

Empire State Kiwanian

Jan-Feb-Mar 2024



Official Publication of the New York District of Kiwanis International

Volume 2023-24, Issue 2

Welcome Kiwanis Club of Eastern Wayne!

New Club in the Finger Lakes Division

New York District Gov. Lucien Giancursio and District Membership & New Club Opening Chair Mark Pohl are thrilled to welcome the District's newest club—the Kiwanis Club of Eastern Wayne! The Eastern Wayne Kiwanis club was organized on Dec. 22, 2023, with 16 members.

Located in the Finger Lakes Division, the Club will be serving several communities in Eastern Wayne County and is currently centered in the county seat of Lyons, NY.

While this effort would not have been possible without a strong team, special acknowledgement must go to the leadership and hard work of Finger Lakes Division Lt. Gov. Christine Mitchell. Starting with her vision of an area that would benefit from having a Kiwanis Club, the Eastern Wayne Kiwanis Club was formed over a six (6) week span - from soup-to-nuts.



From left, Eastern Wayne Kiwanis Club President Libo Alexanian, Finger Lakes Division Lt. Gov. Christine Mitchell and Gov. Lucien Giancursio.

Continue on page 49

Kiwanian sworn in as Family Court Judge in Monroe County

Kristine Demo-Vazquez joined the Honeoye Falls-Lima Mendon Kiwanis Club 2 years ago, knowing that Kiwanis was an organization that she wanted to be a part of because her heart is with helping children and families.

For over 15 years Kristine has been serving the children of Monroe and surrounding counties as a family court lawyer. She was always willing to help someone out who just had a question about the family court sys-



tem.

On December 19, 2023, the Kiwanis Club of Honeoye Fall-Lima, Mendon

Continue on page 50

Kiwanis Club of the East Coast Supports the Birthday Fairies Project

It was a cool crisp day when members of the Kiwanis Club of the East Coast joined Olivia Marine of "Birthdays Fairies" outside of Cohen's Children's Hospital. They all gathered as the club donated \$2,200 towards the project.

Imagine what it is like to be in the hospital fighting a serious illness such as cancer on your birthday. Take that picture one step further and imagine what it is like for a child. Well, the

Continue on page 49

Where to Find Everything That You Need to Know:



District Officers	3
Lieutenant Governors	3
KI & NY District Committee Chairs	4
Calendar of Events	5
Message from Our Governor.....	7
Mid Year Conference 2024	9
Foundation News	12
Committee Chair Updates	17
Division News	31
Extra Extra! Talking with Daniel Trader	51
From Your Editor	52

The Empire State Kiwanian is the official publication of the New York District of Kiwanis International. It is published quarterly. All articles and pictures should be emailed to esk@kiwanis-ny.org. All rights are reserved ©.

Disclaimer & Fair Use Statement

This newsletter may contain copyrighted material, the use of which may not have been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. Some material is made available in an effort to explain issues relevant to the running of service-based, non-profit organizations that conduct programs and events to improve the lives of people and children in our communities, and/or to illustrate, transmit, share, and teach successful methods of accomplishing the goals and objects of Kiwanis International. Some material contained in this the newsletter is distributed for educational and informational purposes and for the public good.

If anyone wishes to use copyrighted material in this newsletter for their own purposes, permission must be obtained from the copyright owner. If anyone has copyrighted material that appears in this newsletter and disagree with our assessment that it constitutes "fair use," please contact us by email at esk@kiwanis-ny.org.



WHERE SOME SEE GOOFY, WE SEE POTENTIAL

#KIDSNEEDKIWANIS



Empire State Kiwanian

District Officers

Governor Lucien Giancursio
 Governor Elect Gordon Soderholm
 Immediate Past Governor Joel Harris
 Executive Director Rich Hall
 Treasurer Michael Wayne
 Parliamentarian Martin Valk
 Legal Counsel Michael Marinaccio
 Executive Assistant Nancy Baxter
 Executive Assistant Bill Davis
 Executive Assistant John Treahy
 Governor's Special Assistant Heather Henderson
 Governor's Special Assistant Kim Scharoff

Lieutenant Governors

Adirondack

Kathy Peterson
(Plattsburgh Noon)

Bronx Westchester South

Nancy Shaw
(East Yonkers)

Brooklyn

Elizabeth Santo
(Liberty)

Capital

Mary Beth Vail
(Latham)

Central

Carla Ingram
(Mohawk Valley Central)

Chemung

Virtual Lt. Gov.

Finger Lakes

Christine Mitchell
Board President
(Honeoye Falls-Lima
Mendon)

Genesee

Dr. Gene Scherline
(Genesee)

Hudson River

Jacqueline Pittore
(Dutchess County
Christian Churches)

Hudson River West

Geary Chumard
(Middletown)

Hudson Tri-County

Pat Caldwell
(Spring Valley)

Long Island North

John Kle
(North Shore, LI)

Long Island South Central

Ross Schiller
(East Meadow)

Long Island Southwest

Dominick A. Curra
(The Peninsula, Hewlett)

Metropolitan

Gerald Burt
(South Shore,
Staten Island)

Mohawk

Lanette Bowman
(Glens Falls)

Niagara Frontier North

Marty Pauly
(Lewiston)

Niagara Frontier South

Martha Anderson
Board Secretary
(Springville)

Ontario

Joseph Eppolito
(Syracuse Young
Professionals)

Queens East

Dr. Salwa Elmeawad
(Bayside)

Queens West

Janice Bar
(Queens Boulevard)

Saint Lawrence

Virtual Lt. Gov.

