

# Foundations Help Increase Service

By Gov. James Mancuso

Over the last few months, our foundations have been a big part of my focus. We all know about the great work the New York District Foundation does for children with Kamp Kiwanis. But it also has a disaster relief program which was recently activated due to the tornadoes in Kentucky. Soon after the disaster hit the relief team jumped on it and quickly made plans to collect food, supplies, and monetary donations. By the time this Empire State Kiwanian is published those items and support are probably already being put to work for those affected in Kentucky. My thoughts and prayers are with them as they pick up the pieces of their shattered lives.

At a multi-club installation in Brooklyn, I witnessed the true effects of Lyme disease. The Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation years ago helped a child, now a young adult, who was in that room in a wheelchair. It is quite evident pediatric Lyme Disease steals our children's childhoods. Our foundation helps them to pay medical bills and give their families much-needed financial relief. Also, the Kiwanis Pediatric Lyme Disease Gala held on Long Island which the First Lady and I attended was a resounding success. It was wonderful to see such great support for this cause from the New York District.

Our Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Centers in Albany, Buffalo, and Long Island are next on my list.



Amazing efforts and financial resources are being expended on prevention programs, education, and in other ways to address the types of trauma children experience.

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‘In this season of giving, I encourage you to learn more about these foundations and be generous towards them. They are all certainly well deserving of your support.’

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The other foundations we are associated with such as the Kiwanis Children's Fund, through its club grant program (all clubs should think about applying) do fine work as well. And, both Key Club and Circle K support foundations aligned with part of the Governor's Project, Save the Earth for Our Children (respectively, called Thirst and Wash - check out Key Club and Circle K websites to learn more).

In this season of giving, I encourage you to learn more about

these foundations and be generous towards them. They are all certainly well deserving of your support.

I hope your holidays were joyful and wish you all a very Happy New Year! 2022 will be great for Kiwanis and those we serve because of all of you, our members, who put others before themselves every day.

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# Celebrating the Re-Opening of Kamp Kiwanis in 2022

By Sal Anelli  
Foundation President

It's been a while since I have been able to say the following: KAMP KIWANIS WILL BE OPENING THIS SEASON!

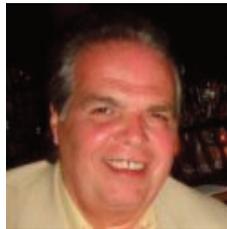
Yes, after two years of Covid preventing us from opening, we are now getting ready to welcome all of the Kampers for the 2022 season.

Thanks to all of you who continued to support us in so many different ways, we were able to take advantage of the two summers without Kampers to do a lot of work at the Kamp. Some of the improvements to the Kamp are the newly paved paths, steel roofs and siding on all cabins, new generators for both the upper and lower Kamp, repairing the dam wall, steps to the cistern and many other repairs that needed to be done. The Kamp has never looked better.

As you may or may not know, we have a new Executive Director, Michael Garcia, who has been on board since September getting the Kamp ready. Michael is a very energetic person with lots of great new ideas for the Kamp which will take it to a whole new level. We are all very happy to

have him and we look for great things from him.

As with anything in life, costs are always rising and such is the case with our Kamp. Due to Covid and other factors, in the past two years the cost of everything has gone up and as I always remind everyone that I speak to, we have a "Brick & Mortar" entity so those costs are there no matter what.



After long discussions at our last board of directors meeting considering the rise in cost of everything such as busing, food, dairy, gas utilities and all other factors, we agreed to the following costs:

Adult Kamper - Tuition - \$860 busing - \$220 Total \$1080.

Child Kampership - Tuition - \$525 Bussing - \$180 Total \$705.

This represents an 18 percent increase across the board and we all felt that it warranted given the economic conditions throughout the country. I hope that you



**Kiwanis**  
NEW YORK DISTRICT  
FOUNDATION

will be able to insert these costs in your club budgeting and send us as many Kampers as possible.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at Mid-Winter and answering any questions you might have and remember that on Friday evening, after the opening session, we will be hosting a "Kamp Kiwanis Pajama Party" and the cost of admission is for you to bring us some boxes of cereal. We will be sending out the flier to all with information on that evening.

I would like to add my sincerest thanks on behalf of all of us at the New York District Kiwanis Foundation, to all those clubs and individuals who so generously supported the Kamp during the past two years and helped us to maintain it as the "Jewel of the New York District".

God bless everyone and let's get back to Kiwanis and what we do best, help the children of the world.

## Other Foundation Programs

### Disaster Relief

For many years the Foundation has coordinated Kiwanis response to major disasters, both in New York and elsewhere. Recently the Foundation organized a collection of supplies from around the district which were taken to Kentucky to help people there deal with the devastation of the tornados that struck the area.

The foundation maintains a supply of items between disaster events so that response can be done more quickly, and also coor-

dinates collections for each event where a response is undertaken.

