so deeply that she gave her

life to protect him from Voldemort's killing curse. Harry grew up knowing his mother's love saved him. The young Voldemort on the other hand didn't have this protection. As happens to the children in very poor orphanages, no one gave him the sensitive and nurturing care that Harry experienced and consequently he had to adapt his relationship strategies to protect himself. And so it was that both grew up to follow very different paths."

So I do see a relationship here. J.K Rowling's stories do show the likely developmental end results that the Young Children Committee would expect from published research on young children's brain development. This is something I completely overlooked until reading Dr. Gracias's comments.

As your Club plans for new service projects for this year, I hope that you will consider a project that will benefit our very youngest children.

Membership Coordinator

Bill Pees

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR NOVEMBER

We are now in the second month of the new Administrative year, and we are off to a good start with 111 new member adds and +34 net gain in the District. However, this time of year is when we see strong growth, but as it happens; we dropped members from rosters in August and September.

Membership Retention is one of the most important aspects for every club's membership and it becomes increasingly challenging during the months of August and September. Focusing on retention is one of the traits of successful clubs. Conducting a **Member Satisfaction Survey** that is available on kiwanis.org/ACE Tools should be done every year or every two years to find out what your membership is interested in your club.

Also, if you give orientation to new members (preferably before you induct them into your club) you will be able to engage them in the activities of the club and find out what they are interested in. This suggested orientation can be found at kiwanis.org/orientation.

Other ways of focusing on retention is to assign everyone a job and or a committee where they become involved and their presence at meetings will increase and help your attendance. Create a Retention Chair on your Membership Committee that will be in charge of contacting members you don't see very often. This will help reduce the amount of attrition in August and September and add more service because you will have more members involved with your projects.

As always use your club coaches if assigned and Lt. Governors as additional support for current issues or ones you see in the future.

Important Key Leader Reminders

KEY
LEADER®

As you know, Key Leader is fast approaching, less than two weeks away (Nov. 15-17). Key Leader registration is open and accepting students. All students are welcome to attend this weekend-long servant leadership education event. Your help is needed! The number is a little low right now, so please encourage your students to register promptly, by November 8 to allow us to complete necessary planning if possible.

We have been able to get the cost down to \$175 for the entire weekend. That includes everything! We encourage you to recruit through Kiwanis-based programs, however, this is NOT a Key Club event. This is a very important distinction for a couple of reasons. 1) Any and all students are welcome. 2) Students can travel to this event in any way their families see fit. 3) They don't need their own chaperones. We provide all the supervision they need.

There is a great deal of information at www.ohiokiwanis.org/page/44006. This includes registration links, downloadable participant forms, sponsorship information and more. We welcome all students of high-school age and any sponsorships you and your club may wish to provide. Sponsorships are a great way for clubs, divisions, businesses, and individuals to assist. There are many opportunities to help. Meals, low ropes and other items can be sponsored. Please see the downloadable forms area of the above website for details or contact us by email at ohiokeyleader@gmail.com.

To officially launch a special year of service in celebration of its 50th anniversary, the Worthington-Linworth Kiwanis Club held a dinner and silent auction on October 11th at the Worthington Hills Country Club. Special guests; Worthington Mayor Scott Holmes and State Representative Beth Liston presented proclamations and talked about their personal connections with Kiwanis. District Executive Director Lanton Lee provided an inspirational message to the group encouraging membership growth to help more kids in the community. Officers were installed for the new Kiwanis year by Lt. Governor Dave Doney, club member George Rittel received a 40 year Legion of Honor, and most notably the club announced that it has fulfilled its model club pledge of \$16,500 toward the Eliminate Project.



Funds were raised at a silent auction held that evening to operate a different impact project each of the next 12 months, serving at least 50 people per project as the goal. The following morning, the first project was held at Worthingway Middle School where club members and high school service club volunteers held the first annual Trick or Trot Family Festival complete with a fun run in costume, a bounce house, photo booth, costume contest and pumpkin roll races.

Hard Copies of the 2019-2020 Ohio District Kiwanis Directory will be available for purchase by members within days! Each copy will be \$5.00, payable to: **Ohio District Kiwanis, 941 Chatham Lane, Suite 326, Columbus, Ohio 43221.**

Please send a copy of the 2019-2020 Ohio District Kiwanis Directory to:

Name: _____

Club: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email or phone number: _____



Youth Services

Steve Vrooman

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The beginning of the school year is particularly difficult for many families across the state – purchasing clothes, school supplies, bookbags. Fortunately, many businesses, churches, and service organizations, including Kiwanis clubs, step forward to provide assistance to needy families. However, once the initial push to get the school year off to a good start has declined, the need for support still exists but the available support sources decline, too. The following list includes suggestions your Kiwanis Club may want to

consider to support the youth and families of your community:

Back-to-School Supply Giveaways – Your Kiwanis club may have sponsored/supported a back-to-school clothing/supply drive – that’s great! Keep up the great work! Those clubs that haven’t been involved in the projects should consider implementing an ongoing school supply and personal needs “bank.” The need is there. If the families in your community are not in need of this kind of support, consider partnering with a neighboring community or organization that can use your support. Within the schools, there is always a need for items such as hand sanitizer, tissues, disinfecting spray, Ziploc bags, and paper towels.