Southwestern

William Karrow
(Westfield-Ripley)

Suffolk East

Jarrod Gordon
(Sayville)

Suffolk West

Gregory Bravo
(Deer Park-North Babylon)

Susquehanna

Katherine Newell
(Owego)

Van Rensselaer

Donna Zobre Baxter
(Rensselaer)



Kiwanis®

Empire State Kiwanian

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Achievement Gordon Soderholm	Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) Miles Malone	Human & Spiritual Values Ron Palmer	Membership Mark Pohl	Site Selection Jason Steiner
Aktion Club Jamie Neuringer Kevin Cooney	District Convention/Conference Kerrie Hansen Steve Hansen	Interclubs Noreen Barrett	Membership Experience Steve Klein	Special Advisor to Governor Dr. Rosemary DeJulio Brenda Leigh Johnson James Mancuso
Anti Bullying Keith Cummings	District Foundation (Kamp Kiwanis) Thomas Poccio	Key Club John Goldstein	On to I-CON Joe Corace Nydia Corace	Strategic Planning Crystal Benjamin-Bafford Charlie Cronin
Basket Raffles Herman Ovadia Rebecca Ovadia	Elections Susan Bahren	Key Leader Anne Kelly Dean Beltrano	Partnership Susan Smith	Technology Jarrod Gordon
Builders Club Hazel Goldstein	Everyday Hero Joe Corace	KI Children's Fund Sandy Nagler	Past Gov's Council Joe Eppolito	Veterans Dr. Bob Borowski
Bylaws & Procedures Peter Mancuso	Empire State Kiwanian (ESK) Editor Seth J. Blau	Kiwanis Kids Mickie Leamey Kevin Kamper	Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation John Gridley	Virtual LTG Program '23-'24 Board
Campaign Practices Doreen Pellittieri	Finance Jimmy Yee	KPTC Albany Susan Vail Rick Sturm	Public Relations Seth J. Blau	Interim Webmaster Martin Toombs
Circle K Alison Mandel	First Family's Project Heather Henderson Bonnie Baker	KPTC Buffalo Bill Schultz Stan Thompson	Resolutions Kimberly Davis	Young Children Priority One Helene Irvine
Convention Registration Udo Glosch	Fundraising '23-'24 Board	KPTC Long Island Joe Corace	Risk Management Roger Eltringham	Youth Protection Dave Booker
Credentials Sue Breenan	Governor's Project Roger Awe	Leadership Development & Education (Master Trainers) Rich Hall Alison Mandel	Service Kimberly Davis	
Disaster Relief Mike Marlark	Historian Tom DeJulio	Legion of Merit Marie Soderholm	Sgt-at-Arms Mike Marlark	
Distinguished Kiwanian Sue Sheehan			Signature Project Sandy Nagler	



Kiwanis®

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

New York District of Kiwanis

2023-24 Conventions

Feb. 23-25: NY District Mid Year Conference
Desmond Hotel, Albany

July 3-7, 2024: KI International Convention
Denver, Colorado

Aug. 8-11, 2024: NY District Convention
Marriott Downtown, Syracuse

October 2023

- 1 — Beginning of the new Kiwanis service year
- 3-7 — Kiwanis International Board Meeting, Indianapolis, IN
- 9-13 — Youth Protection Week
- 10 — Deadline to finalize roster for the 2023-24 year
Due date for club reports for September 2023
- 16-20 — Circle K Week
- 27-29 — Circle K New York Speaking,
Lake George, NY
- 28 — Kiwanis One Day

November 2023

- 1 — Kiwanis Children's Fund ("KCF") Scholarship applications
available online
- 3-5 — K Family Weekend
- 6-10 — Key Club Week
- 10 — Due date for club reports for October 2023
- 23 — Thanksgiving

December 2023

- 10 — Due date for club reports for November 2023
- 31 — New Year's Eve — Year end gifts to KCF
post marked by 12/31

February 2024

- 1 — KCF scholarship application deadline
- 3-7 — K-Kids Week
- 10 — Due date for club reports for January 2024
- 15 — Deadline for file 990 IRS forms
- 21 — Kiwanis Day of Giving
- 23-25 — NY District Mid Year Conference, Desmond Hotel, Albany

January 2024

- 1 — New Year's Day
- 10 — Due date for club reports for December 2023
- 17-18 — Kiwanis International Board meeting

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

New York District of Kiwanis

March 2024

- 4-8 Aktion Club Week
- 10 Due date for club reports for February 2024
- 8-10 Circle K New York District Convention
- 15-17 Key Club New York District LTC, Desmond Hotel, Albany, NY
- 18-22 Builders Club Week

April 2024

- 10 Due date for club reports for March 2024
- 15 Target date to complete Club Elections for 2024-25 service year
- 17-20 Kiwanis International Board meeting

May 2024

- 10 Due date for club reports for April 2024
- 16-19 2025-26 Lieutenant Governor Training, Utica, NY
- 17 Kamp Kiwanis Work Weekend & Open House, Taberg, NY

June 2024

- 1 Deadline for Club Election Reports to be submitted in the Portal.
- 10 Due date for club reports for May 2024
- 17-20 Kiwanis International Board meeting

July 2024

- 3 Kiwanis International Board meeting
- 4 KCF Board meeting
- 3-7 Kiwanis International Convention
- 10 Due date for club reports for June 2024
- 10-14 Key Club International Convention

August 2024

- 8-11 New York District Convention, Syracuse, NY
- 10 Due date for club reports for June 2024

September 2024

- 10 Due date for club reports for August 2024
- 30 Deadline to make any changes to club roster for the 2024-25 service year.
- 30 Last day of the Kiwanis service year

From Our Governor

Lucien Guancursio
New York District Governor



Welcome to 2024!

The First Quarter of our 2023-2024 year provided us the opportunity and execution of a new Kiwanis Club:

The Kiwanis Club of Eastern Wayne, in The Finger Lakes Division.

Our sincere congratulations to all who participated in this endeavor.