At right, members of the Glendale and Lefferts Liberty clubs feeding Superstorm Sandy victims in November of 2012.

### Scholarships

Each year the Foundation grants scholarships to college students from the state. Clubs are encouraged to nominate students from their area for the awards; the deadline is in the Spring each year.



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## 2021-22 Events

**Feb. 11-13, 2022:**

Mid-Year Conference, Desmond Hotel, Albany

**May 20-22, 2022:**

Kamp Kiwanis Work Week and Open House

**June 8-11, 2022:**

Kiwanis International Convention, Indianapolis, Ind.

**July 6-10, 2022:**

Key Club International Convention, Washington, D.C.

**Aug. 18-21, 2022:**

New York District Convention, Hyatt Hotel, Rochester



## New Director Excited about 2022 at Kamp

Kamp Kiwanis Gears Up for Summer 2022!

During the pandemic Kamp Kiwanis like a lot of summer camps have been closed. With Michael Garcia the new Executive Directors starting in the Fall of 2021 Kamp Kiwanis is geared up for programming for the summer of 2022.

Kamp has been sitting idle for more than two years and a lot of work is needed in preparation for next summer. All buildings at camp have new roofs on them as well as some upgrades to some cabins. More than 30 trees have been removed from around the property for safety concerns as well.

"I have been reaching out to all of our Kiwanis Clubs and vendors for the past few months and everyone I talk with is excited that we are coming back next sum-

mer" says Garcia. "There is a lot of work to do between hiring all new staff, working on updating COVID procedures and spreading the word about Kamp Kiwanis."

Garcoia has been working on updating the website and expects completion at the end of January.

Registration will open on February 1, 2022. Registration will be online and information will go out to all clubs so they can learn the process.



New York District Kiwanis Foundation Inc.

**Kamp  
Kiwanis®**



"I am excited to be on board at Kamp Kiwanis. I am looking forward to getting to know all about Kamp and getting set for summer 2022" says Garcia. "I am excited about the rich history that Kamp Kiwanis holds and cannot wait for next summer."

If you are interested in supporting or learning more about Kamp Kiwanis you can visit us at [www.kampkiwanis.org](http://www.kampkiwanis.org) or you can reach out to our Executive Director at [executivedirector@kampkiwanis.org](mailto:executivedirector@kampkiwanis.org).

## Empire Club: Leaving a Lasting Impact

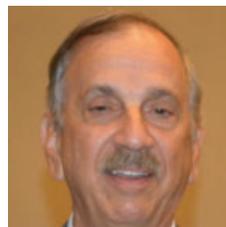
**By Joe Eppolito  
Empire Club Chair**

The Empire Club Is an opportunity to support the NY District Kiwanis with a long-range planned gift to help ensure the longevity of the New York District Kiwanis Foundation for many years to come.

Planned gifts can come in many forms and we encourage you to work with your financial advisor to see what is best for you from a charitable gift standpoint, tax standpoint and personal satisfaction standpoint.

You will find an easy-to-read brochure that you can print on the New York District Kiwanis webpage under the New York District Kiwanis Foundation drop down tab.

The type and amount of your planned gift will never be revealed to the general New York District membership but will be kept in strict confidence unless you in-



dicade otherwise. In the brochure, we outline the recognition program that we use to recognize your generosity on a district level. Should you desire no public recognition, we will honor your request and just list you as a member of the Empire Club on internal records only. There is also a way to give an upfront gift as well.

Should you have any comments, questions or require further information, contact me as the chair for the Empire Club program at 315-436-2157 or email me at [pepster@aol.com](mailto:pepster@aol.com) I would be happy to work with you.

# Mt. Kilimanjaro is a Challenge and a Fund Raising Opportunity

By John Fellin

Mt Kilimanjaro, 19,341 Feet, One of the highest peaks in the world and the highest elevation in all of Africa. Not your average walk in the park!

In March of 2018, my son and I traveled on an expedition of a lifetime. The seed for this adventure had been planted 10 years prior when I heard news of a friend's daughter climbing Kili and I instantly thought "I want to do that". I did the research on cost, training, survival, and more but it never happened.

Again, in 2014, a close friend of mine mentioned that he would love to climb Mt. Kili. I told him I would join him and did more research but then the dream faded, and it went nowhere.

Shortly thereafter my wife was diagnosed with Leukemia. My world had been shaken. I felt completely helpless to console and help her. I reached out to the Leukemia, Lymphoma Society and gathered info about her disease. I called them desperately looking for something I could do.

Then one day while surfing the web for info on Leukemia I came across "Climb 2 Cure" a program offered by the Leukemia Lymphoma Society. The program is an extension of LLS "Team in Training" program where people raise money for research by competing in cycling, hiking, and running events. The feature climb offered by Climb2Cure: Mt Kilimanjaro an 8-day journey to the summit. The mountain was calling me once again.