Adopt-a School/Grade – Many Kiwanis clubs adopt a school or grade level to provide tutoring/mentoring, financial and personnel support for fieldtrips, book purchases, and more. Contact your local school district’s superintendent to offer your services to a school where he/she feels there is a need for your support. You know your community but consulting the superintendent about a recommendation may eliminate the community-perceived favoritism shown by your club, a club that supports all children and families. If your club adopts a school or grade level, make arrangements for club members to be present for special events during the school year (wear your Kiwanis shirts) – opening day; music, drama, and sports programs; fieldtrips; book fairs; other events when there is a need for volunteer support. Many elementary and middle schools welcome volunteers to read with individual or small groups of students. Middle and high school career education programs are in need of speakers who can talk with classes about their professions. Related note – Make sure the Kiwanis volunteers are approved to be working with students.

Before/After-School Programming – In most communities, before and/or after-school programming is important to fulfill the social and academic needs of the children. Your Kiwanis club can support the programs by volunteering to tutor and/or mentor students, helping with snacks, and facilitating games. Enrichment programs are frequently in need of volunteers to teach about subjects and skills that the school curriculum may not address. Children are information sponges and always enjoy working with volunteers from the community.

Weekend Food Programs – Work with your local food bank to help pack weekend food backpacks. This food lifeline may be the only source of healthful food the child may have all weekend.

Community Food Distribution – Families in most communities have access to food banks and on-location food distribution points. Very often, there is a need for volunteers to help with the distribution, under the supervision of trained staff. If you are unsure of what food distribution organization(s) serves the families of your community, go to feedingamerica.org to locate available networks.

Sports Programs – There is always a need for financial and volunteer support of youth sports programs. Sponsor a team and, to show your support, attend games (wear your Kiwanis gear). This is a great opportunity to support the community’s children and talk to the parents of those children.

Service to youth is the reason we are Kiwanians. Do all you can to demonstrate – *All Roads Lead to Kiwanis!!!*

Have news to share?

The Buckeye Bulletin is always looking to share good news about the terrific service that our clubs are doing. To share your club’s story in the Buckeye Bulletin, please submit an attached photo of your club members in action. A brief description of the project and who will be benefitting from the activity should be included. If this is a signature project or a new project, that information should be included as well.

You never know, your project could inspire another club in the district to do something similar in their community. We are also interested in your Service Leadership Program clubs’ activities since they often do amazing projects with minimal resources available to them.

Send articles to: info@ohiokiwanis.org. We will use them as space allows.

Connect and GROW your Kiwanis club

A primary goal for Kiwanis every year is to build and grow clubs throughout Ohio and internationally. With today's technology, it has become increasing easier to make those connections with perspective new members and strengthen the Kiwanis brand in the communities in which we work, live and play. We will strive to provide valuable information that will help your club become more successful.



Public Relations
James Minter
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We've incorporated a Public Relations Resources tab with information regarding scheduled webinars, new PR contest links and other valuable PR resources on www.OhioKiwanis.org. Please visit this page each month to gain valuable insight to tools and strategies that will help you grow your club.

The "Just ONE More" contest, captures a key motivational phrase from the movie "Hacksaw Ridge" where Pfc. Desmond Doss asked for strength to save **"just one more"** life. He saved 75 lives in the battle of Okinawa during WWII without a weapon and without taking a life. We're not asking for Hollywood drama or that you add 75 members. However, if members focused on adding "Just ONE More" member each month, your club could grow 20% - 80% within a year. Think of the positive impact twelve new members would have on achieving club goals, building the Kiwanis brand and assisting with SLP initiatives. I challenge every club to participate in the "Just ONE more" contest.

The criteria, deadlines and monetary rewards for each contest are listed at www.OhioKiwanis.org under Public Relations Resources. You can also obtain the login information for ALL upcoming webinars.

January 30, 2020 is our next PR webinar - "How to MAXIMIZE PR opportunities for your club"

- 1) Getting your Kiwanis story told for FREE! Building your relationship with media partners.
- 2) Effective advertising on social media for \$25/month or FREE with Google Ads Grant Program
- 3) Using your Kiwanis website and social media to engage and inspire community leaders
- 4) Maximizing PR opportunities within Service Leadership Programs and monthly club activities
- 5) Community partnerships and the benefit of "honorary memberships" with select community leaders

If interested in serving on the **public relations committee**, please email PR@OhioKiwanis.org.

Jim Janosik
District Treasurer
JimJanosik@aol.com



Let's take a moment to discuss the importance and duties of having an annual financial review performed by your club.

Unless your club's financial records are audited by a qualified accounting firm, your club should also have a financial review committee complete an annual financial audit of club accounts. This committee is generally comprised of non-board members or financial officer and reports its findings to club leadership. In smaller clubs this can be done by a single person, and in larger clubs it is suggested to have two to three people form this

committee. Working with the club treasurer to obtain all bank statements and ledgers to review that entries were made correctly and funds were either deposited or withdrawn from the correct accounts (service or administrative) is the primary goal of the committee.

Reporting to the club and its board with any potential concerns ahead of your annual tax filing, or with opportunities for improvement in organizing the financial operations of the club are the inherent duties of this committee. I strongly encourage your club to perform this annually and advise your Lt. Governor that you have done so, as well as have your club secretary note it on their monthly report.

THE TEACHER SHORTAGE GOES BEYOND THE CLASSROOM.



KIDS NEED KIWANIS