Imagine the Factor power of 27

And what can be achieved...

Consider 27 new Kiwanis clubs, Circle K clubs, Key Clubs, Builder's Clubs and K-Kids.

Governor's Project of Sending 1000 Kids to Kamp.

The First Family Project, to provide Back Packs for those 1000 children.

Imagine the possibilities of 27 Divisions completing these goals. In doing so, we as a District would achieve a goal like no other District.

Most would say "it's not possible!"

So, I ask you this "Why Not?" What is keeping us from such an endeavor.

Let fear not define us or hinder us.

We need to change our Mental Model. Our past mindset has held us back that we cannot achieve seemly impossible goals.

Let's not accept limitations, tradeoffs and the so-called middle-of-the-road sensibilities that define conventional thinking.

We will transform the sense of what is possible, so that others may see the possibilities as well.

We have goals that are defined for us. Goals that are achievable.

Consider it to inspire us to come together with the common goal to show the KI community just what the New York District of Kiwanis is capable of doing.

These goals are posted inside this issue of the ESK and will be posted on the district website as well.

It was once believed that "NO ONE" could reach the summit of Mt. Everest.

As well as running a "Four Minute Mile"

Not so anymore.

Determination and convictions with the lack of fear, made these feats a reality.

We as Kiwanians possess the ability to do the same.

So, I ask you this "Why Not?"

There is a saying,

The journey of walking a mile begins with taking one first step.

Join me, Walk with me.

Let's travel this journey together.



Excelsior 23-24 Kiwanis Year Executive Summary

District Goals

1. To be align with KI'S Distinguished District Criteria.
2. To Build 6 new clubs per the Governor's commitment.
3. A year end goal of 100 plus net gain in membership per the Governor's commitment.
4. Ten (10) new Builder clubs (KI'S Distinguished District Criteria).
5. Four (4) new K-Kids clubs (KI'S Distinguished District Criteria).
6. Reestablish Key-Leader with "Key Leader West."
7. A Redesigned Website.
8. A Redesigned Empire State Kiwanian *aka* "ESK."
9. Governor's Project– Send 1000 kids to Kamp Kiwanis.
10. First Family Project – Every Kid to Kamp gets a backpack to take home filled with items for them.

Financial Position

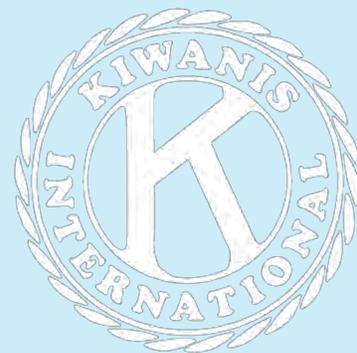
The enhancement of the balanced budget with various budget enhancements proposals (BEP) so to lessen the burden of a declining membership that is threatening our support of our Service Leadership Programs.

Membership

Strengthen our clubs & Divisions with continued education. So that we maintain our current membership.

Marketing

Enhance our visibility in the world as to who we are and what we do. Which will lead to an increase of our membership & revenue.



NEW YORK DISTRICT KIWANIS MID-YEAR CONFERENCE

**February
23-25,
2024**

REGISTRATION
\$85 (early rate)
\$100 (after 2/1)

Friday Dinner
(optional)
\$65 (early rate)
\$75 (after 2/1)

Saturday Breakfast
(optional)
\$35 (early rate)
\$45 (After 2/1)

Foundation Recognition Lunch
(optional)
\$85 (early rate)
\$100 (after 2/1)

Governor's Reception Dinner
(optional)
\$65 (early rate)
\$70 (after 2/1)

VISIONARIES
An Eye to The Future 2022-2023

Admit One

- Gov's Reception Dinner
- 2022-23
- Club Achievement Awards
- Club Recognitions
- Division Recognitions

Admit One



For more information: [Mid-Year Conference](#)

At the Desmond Hotel and Conference Center/
Crowne Plaza - in Albany, New York.

Hotel Reservations can be made online or by calling the hotel at 518-869-8100 and asking for the Mid-Winter rate or group code MWK. Reservations must be made by Feb. 1 to get the group rate.

Reserve your room online: [Select your room](#)



2024 Mid-Year Conference Schedule

Tentative Schedule (subject to change)

Friday, February 23, 2024	
2-6:45 p.m.	Registration
2-6:45 p.m.	Raffle Basket and Display Tables
Noon-12:45 p.m.	Board Lunch (<i>By Invitation Only</i>)
1-4 p.m.	District Board Meeting
6:45-8 p.m.	Welcome Dinner
8:15-10:15 p.m.	Opening Session, Keynote Speaker TBD
10:15 p.m.	Foundation Event, Theme TBD
10:15 p.m.	Hospitality Rooms
Saturday, February 24, 2024	
8-9:30 a.m.	Past Governor's Breakfast
7:30-8:30 a.m.	Lt. Gov. Elects' Breakfast with Gov. Elect Gordon Soderholm
7:30-8:30 a.m.	Breakfast
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Registration (Closed for Lunch)
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Raffle Basket and Display Tables
8:45-11:30 a.m.	Forums
10-11 a.m.	Past Lt. Governor's Council
11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	International Candidates Session
12:30-2 p.m.	Foundations' Recognition Luncheon
2:15-3 p.m.	Forums
3-4 p.m.	Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation Board Meeting
4:15-5:15 p.m.	New York District Foundation Board Meeting
6:15-7:15 p.m.	Gala Reception
7-7:15 p.m.	VIP Toast*
7:15-10 p.m.	Gala Governor's Dinner and Awards*
10 p.m.	Hospitality Rooms

February 23-25, 2024
District Board Meeting
Welcome Dinner
Opening Session
Forums
Foundation Board Meeting
Recognitions
Gala Governor's Dinner/Awards

* Black Tie Optional, Black Coat

MID-YEAR CONFERENCE 2024

New York District of Kiwanis

Mid-Year Conference Forums

Tentative Schedule (subject to change)

Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024

8:45 - 9:30 a.m.