Having not climbed or hiked much in over 40 years and at the age of 62 I began to gather information, set fundraising goals and get in shape. I could do this! I began training by cycling and walking. I took stairs whenever possible and began cycling longer and longer rides. My son offered to join me, and my wife gave me her blessing.

I knew I needed mountain hiking experience, so I decide as part of my training to also climb Mt. Washington (6,288 feet) and Pikes Peak (14,115 feet). The total height of these three mountains 39,744 and that became my fundraising goal, \$39,744. In July 2017 I climbed Mt Washington and in September of that year I hiked Pike's Peak. Next challenge, Kilimanjaro.

The day finally arrived in March 2018. The trek began with an 18-hour trip to the small town of Moshi, Tanzania, nestled in the shadows of Kilimanjaro.

The next morning, we met our guides and fellow climbers at the hotel. They briefed us, inspected our gear, and laid out the next several days of our life. They warned us about the dire effects of alti-



tude sickness and other important safety guidelines.

Shortly after breakfast the next day my son and I gathered in a small bus with our gear and six fellow climbers for the 2-hour ride to the base of the mountain. The plan laid out for us was to climb 3,000-4,000 feet every day and then descend about 1,000 feet to help us acclimate to the ever-thinning oxygen on the mountain.

We departed for the summit using the Lemosho trail with temperatures in the high eighties. By nightfall we had reached our first camp and awoke the next morning to the sounds of screeching monkeys and a cold, wet 30-degree day. What was I doing here? For the next 3 days we hiked upwards in dense fog, rain, sleet, hail, and snow. We hiked on slippery lava rock-encrusted paths covered in mud, snow, and ice.

On day four at approximately 13,000 feet, we tackled the Barranco Wall. The steep, ominous 840-foot vertical ascent along narrow paths required us to use all four limbs. On day five we reached the Barafu Base Camp, 14,930 feet. It was there that the clouds parted, the sun finally came out and we had the first glimpse of the Kilimanjaro summit towering almost 5,000 feet overhead.

The longest, hardest day of my life began at midnight. We awoke to five feet of new snow and minus five-degree temperature. In the cover of pitch-black darkness and with head lamps glowing we formed a single file line and began our ascent.

The trek would prove to be a test of my physical strength and mental toughness. The hard packed snow, low oxygen level

and steep climb made every step difficult. More than once I questioned my ability.

On March 15, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. we reached the summit, 19,341 feet. The view from above the clouds was incredible. The sun was blinding. Eons old glaciers lay in the distance, emotions peaked, and the sense of accomplishment was overwhelming.

We were on top of the world!!

Two days later we were off the mountain, back at our hotel and enjoyed the greatest pleasure of all, a long hot shower after 8 days in the African wilderness. It truly was a dream come true.

A few days later we arrived home. While on the mountain I had developed the initial stages of HAPE - High Altitude Pulmonary Edema and needed to see a doctor. Additionally, a severe infection on my toe had spread and surgery was needed. Thankfully, I had started medications while still in Africa and my recovery was quick. Despite what I endured it was only a fraction of the daily physical and mental challenges a person diagnosed with cancer faces daily!

Before, during and after the climb donations continued to pour in. Through the generosity of family, friends, and fellow Kiwanians my son and I raised more than \$100,000 for blood cancer research. Thankfully due to new treatments and drugs developed in small part by these research dollars and through the advocacy of the Leukemia Lymphoma Society my wife's prognosis is vastly improved.

For more information on Kilimanjaro or to donate to cancer research feel free to email me at [johnfellin@msn.com](mailto:johnfellin@msn.com).

# Coming to the Aid of Children with Lyme Disease

By DPG John Gridley

**What is Lyme Disease?** Lyme disease is caused by bacteria usually transmitted by the deer tick. It is a very scary possibility to consider for New York State residents who enjoy spending time outside during the summer months.

Lyme disease may affect the brain in many ways. The most common is a disturbance in thinking (cognition). The spirochete, (*Borrelia Burgdorferi*), which causes Lyme disease can invade the central nervous system within days to a week of initial skin infection, as a result it disseminates through the blood stream. The majority of people who are treated early (within 10 to 14 days) with antibiotics do well and incur no long term problems. People who are not treated until later in the illness may have a more complicated course.

**Did you know?** Lyme disease is 1.5 times more common than breast cancer and 6 times more common than HIV and is the fastest growing infectious disease. The CDC acknowledges at least 300,000 new infections per year (but probably more). The tell-tale "bull's eye rash" after a bite occurs in less than half of all Lyme infections. Current testing often provides a false negative result. Most insurance companies do not cover

treatment or medication for Lyme disease.

**What are the symptoms of Lyme Disease?** Severe fatigue and exhaustion. Joint pain, swelling and stiffness. Neurological impairment, inability to concentrate, memory loss, and vision changes. Difficulty with speech or writing, ear pain, buzzing or ringing. Seizures, light-headedness, poor balance, difficulty walking, Bell's Palsy, cardiac issues, irregular heart beat, murmurs and heart block.