Governor's Project	Past Lt. Gov. Roger Awe
Membership	Past Lt. Gov. Mark Pohl
Kiwanis 101	Emily Saalfrank
Kiwanis Giving Center	

9:45 - 10:30 a.m.

First Family Project	Past Lt. Gov. Heather Henderson
Cyber Security	KI
Youth Protection	Past Gov. David Booker
Kiwanis Giving Center	

10:45 - 11:30 a.m.

Key Leader	Past Lt. Gov. Dean Beltrano
Generative Artificial Intelligence	KI
Leadership and Succession Planning	Emily Saalfrank
Kiwanis Giving Center	

2:15 - 3 p.m.

SLP K-Kids and Builders Club	K-Kids Administrator Mickie Leamey, K-Kids Assistant Administrator Kevin Kamper Builders Club Administrator Hazel Goldstein
KI - The Future	International Trustee Steve Ingram
Sports Trivia	Past Lt. Gov. Martin Valk
Kiwanis Giving Center	

February 23-25, 2024

District Board Meeting

Welcome Dinner

Opening Session

Forums

Foundation Board Meeting

Gala Governor's Dinner/Awards

Photos Wanted



A slide show is being put together for the 2022-23 Service Year.

If you have *action* photos from projects and/or visits by IPG Joel Harris—please send them to



NYKiwanisPictures@gmail.com prior to the conference.

Basket & Gift Card Raffle

There will be a Basket & Gift Card Raffle Fundraiser at the Mid-Year Conference.



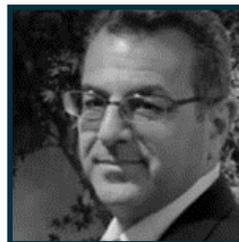
Baskets and gift cards can be brought to Mid-Year to support this year's Governor's Project.

Please contact Raffle Chairs Rebecca and Herman Ovadia to let them know if you are bringing a basket at woodsidekiwanis@gmail.com.



New York District Kiwanis Foundation Inc.

Kamp Kiwanis®



By Tom Poccio

Foundation President

The Foundation Board has been hard at work these past few months as we completed the search and hiring of a new director: Daniel Trader. Daniel joined our foundation in December of 23. We are extremely excited to have him on board!

We set new kamp rates for the 24 season:

- Child Kamper Rate: \$750.00
- Child Bussing Rate: \$200.00
- Adult Kamper Rate: \$1,000.00
- Adult Bussing Rate: \$250.00
- Counselor In Training (CIT) Rate \$600.00
- CIT Bussing \$200.00.

The board approved an early registration fee with a \$75.00 discount with a deadline. We had a positive response with at least 87 early registrations. This is a good response from our membership.

Our new executive director Daniel has been hard at work as he has accomplished a significant amount of work within the short time being at the Kamp, including hard at work hiring staff. He is also meeting with the Department of Health to update kamp information and discuss what will be required for inspection. Daniel is looking forward to meeting everyone at Midwinter!



Applications have been completed and will start to go out in the mail as well as email to Club presidents, secretaries, and Kamp contacts for clubs that have submitted information. This will be in English and Spanish.

The military fund under Gov. Hank is down to \$11,000 for Military Kampers. We would like to raise

(Continue on page 50)

New York District Foundation Fundraiser

As a fundraiser, the New York District Foundation is asking each Kiwanian to donate

\$20.00 to the NY District Foundation

This as a ONE TIME DONATION.

We have over 5,000 members

We can raise \$100,000!

Please forward checks only to:

NYD Kiwanis Foundation

Kamp Kiwanis

C/O Kim Sharoff

1930 Sunrise Hwy, Apt. 1

Merrick, NY 11566



Empire Club



By DPG Joseph C. Eppolito

*Chair, New York District
Foundation Empire Club*

The Empire Club was formulated by me in August, 2002. It was designed to mirror the Heritage Foundation started by Kiwanis International a few years earlier. It was created with the approval of then NYDK Foundation President Lindy Marrazzo and reviewed by the late Steve Eisman, NYDK Foundation General Council.

The purpose of the Empire Club is to secure long-range gifts to the NY District Kiwanis Foundation and recognize those Kiwanians and friends who believed in securing the legacy of our District



Foundation for years to come. Funds could also be given upfront as well and funds would go for the general operation of the District Foundation at the direction of the Foundation Board. Kiwanians are asked to seek advice of financial advisors, estate planning attorneys and/or estate planning accountants for any recommendations. Planned gifts can also be set-up with the District Foundation as well.

The District Foundation was blessed by the generosity of the late PDLTG Ivan Tarnopoll, whom I was fortunate to do some financial planning with several years ago. His legacy donation of life insurance liquidated the Foundation's \$300,000 mortgage & established a cultural arts center named after him.

We have 32 active Empire Club members, 6 deceased members, and 3 of those whom fulfilled their commitment. Commitments are on the honor system with no pressure applied whatsoever.

The Empire Club brochure has been revised as I utilized the expertise of Foundation Parliamentarian Peter Mancuso and Foundation General Counsel Jim Prout. The revised brochure is available & can be found under the District Foundation tab on the District Website ([empire2023.pdf \(kiwanis-ny.org\)](https://www.kiwanis-ny.org/empire2023.pdf)). I also can send them via email to any interested person. For more information, I can be reached by email at pepster@aol.com or by phone at (315) 436-2157.

THANKS.

The world needs more of that.