The Kiwanis Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation was established to help pay for the treatment and/or medication of a young child with this ever growing painful disease.

**Help us to help:** Young Lyme disease patients receive the care they so desperately need and deserve. Since its inception the foundation has paid approximately \$900,000 plus for treatment and/or medication of a child with this dreaded disease.

**Special awards:** The way we receive funds is from outright donations from very generous members of Kiwa-



nis, or by honoring a member of your club or community by the purchasing a commemorative medallion (this includes a very special commemorative medallion, a plaque, and lapel pin) for a donation of \$1,250, a Brittany Fellowship Award (this includes a lapel pin, medallion and plaque) for a donation of \$500. To purchase additional levels of the Brittany Fellowship Awards the previous level Brittany must be purchased first, for example: the level one includes a emerald pin and certificate of authentication for an additional \$250 donation. Level Two includes a pin with two emeralds and certificate of authentication for an additional \$250 donation. Level Three includes a pin with two emeralds and one diamond and certificate of authentication for an additional \$250 donation.

Also, the Joseph Michael Wuest Award includes a banner patch, five commemorative pins, and five certificates for a \$150 donation.

The Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation helps families and kids suffering with Lyme Disease. If you are like me and joined Kiwanis to help kids please consider making a donation or purchasing one of our many awards to honor someone. Thank you in advance for taking the time to care and share.

## Should Your Club Have Its Own Foundation?

By Martin Toombs

Many Kiwanis clubs have availed themselves of the opportunity to create a tax-exempt foundation as a supplement to their club's charitable activities.

Is it the right thing for your club?

**Q: Why would a club want to form a foundation? Aren't clubs already non-profit?**

A: All Kiwanis Clubs are incorporated as 501(c)4 corporations. With that status, clubs do no need to pay taxes on their revenue, and are only required to report annually to the IRS on activities; if the club normally has less than \$50,000 in revenue, a simple online form is all that's required by Feb. 15 of each year.

Club foundations -- which are optional -- are created as 501(c)3 corporations. With that status, donations to the club foundation can be deducted as charitable donations on the donor's income taxes. Also, grants that a club may be interested in seeking usually require a 501(c)3 corporation in order to apply.

**Q: Does Kiwanis International**

**have rules for how to create a foundation?**

A: Yes. The first step is to file with Kiwanis International for permission to create a foundation. The document for that is available from KI. It includes a template for the foundation's by-laws.

**Q: Isn't creating a foundation expensive and require hiring an attorney?**

A: An attorney is not required. There are filing fees that have to be paid, totaling \$375.

**Q: Does the foundation have additional annual filing requirements?**

A: Yes. In addition to the IRS 990 filed by the club, the 501(c)3 corporation must file its own 990, and there is a New York State form required as well, the CHAR500. It also can be filed online.

**Q: What happens to the distinction between the club's Administration and Project accounts?**



A: The funds still need to be kept separate. The Admin account is the 501(c)4 corporation, while the Project account is the Foundation, the 501(c)3 corporation.

**Q: What happens if we fail to file the reports?**

A: If you don't file for three years, the IRS can suspend your non-profit status. This applies to both 501(c)4 and 501(c)3 corporations. Once the non-profit status is lost, all revenue becomes taxable. Fines may also be levied.

**Q: Does the foundation have its own board of directors?**

A: Kiwanis requires that a majority of the Foundation board members be on the Club board as well. Most clubs which have a foundation have overlapping memberships and conduct both board meetings at the same time.

**Q: Where can I get more information?**

A: There is a longer discussion of these issues, step-by-step instructions and links to the Kiwanis, IRS and state Charities Bureau documents at:

[www.kiwanis-ny.org/legalissues.htm](http://www.kiwanis-ny.org/legalissues.htm)

# Kiwanis Children's Fund Has a New Focus

By Kimberly Davis

Change has come to the Kiwanis Children's Fund (KCF)!

Although we will always focus on club and district grants and our support to maternal and neonatal tetanus and IDD, more attention will be placed on the following causes: education and literacy; health and nutrition; and youth leadership development.

Many clubs have heard about club grants but don't know where to start. Here is a brief overview: A community needs assessment must be completed to ensure that the proposed project is relevant and necessary. The next funding cycle for club grants is in June, but your club must have its Letter of Inquiry submitted by March 1.

The Letter of Inquiry includes an outline of the project, the time line, a budget, and an overview of the community needs assessment that you have already completed. Club grants must

address one of the three causes listed above. Additional information, criteria, and the Guide to Club Grants can be found at: [Kiwanis.org/childrens-fund/grants/club-grant-program](http://Kiwanis.org/childrens-fund/grants/club-grant-program).

If you don't think that your club has enough time to get all of this information together, there are more funding cycles throughout the year (the next opportunity is the October 1 funding cycle that starts with the Letter of Inquiry due by June 1).