KIWANIS PEDIATRIC TRAUMA CENTER FOUNDATION (LONG ISLAND)



DPG Joe Corace

Expansion of Stony Brook Pediatric Emergency Department

KPTC Board members recently attended the celebration at Stony Brook's Medical Center's Pediatric Emergency Department Expansion.



KPTC at Ronald McDonald House

KPTC peeps went to the Ronald McDonald House in New Hyde Park and cooked breakfast for 90 residents. The KPTC Comfort Teddy Bears were in attendance as well, thanks to Ridgewood 3-2-1 Kiwanis Club. Thank you to all that donated and participated.



Teddy Bears On Call

Kiwanis Club of Greece bought their 1st ever box of Teddy Bears On Call as a win-win...supporting the KPTC Foundation and benefiting children in their local community. The Greece Police Department was so impressed and excited to receive the Teddy Bears, they have asked for a

more frequent supply. That prompted the Greece Club to start a GoFundMe campaign for the KPTC



Teddy Bears On Call!

What does YOUR club do to support the KPTC Foundation while it benefiting folks in your local community?

KIWANIS PEDIATRIC TRAUMA CENTER FOUNDATION, Inc.

NOTICE OF 2023/2024 ANNUAL MEETING

Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 6:30 – 9:00 pm

Location: 1111 Marcus Avenue, New Hyde Park, NY 11040

(Light refreshments will be served)

The KPTC Foundation will holding its annual meeting on Wednesday, January 31, 2024, at 6:30pm. This meeting will consist of:

- Learning about the important work of the KPTC Foundation Inc. – Healthcare professionals will provide updated information about their lifesaving work and how your KPTC plays a very important role to support their efforts.
- Hearing about how you can help support fundraising efforts and promote greater visibility of what the Foundation does *and why they do it...to SAVE CHILDREN'S LIVES.*
- Electing persons as Directors of the Foundation:

The 2023/2024 Slate of Directors are:

Nancy Baxter, Anthony Campanile, Thomas Cesiro, Joseph L. Corace, Charlie Cronin, Gary Crozier, David Cummo, Gail Cummo, Theresa Gaffney, Lisa Hallett, Kerrie Hansen, Steve Katz, Chris Lindsley, Doris Mellina, Herman Ovadia, Rebecca Ovadia, Dr. Fred Selzer, Michael S. Siniski, Michael Terry.

The 2023/2024 Committee Members are:

Michaelene Abbot-Cooper, Anthony Annunciato, Janice Barr, Lawrence Benedetti, Nydia Corace, Mary Ellen Cronin, Linda Crozier, Dr. Salwa Elmeawad, Heidi Felix, Joanne Foley, Helene Irvine, Matt Kamper, Marty Neuringer, Maureen Neuringer, Julia R. Salat, Billy Scoppa, Valerie Shapiro, Augusta Van Duzen

The 2023/2024 Advisory Council Members are:

DPG Joseph Aiello, PKIP Thomas DeJulio, DPG Forbes Irvine, DPG James Mancuso, PKIP Peter Mancuso, DPG Joseph Ruggiero, DPG Stephen Sirgiovanni, DPG Ralph Vasami.

2023-2024 NY District Governor - Lucien Giancursio

Since the KPTC Foundation requires that ¼ of Member Clubs in good standing are required for it to have quorum, each club is asked to be officially represented by either the current Club President, Club Secretary, or one other designated club representative (although please note that the voting unit is the club, not any individual; *i.e.*, one club = one vote). Response forms should be emailed to joecorace@aol.com.

Even if you are not a club officer or designated as a voting representative of the club, all Kiwanis members are invited to attend this meeting to learn more about the KPTC Foundation.

Kiwanis Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation

By DPG John Gridley
 Founder, Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation



TICK-ING TIME BOMBS?

Last year it was murder hornets. This year it was cicadas. But those news-grabbing bugs pose far less risk than what's waiting in the bushes around many of our backyards; TICKS. Ticks have been associated with 16 different diseases in the U.S.

BEWARE OF SUDDEN FOOD ALLERGIES

It began in the mid-2000s as a mystery: More and more people began developing rashes, hives and GI distress three to six hours after eating red meat. Even stranger, patients showed high blood levels of a sugar molecule, known as alpha-gal, that's typically found in other mammals but not in humans. The culprit is Lone star ticks, common in southern and eastern parts of the country, were picking up the molecule by biting animals, then spreading it to humans.

TAKE RASHES SERIOUSLY

Many of us are familiar with the circular bull's-eye rash that's a hallmark of Lyme disease. But another tick-borne illness, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, carries its own distinctive rash-blotchy redness starting on hands, arms and feet two to four days after infection, then spreading. Most common among people ages 55 to 65, the disease moves fast and is considered more likely to lead to severe symptoms than other tick diseases, including coma, respiratory failure, tissue death in extremities, organ failure and death.

PAY ATTENTION

As many as 476,000 people may contract Lyme disease annually after a bite from a black-legged (deer) tick, says the CDC. Lyme disease is a bacterial, not viral, and unlike a cold, it will get worse if you ignore the symptoms. After a month, flu-like issues can evolve headache, neck stiffness, facial droop on one side, joint pain and swelling, and inflammation of the brain and spinal cord. Catch Lyme disease early and a two week course of antibiotics should do the trick. Delaying treatment could result in long term neurological damage.

DON'T WAIT

If you think that your child has been bitten by a TICK go to your doctor immediately and demand a blood test and to have your child be put on antibiotic immediately.



Young Children Priority One

Kiwanis Young Children Priority One

Hi, my name is Helene Irvine, and I have had the pleasure the last few years serving as chairperson for Young Children Priority One (YCPO) of the New York District. (NYD).

YCPO is a service program through Kiwanis International, specifically created to help prenatal women and children from birth to 5, and in some cases 7 years of age. This program was started by Dr. Wil Blechman during his term as International President 1990-1991 at the behest of his wife. She understood that early childhood development would directly impact the adults they would become.