Our clubs support an amazing number of great organizations - is the KCF one of them? The New York District has one of the lowest club-giving averages out of all single state districts - we can do better! If your club doesn't give, please consider sending in \$1 a day, just \$365 per club,



as a starting point. Whether you collect change at your meetings, do a once-a-year raffle, or just write a check, please make sure that your club is supporting our own organization.

If your club does already support the KCF - thank you, and please, keep it up! Please remember that it is club giving that determines how much money the district receives back for a district grant.

Thank you for all that you do for the children in your communities and around the world! Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or for more information. My email address is: [plattsburghrunner@gmail.com](mailto:plattsburghrunner@gmail.com).

## More Members = More Service

By PG Eric Paul

Some believe the most important letters are the three "P"s...Price, Price & Price.

I believe that, in Kiwanis, we need to stress and re-stress the three "M"s....**Membership, Membership and Membership.**

**Additional members** are needed to be a Distinguished Member, Club and Division. But the bottom line is that **more members means more service for the betterment of our communities.**

**Congratulations** Lt. Gov. Steve Klein and his team including Super Distinguished Past Lt. Gov. Dave Morse for opening the Dutchess County Christian Church Council Kiwanis Club in Pough-

keepsie, Hudson River Division, last month. The Charter Night was a GREAT Event.

**Congratulations** to Lt. Gov. Dr. Salwa Elmeawad for opening the Bay Terrace Kiwanis Club in Queens East, together with her team featuring Distinguished Past Gov. Joe Corace and friends.

**As we look into the new year**, we see multiple opportunities. We are holding a Club Building Event in conjunction with the Van Rensselaer Division to build New Kiwanis



Clubs in Southern Columbia County and North Greenbush. We are working with Lt. Gov. Carol Verdi to open new clubs in the IDD/DD Community in Queens West, as well as in Rockaway and Breezy Point. We are working with Lt. Gov. John Thompson with opportunities in the Bronx.

**Where are the effort in your division?**

To be successful we **MUST** work to grow and educate membership in our existing clubs, and expand our footprint to communities not served by our great organization.

**Want to Help?**

Send me a note at [egpaul99@gmail.com](mailto:egpaul99@gmail.com) or call at 716-677-4604 and let's talk.

## Monticello, Woodridge Donate Gifts to Seniors, Homeless

The members of the Kiwanis Clubs of Monticello and Woodridge joined forces once more to bring holiday cheer to the Office for the Aging Meals on Wheels participants as well as local families served by the Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless.

They presented little gifts and greeting cards to Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless Program Administrator Kathy Kreiter and to Office for the Aging Director Lise-Anne Deoul and

Nutrition Services Coordinator Jane Bozan.

The gifts included an assortment of holiday solar dancers, play dough, coloring books, hats, gloves, scarves, puzzles, body lotion, playing cards, stuffed animals and holiday mugs filled with candy.

In addition to the Kiwanis Club members, the Monticello High School Key Club, Jill Weiner's Liberty Middle School Class as well as the Aktion Club

of Sullivan County, comprised of individuals from Arc The Greater Hudson Valley, New Hope Community and Center for Discovery, contributed a large amount of beautifully hand-made greeting cards and gifts.

The main mission of this project was to give back to the community and to reassure the recipients that people were thinking of them and wanted to make their holiday a little more enjoyable.

# Treating and Preventing Pediatric Trauma

By DPG Joseph Corace  
KPTC Foundation President

In 1991, the Kiwanis NY District Foundation agreed to align with North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset to create and support the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Center (KPTC), the only one of its kind in the region.

In 2013, North Shore-LIJ Health System, now Northwell Health, relocated the acute in-patient pediatric services to Cohen Children's Medical Center. In 2018 KPTC also formed an association with Stony Brook Children's Hospital in Stony Brook. Currently, these two hospitals are the only level-1 ACS-verified trauma centers existing on Long Island that have successfully met the criteria established by the American College of Surgeons.

KPTC has also undertaken a mission to help prevent life-threatening injuries to young children through early education. Instructing our SLPs (Circle K and Key Club members) childhood injury prevention programs have increased the number of elementary school students receiving instruction in vehicle/pedestrian safety, bicycle/wheeled sports safety, water safety, falls/fire/burn safety. Recently our members have undergone extensive training to bring the Distracted Driving Program into local high schools utilizing driving simulators teaching teens the dangers of driving while distracted. KPTC is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

If you want to learn more about Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Center please give us the opportunity to do a program at your club or division meeting. We are developing virtual programs for the future and you can get more information about KPTC on Facebook, and [www.kiwanispediatrictraumacenter.org](http://www.kiwanispediatrictraumacenter.org).



Please let me take this time to thank each of you individually and your clubs for your attendance and support of our 25th Black and White Ball.

## 3 KPTC Programs

In addition to the KPTC Long Island program described here, there are KPTC programs in Albany and Buffalo.

The Albany group works with the Albany Medical Center Children's Hospital.

The Buffalo program assists efforts at the John R. Oishei Children's Hospital.

You made it a success again!!! SAVE THE DATE - Sept. 23, 2022.



East Meadow High School Key Clubber Hailey gets a feel for the Distracted Driving Simulator.

# Rick Sturm Honored For Service to Albany KPTC

By Lynne Catelotti  
Van Rensselaer Lt. Gov.

On a bitter cold January night, three divisions came together to recognize a special person. There was one small problem: the guest of honor had slipped on ice and wrenched his knee and couldn't attend.

Past Gov. David Booker and his fellow Sand Lake Kiwanians were determined to carry on. The food had been ordered, guests were coming, and arrangements had been made for a much-deserved celebration. Dave collected his computer, a screen and a camera so that our honoree could attend via Zoom. Only, Dave slipped on ice



Lynne Catelotti

and fell too. Undeterred, he set up the equipment at the restaurant and then headed to Urgent Care. He was promptly put in an ambulance and transported to the hospital requiring 11 stitches for a gash in his head.

The room was packed, and additional Kiwanians watched virtually as Rick Sturm was shown appreciation for more than 25 years as KPTC chair in the Capital District.

Rick Sturm was instrumental in developing and promoting "The Bells of Life" campaign. He arranged with Crossgates Mall to have Circle K, Key Club members and Kiwanians from the Capital, Mohawk, and Van Rensselaer Divisions sell paper bells to holiday shop-



Rick Sturm

pers for \$1. Over the years, shoppers and community donations have amassed to over \$1,000,000!

These funds helped Albany Medical Center to create a Neonatal Intensive Care unit (NICU), a Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU), purchase equipment such as a micro-environment "giraffe" and most recently to open the region's only pediatric emergency room.

Rob Saba, Director of Development, Grateful Patients and Families at Albany Medical, stated that he was proud to call Rick a friend and couldn't say enough about his commitment to the hospital, to children and to Kiwanis.

Van Rensselaer Division Lt. Gov. Lynne Catelotti presented a plaque in recognition and appreciation from the Capital, Mohawk and Van Rensselaer Divisions.

Rick is a dedicated Kiwanian and we are lucky to have him in our organization. CONGRATULATIONS and thank you Rick!

# Fresh Forum Lineup Among New Learning Efforts

By Alison Mandel

Education is an ongoing process not just once a year when we start a new Kiwanis year.

For the past two years we have had monthly district wide Zoom calls on different topics to keep the district informed. The topics have ranged from the different New York District foundations (District Foundation, Pediatric Lyme and Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Centers), the Service Leadership Programs (K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, Circle K and Aktion Club), service projects, fund raising ideas just to name a few.

This has been a great way to allow members from all over the district to learn about different topics especially in these COVID times when attendance at conventions has not been easy for some.

On Jan. 13 Governor Jim conducted a Town Hall -- an open forum for members to ask questions about things going on around the district. On Jan. 24 we will have a District Wide call - Meet the Kamp

Director Michael Garcia.

The Mid Winter Conference is coming up soon! We will be having 16 different workshops - 3 rounds in the morning and 1 round in the afternoon. Although the specific times for each workshop are not decided yet - the topics include:



1. Governor's Project - "Water Pollution and Children's Health"
2. Youth Protection "Safely Mentoring Our Youth"
3. Fraud/Phishing - "How to Recognize and Avoid Phishing Scams"
4. Membership - "One Size Does Not Fit All"
5. Technology - "Become a Jedi Master"
6. Websites - Why Creating a Club Website is Worth it"
7. Club Foundation - "So, you want to Start a Foundation? Great Now what?"

8. Applying for Grants - "Grant Money Awaits your club! Why aren't you taking it?"

9. Uncle Sam and The District needs YOU! - "It is easier to be a Lt. Governor than you think."

10. Ace Tools - "What does your community and members want?"

11. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion - "All are welcome in the Kiwanis family"

12. District Website - "Get the most from the New York District Website"

13. Kiwanis Children's Fund - "How does it accomplish its mission?"

14. Partnerships - "We are stronger together"

15. Non-Kiwanis - "Exotic Destinations (a.k.a. See the World with Lt. Gov./Dr Bob)"

16. Looking for an adventure before the International Convention in Indianapolis - "Come learn about a pre-convention trip"

If you have ideas for either Future Workshops and/or District Wide Call topics. Please email me at [alison.mandel@gmail.com](mailto:alison.mandel@gmail.com).

## Covid Precautions For Mid-Year

**Please note the following COVID-19 Prevention/Health and Safety Measures:**

- All attendees must attest that they have been fully vaccinated as defined by the CDC -- "Fully vaccinated" means I have received my complete vaccine regimen (2 shots for Pfizer or Moderna, or 1 shot for Johnson and Johnson), and 14 days or more have passed since my final shot, or I have tested for COVID-19 and received a negative test result within 5 days of the first day of the conference. (Please get tested as close to the date of the conference as possible.)