The program would encourage clubs to have two or more projects a year with specific areas focused on:

- Maternal -Infant Health
- Child Care Development
- Parent Education and Support
- Safety and Pediatric Trauma

Through social media and communication, it is clear the NYD continues to fulfill this goal. The projects that we do from Newborn Baby Showers, Little Libraries, Car Seat Safety, Bicycle Safety and helmet distribution are just a few exam-

ples of the fabulous work being done.

There is never a bad time to partner with local community agencies and other service organizations in your community to help make a child's life safer and better.

Remember a project starts with one idea, one Kiwanian, one club. Invite me to your club; I would love to come and see your projects. See you soon!



By Helene Irvine

*District Chair
Young children Priority One*



THIS IS WHY WE VOLUNTEER

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE



By Crystal Benjamin-Bafford

*District Chair
Strategic Planning*

Introducing the 23-24 New York District Kiwanis Strategic Planning Committee

The 23-24 New York District Kiwanis (NYDK) Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) is a group of leaders from all across the District who meet monthly to accomplish one goal: create a Strategic Plan for the New York District. This Strategic Plan will set the Framework for the NYDK to accomplish its goals for the next five years.

The SPC includes DPP Bill Davis, Jackie Goldstein, LG Jarrod Gordon, Charles Cronin, Past Governor Joel Harris, LG Ashley Wolfe, Builders Club District Administrator Hazel Goldstein, Governor Elect Gordy Soderholm, District Membership Chair Mark Pohl, Governor Lucien Giancursio, Executive Director Rich Hall, Circle K Administrator Alison Mandel, District Treasurer Mike Wayne, and Chairperson Crystal Benjamin-Bafford.

The NYDK SPC is using an abbreviated strategic planning framework to create a Strategic Plan. We are working with a Strategic Planning Process that skips things like Environmental Assessment, SWOT, and competitive analysis. We recommend that these exercises be conducted as part of other NYDK efforts such as Marketing. Mission, Vision, Purpose already exist for the NYDK and are a great base for moving the SPC forward.

The SPC is focused on connecting NYDK Purpose with Action. We have identified the NYDK Purpose statements in the NYDK Bylaws. We have completed an inventory of current District activities associated with each Purpose statement. Presently, SPC Members have been split into pairs and are working to identify which activities the NYDK should continue doing, which activities the NYDK should stop doing, and what the NYDK should do that we aren't doing now to support the stated purpose.

Once this information is collected, it will be evaluated by the Committee and recommendations for change over the next 5 years will be made. These recommendations will be the basis for the NYDK Strategic Plan. A Draft of the Strategic Plan will be available for review at the NYDK Convention in August 2024.



Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion “DEI”

In this inaugural year of the NY District DEI committee, it is important to find a practical and reasonable place to start. While every Division should have a DEI Chair, I am actively seeking enthusiastic members to participate on the DEI Steering committee. The Steering committee serves at the pleasure of the Governor. All members of the committee must be members in good standing and of clubs in good standing. The committee will be comprised of one member from each of the six designated regions. The Steering committee will be the main deliberative body of the NY DEI Committee. Each Steering committee member will liaise with the LTGs or LTG Designates in their region providing access, clarity, and answers. This is a starting point. Understand that the organic nature of the committee and the dynamic aspect of DEI means that change is part of the process.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) are three values that many organizations today strive to embody to help meet the needs of people from all walks of life. DEI is not only a moral imperative, but also a strategic advantage, as it can foster innovation, creativity, and collaboration among diverse perspectives and ex-

periences. DEI has become an acronym that describes the values and practices of organizations that seek to promote fair treatment and full participation of all people.



By Miles Malone

*District Chair
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion*

or performance. Therefore, DEI is not a means to an end, but a journey of evolution, as it aligns with the core values and purpose of the organization.

For a not-for-profit organization like Kiwanis International, DEI is especially important, as it reflects its mission to improve the lives of children and communities around the world. Kiwanis members come from different backgrounds, cultures, religions, and professions, and they serve in more than 80 countries and geographic areas. By embracing DEI, Kiwanis can ensure that its members feel valued, respected, and empowered to contribute to its causes, and that its beneficiaries feel seen, heard, and supported by its programs and projects.

Second, volunteer service organizations have more flexibility and autonomy in implementing DEI initiatives, as they are not bound by the same regulations, policies, or standards as businesses or school districts. This allows them to be more creative, adaptive, and responsive to the needs and preferences of their members and beneficiaries.

Third, volunteer service organizations have more opportunities and challenges in engaging with diverse stakeholders, such as donors, partners, and communities, as they rely on their goodwill, trust, and cooperation to achieve their goals. Therefore, DEI is essential for building and maintaining strong and lasting relationships with these stakeholders, and for ensuring that their voices and interests are represented and respected.

DEI in the volunteer service space differs from how it applies to businesses or school districts in several ways. First, volunteer service organizations are driven by a shared vision (The Golden Rule) and passion, rather than by profit

Iwould be remiss if I did not acknowledge the challenges ahead. Some members may have preconceived notions or clubs may have



(Continue on page 49)



FIRST FAMILY'S PROJECT



Provide a fully stocked backpack to every camper for the 2024 Kamp Kiwanis season.

The suggestions below are based on items we know for sure are needed (that are not in stock at Kamp). It might make more sense for clubs/divisions to go in together for bulk items/cases. If your club has not used Dollar Days, please consider setting up an account - <http://www.dollardays.com/landing/kiwanis> or call 800-290-2857.