- All attendees shall sign a waiver of COVID-19 claims at registration.

- All attendees agree to wear face coverings while attending the meetings. They will not be required during meals.

- All attendees agree to abide by strict social distancing protocols established by the hotel and Kiwanis at the meetings.

Get the Latest Information:  
[www.kiwanis-ny.org](http://www.kiwanis-ny.org)

### 2022 Mid-Year Conference Schedule

#### Friday, Feb. 11

Registration.....	2-6:45 p.m.
Board Luncheon <i>(by invitation only)</i> .....	1-2 p.m.
Basket Raffle and Display Tables .....	2-6:45 p.m.
Board Meeting .....	2-4:30 pm.
Welcome Dinner .....	6:45-8 p.m.
Opening Session .....	8:15-10:15 p.m.
Foundation Pajama Paarty .....	10:15 p.m.
Hospitality Rooms .....	10:15 p.m.

#### Saturday, Feb. 12

Past Governors Breakfast.....	8-9:30 a.m.
Breakfast.....	7:45-8:45 a.m.
Lt. Gov. Elects Breakfast with Gov.-Elect Joel Harris .....	7:45-8:45 a.m.
Registration (closed during lunch) .....	9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Basket Raffle and Display Tables .....	9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Forums .....	9-11:50 a.m.
Past Lt. Governor's Council .....	10-10:50 a.m.
Foundations Recognition Luncheon.....	Noon-1:45 p.m.
Forums.....	2-3:30 p.m.
Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation Board .....	3:30-4:40 p.m.
Gala Reception * .....	5:30-6:30 p.m.
VIP Toast * .....	6:15-6:30 p.m.
Gala Governor's Dinner * .....	6:30-10 p.m.
Hospitality Rooms .....	10 p.m.

#### Sunday, Feb. 13

District Foundation Board Meeting .....	9 a.m.-1 p.m.
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\* **Black Tie Optional, Black Coat**

**Schedule is tentative. See the district web site for the latest information**

# International Convention Offers Educational Opportunities

The 2022 Kiwanis International Convention will take place June 8-11 in Indianapolis.

Registration will be open from March 15 until May 1.

Plan now to attend the first International Convention since 2019. Presiding over the event will be one of our own, Kiwanis International President Peter Mancuso.

Virtual access and in-person attendance will both be possible.

Virtual access will cost \$49 and will give purchasers the ability to view live or recorded video of several educational events as well as the Annual Meeting where the election of officers and voting on bylaw amendments will take place.

The in-person registration fee is \$399. It provides access to all of the non-ticketed events, which includes lunch on Thursday,



Friday and Saturday. Other packages also are available. See the Intentional web site for details.

The event will wind up with a Gala featuring Michael Cavanaugh from the hit Broadway musical "Movin' Out". Tickets for the event are \$125.

For all the details go to the Kiwanis International web site, <http://www.kiwanis.org/convention/2022/>.

## Troy Celebrates 105 Years, Adds Another Prout Member

Five years since the Troy Kiwanis Centennial celebration and we were at it again.

On Dec. 21 members from our club and division came together to celebrate the 105th Anniversary of the Troy Kiwanis Club.

Founded in October of 1916, we were one of the first clubs in New York District. Our very own Cary Ann Lombardo planned a wonderful event combining the celebration with a festive holiday theme and the recognition of the first honorary member to our club, Mrs. Elissa R. Prout.

It goes without saying that Mrs. Prout is a special person, but Kiwanis and especially the Troy Kiwanis wouldn't be the same without the contributions of her family over the 105-year club existence.

Long time Kiwanian and club treasurer Pete Dziamba presented the honorary membership to Mrs. Elissa Prout saying "she is the daughter in law of a Kiwanian (George Prout), the wife of a Kiwanian (W. Harry Prout), the mother of a Kiwanian (Jim Prout), the mother in law of a Kiwanian (Wendy Prout), the grandmother of two Kiwanians (Olivia Plunkett and Elissa Prout), the grandmother in law of a Kiwanian (Dan Plunkett) and I'm sure I missed some. This would make her the



Elissa Prout receives her honorary membership from Pete Dziamba (left) and her granddaughter Elissa Prout (right).

matriarch of our club!"

Elissa accepted the membership saying "I feel like I've come full circle. When I married into Kiwanis. When we got married Harry was the secretary of the club and I was his assistant! I love Kiwanis and

will keep supporting you. I am deeply honored."

Elissa has attended numerous Kiwanis events over the years and we are thrilled to be able to continue to have her as an honorary member of our club.

## Huntington Takes 50 Children Shopping For Gifts, Clothing

The Kiwanis Club of Huntington sending happiness and hope to 50 of Huntington's children.

About 100 Key Club members, young leaders, Kiwanians and community volunteers took 50 children, aged 5 to 7, Christmas shopping at Target, each child provided \$160 worth of clothes, including a coat, school outfits, etc. The Key Club kids then wrapped the gifts while the children had 'Lunch with Santa'.



# Governor's Project: Save the Earth for Our Children

By Gov. James Mancuso

We have been doing this for a long, long time.

In his brilliant book, "Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind", the author Yuval Noah Harari provides an in-depth history of our species. Interestingly, reasons for our survival and dominance as compared to other animals and similar species such as Homo neanderthalensis did not have to do with the size of our brain (the Neanderthal's brain was larger than our own) or thinking abilities. Much more so it was because of our ability to form relationships. Kiwanis is a great example of the power of relationships as we work together for the greater good.

Human relationships, as we have gathered into different types of groups (i.e., tribes, clans, villages, organizations, companies) are a primary reason for ecological disasters. Going back thousands of years since sapiens first appeared:

"Our ability to hunt has caused whole animal species to disappear from the face of the earth.

"Our need to transform the landscape, for living spaces or farming, has wiped out whole forests as we burnt them to the



NEW YORK DISTRICT KIWANIS  
GOVERNOR'S PROJECT 2021-22

ground over several millennia to make space.

"The agricultural and industrial age improved our standard of living but polluted our world at the same time.

Homo sapiens cause ecological disasters today on a grand scale. We continue to pollute, over consume, and damage our environment. The Governor's Project tries to raise the environmental awareness of Kiwanis members. It endeavors to do so through education about the damage cre-

ated by polluting our drinking water, not recycling plastics and card board, and over-consuming natural resources.

To continue to raise our awareness I am happy to announce that a dear friend of mine (we both attended Fordham University together) and an environmental expert will be our keynote speaker at the upcoming Mid-Winter Conference taking place February 11-13 at the Desmond Hotel in Albany. Since 1992 Bob Deluca has been President of the Group for the East End ([www.groupfortheeastend.org](http://www.groupfortheeastend.org)) based on Long Island. This organization focuses on protecting and restoring the environment. The group does so through a variety of education, conservation, and advocacy programs (Bob regularly testifies to government bodies throughout New York State). The group also shares our focus on helping our children to become better citizens by teaching them to become stewards of our environment.

I have already seen great efforts by our clubs and members throughout the district to support the Governor's Project. It's entitled "Save the Earth for Our Children" and we are trying to do exactly what the title implies - to leave behind a better planet for our children.

## Be Aware of District Rules for the Conduct of Campaigns

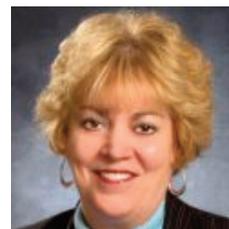
By Doreen Pellitteri  
Campaign Practices Chair

As we begin a new year and complete the first quarter of our Kiwanis year, we must plan for the future leadership of our great organization.

As Campaign Practices Chairperson for the New York District, I want to make sure that all Kiwanians are familiar with the Campaign Policies which can be reviewed on the district website - Kiwanis-

ny.org.

You can find these policies under Club Member Information/District Documents. These policies are for Kiwanians who may be interested in the position of



Governor-Elect and then Governor of the great New York Dis-

trict.

There are certain criteria to complete to be eligible to seek the position which are listed. Your announcement to run is submitted to the attention of the District Secretary, Jan. 1 at the earliest.

Speaking from personal experience, these guidelines are essential when considering this leadership position and helpful throughout your campaign.

Please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns.

### North Shore Prepares Gift Boxes

The Kiwanis Club of North Shore annually participates with the International organization Samaritan's Purse for a project called Operation Christmas Child.

This project involves sending gift boxes world-wide that are filled with fun toys, hygiene items, and school supplies. A donation of \$9 is also included in each box. These boxes are then sent to underprivileged children making an ordinary day into something special.

### Central Adirondacks Distributes Gifts

Each year the Kiwanis Club of the Central Adirondacks collects and distributes gifts and toys to special families in the Woodgate, Thendara, Old Forge, Eagle Bay, and Inlet area and in recent years has added Long Lake and Indian Lake.

In 2021, this very worthwhile program provided gifts, toys, books, mittens, hats, scarves, theater tickets and food for over 150 families and nearly 300 kids in the Central Adirondacks.

The scarves, hats, and mittens were provided by the Old Forge Ladies Auxiliary as well as ladies from Big Moose. Books to each family were donated by Gary and Justin VanRiper who write the best-selling children's book series The Adirondack Kids.

### Huntington Donates to Project TOY

Members donated toys to the Huntington Tri-CYA's Project T.O.Y., a special holiday program that brings happiness and hope to so many children. a very special one for our neighbors in need.

This program gives parents the opportunity to receive two new unwrapped gifts for each of their children for the holidays.