Let's start collecting staple items now to be brought to Mid-Year Conference:

- Girls' Underwear (suggestions: SKU #2351227 & 2337099 from Dollar Days)
 - ◊ [Link to purchase Girls' Underwear \(younger girls\)](#)
 - ◊ [Link to purchase Women's Underwear \(older girls\)](#)
- Boys' Underwear (suggestion: SKU #274876 & 2132461 & 2366905 from Dollar Days)
 - ◊ [Link to purchase Boys' Underwear \(briefs for younger boys\)](#)
 - ◊ [Link to purchase Boys' Underwear \(boxer briefs for younger boys\)](#)
 - ◊ [Link to purchase Men's Undwear \(boxer briefs for older boys\)](#)
- Bath Towels & Wash Cloths (suggestion: SKU #1797964 from Dollar Days)
 - ◊ [Link to purchase Bath Towels & Wash Cloths](#)
- Mosquito Repellent Bracelets (suggestion: SKU #2315003 from Dollar Days)
 - ◊ [Link to purchase Bracelets](#)
- Toothbrushes and Holders (suggestion: SKU #2182151 & 2282347 from Dollar Days)
 - ◊ [Link to purchase Toothbrushes](#)
 - ◊ [Link to purchase Toothbrush Holders](#)
- Mini Journals (suggestion: SKU #2354248 from Dollar Days)
 - ◊ [Link to purchase Mini Journals](#)
- Notebooks (suggestion: SKU #2362774 from Dollar Days)
 - ◊ [Link to purchase Notebooks](#)
- Backpacks (suggestion: SKU #2363917 from Dollar Days)
 - ◊ [Link to purchase Backpacks](#)
- Disposable cameras (via an Amazon list)
 - ◊ [Link to purchase Cameras](#)

If you cannot bring items to Albany / Mid-Year, please ship to:

Heather Henderson
[email for mailing address](#)

A few of the above items are duplicates from what is suggested in the application, but it is okay if we have extras!

If your club sends Kampers with Backpacks, please know they will still get items from above, if needed.

MONETARY DONATIONS are appreciated as well. You can write a check payable to NY District Kiwanis – please include *First Family's Project* in the memo line. Mail to P.O. Box 428, Glen Cove, NY 11542. [Click HERE to make a monetary donation](#) or scan this QR Code >>>>>> >>>>>>



We will do an assessment after Mid-Year, then communicate again to complete fulfillments.

Thank YOU for your support and participation!



SDPLG Heather Henderson
First Family's Project Chair
706.331.1022
heather35976@gmail.com



Past First Lady Bonnie Baker
First Family's Project Co-Chair
716.259.7250
golde1951@gmail.com

NEW YORK DISTRICT HISTORY



PIP Thomas DeJulio

District Historian

**KIWANIS YEAR 1969-70 with the THEME:
“GET INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY SERVICE”**

As District Historian, my goal is to demonstrate what’s *past is prologue*. No one can say the past is dead. At least as it relates to Kiwanis, the past is all about us, and most importantly, within us now and hopefully for generations to come. By randomly showing what Kiwanis Clubs did 55 years ago, Kiwanis remains bound to its **SIX OBJECTS**, committed to spiritual aims, serving children and youth, fostering international relations, protecting the environment, developing effective young leaders, and impacting lives, one child and one community at a time, including one poor shy kid from Mount Vernon NY. Here are some examples:

#10: STATEN ISLAND Kiwanis

presents an all-day narcotics program distributing 50,000 pieces of literature educating parents on *how to detect and deter drug abuse*.

#8: LONG ISLAND Kiwanis clubs celebrate *Boys and Girls Week* by organizing a track and field event at Adelphi University.

#6: FIVE TOWNS Kiwanis hosts a *“Unity in the Spirit of Service”* dinner that was well-attended by spiritual leaders representing **all faiths in the community**.

#4: QUEENS EAST Kiwanis clubs present a \$2600 donation to the *NY District Foundation*, the proceeds from a fundraiser it held at Roosevelt Raceway.

#2: DISTRICT CHAIRMAN Tony Kaiser leads *club officer education* by urging current club officers to work closely with their successors to ensure Kiwanis will always have dedicated, knowledgeable, and effective leaders.

#9: CORTLAND Kiwanis holds its Third Annual *“We Care”* project honoring members of the military and memorializing deceased Vietnam soldiers.

#7: PENFIELD-PERINTON Kiwanis inaugurates the *YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE MONTH Award* that rotated through its three school districts on a monthly basis.

#5: JAMESTOWN Kiwanis celebrates *Earth Day* by placing 30 tons of sand in the town center representing the amount of pollutant fallout over one square mile of Jamestown over a 30-day period. At the end of 30 days, the sand was then turned over to the Recreation Department to fill children’s sandboxes in the city park system.

#3: BALDWINSVILLE Kiwanians celebrate *“US-Canada Friendship Week”* by flying to Batavia where they were “apprehended” by Canadian Kiwanians and “escorted” to the Moose Club to celebrate freedom and friendship.

#1: MT. VERNON HIGH SCHOOL KEY CLUB President Tom DeJulio concludes his term of office, enrolls at Fordham University, and charts Fordham Circle K in 1970.

Membership & New Club Openings

My name is Mark Pohl and I am a Past Lieutenant Governor from the Brooklyn Division. I am also Governor Lucien's Membership Chair for the 2023-2024 Kiwanis year, as well as a trained club opener and club coach.

We are off to a strong start this year, on our way to attaining the Governor's membership goals of a net gain of 100 new members and 6 new clubs. We have already opened our first new club of the year - the Kiwanis Club of Eastern Wayne. Congratulations to LG Christine Mitchell for her hard work to get the job done.

But we cannot forget the importance of growing our own clubs. There are many tools available to assist you in this endeavor. The Two for Two program is just one of the valuable tools available. There are also many trained club coaches throughout the district ready assist you in growing your membership. If interested, please email me at ckjmark@aol.com and I will put a coach in contact with your club President and I can share some of the other resources available to you. The easiest way to find new members? Just ask! If you don't ask, you might miss out on a potential new member.

The stronger your club, the more you can do to support children in your community.

By PLG Mark Pohl

*District Chair,
Membership &
Club Opening*



How Are We Doing?

Number of Active Clubs: 248

Members at Start of Year: 5750

Current Membership: 5880

Net Change +130* Members

Divisions Leading the Way

Long Island Southwest - 19

Queens West - 14

Chemung - 14

Queens East - 13

Clubs Leading the Way

Lindenhurst (Suffolk West) - 9

Douglaston (Queens East) - 8

Elmira (Chemung) - 7

Kings Plaza-Canarsie (Brooklyn) - 7

*Data from KI Portal as of 1/26/24.





Charter I, II, III, IV Program 2023-2024



By DPG Joseph C. Eppolito

Chair, Charter I, II, III, IV Program

The purpose of the Charter I, II, III, IV Program is to incent and reward those clubs in the NY District that are currently under Charter strength (15 members) to increase their membership to Charter strength and beyond during the 2023-24 administrative year. It is also designed to encourage clubs that have memberships between 15 and 29 to reach memberships of 20, 25, and/or 30 and beyond, respectively!

Clubs will be recognized with an appropriate certificate on a monthly basis. when their membership reaches 15, 20, or 25. The certificates will be issued to the Club President and the Division Lt Governor will receive a copy of the certificate that the club has earned.

- For those clubs that reach 15 members, they will receive a Charter I Certificate.
- For those clubs that reach 20 members, they will receive a Charter II Certificate.
- For those clubs that reach 25 members, they will receive a Charter III Certificate.
- For those clubs that reach 30 members, they will receive a Charter IV Certificate.

This make it possible for smaller clubs to receive multiple certificates based on their membership success throughout the year.

Finally, for those clubs that are able to maintain those respective membership numbers through September 30, 2024, finalized by 10-19-24, they will receive the appropriate banner patch(es) at the Mid-Winter Conference in 2025.

It is important to note that for clubs that are under 15 members, a Club Coach can be requested to be assigned to them and have a realistic plan for growth. Contact NYDK Membership Coordinator Mark Pohl @ 917-912-2094 or ckmark@aol.com

The Charter I, II, III, IV Program will be administered by PDG Joe Eppolito, Chair of Charter I, II,III, IV Program for District Governor Lucien Giancursio. Joe's Email: pepster@aol.com and cell is: 315-436-2157.

2024 Signature Project Contest

It's here – time for submissions to showcase your **Signature Kiwanis Project!** What IS a Signature Project....A good question to ask when identifying a signature project is: ***“What community activity or event is my club known for?”*** Signature projects show the impact a Kiwanis club can have on a community. From playgrounds and parks to festivals and fundraisers, signature projects are the hallmarks of what Kiwanis clubs are known for in their communities.

The **2024 Signature Project Contest is OPEN and will run January 2 – January 25, 2024!** Last year we had over 25 clubs submit projects for consideration – and we're hoping to increase that this year. We are once again asking for your help in sharing the great things you're doing in your communities... and potentially win some extra funds for your club!

Many of you host some fabulous events and provide some amazing service projects. As a reminder, there is no restriction on clubs entering their same project from year-to-year. Kiwanis keeps doing great things in communities all across New York State (and the globe!) so we want you to share what YOUR club is best known for! Remember, there are only 3 weeks to apply for Kiwanis International recognition of your Signature Project!

District deadline is January 25, 2024. An online contest submission form is available for clubs to use when submitting their projects, so follow the links now to see what information is going to be needed, and start preparing your submission. The link to the Kiwanis International page that contains all the details, as well as links to the rules and online submission form can be found at:

<https://www.kiwanis.org/members/service-projects/signature-contest/>

[Application Questions](#)

2024 Signature Project Contest

This year's contest will once again feature two contest tiers. **Clubs with 27 members or fewer will be judged in the Group I category. Clubs with 28 members or more will be judged in Group II category.** Each tier will be judged separately and the top 10 International finalists will be determined for each Group. **The top three selections from each group will be recognized as the gold, silver and bronze winners at the 2024 Kiwanis International Convention. New this year, the winning pro-**



By PLG Sandy Nagler

District Signature Project Chair

Projects in each group will be awarded US \$2,000, \$1,500, and \$1,000, respectively!

Here are the key dates for the 2024 contest:

Contest opens Tuesday, January 2

Contest closes midnight EST Thursday, January 25

What is a signature project?

Think about what your Kiwanis club is known for in your community. It can be a service project or a fundraiser. Signature projects:

- Are recurring. (Note: A new project can qualify as a signature project if the intent is to continue the project.)
- Enhance the Kiwanis image.
- Demonstrate significant impact on the community in terms of monies raised or children served.
- Strengthen membership and partnership opportunities.



I am asking, on behalf of Governor Lucien, that you share this information with your club and you are encouraged to submit an application as soon as possible, but no later than January 25, 2024, in order to be considered. You may want to consider not waiting until the last minute in case you run into any last minute technical issues. As you submit your Signature Project Contest entry, please consider the importance of including pictures of your project. It's an important element in bringing your project to life for the district and KI judges.

Thanks for supporting and promoting the Signature Project Contest. It's an important opportunity for our clubs to share and show their pride about the impact they're having in their communities. If you have any questions, I'm happy to assist you and can be reached at SNagler@TeleVue.com or 845-781-0891.

The Past Lieutenant-Governor's Council of the New York District of Kiwanis International

Past Lieutenant Governor's Council of the New York District of Kiwanis International Inc.

By DPLG Noreen Barrett

Secretary, Past Lt. Gov. Council

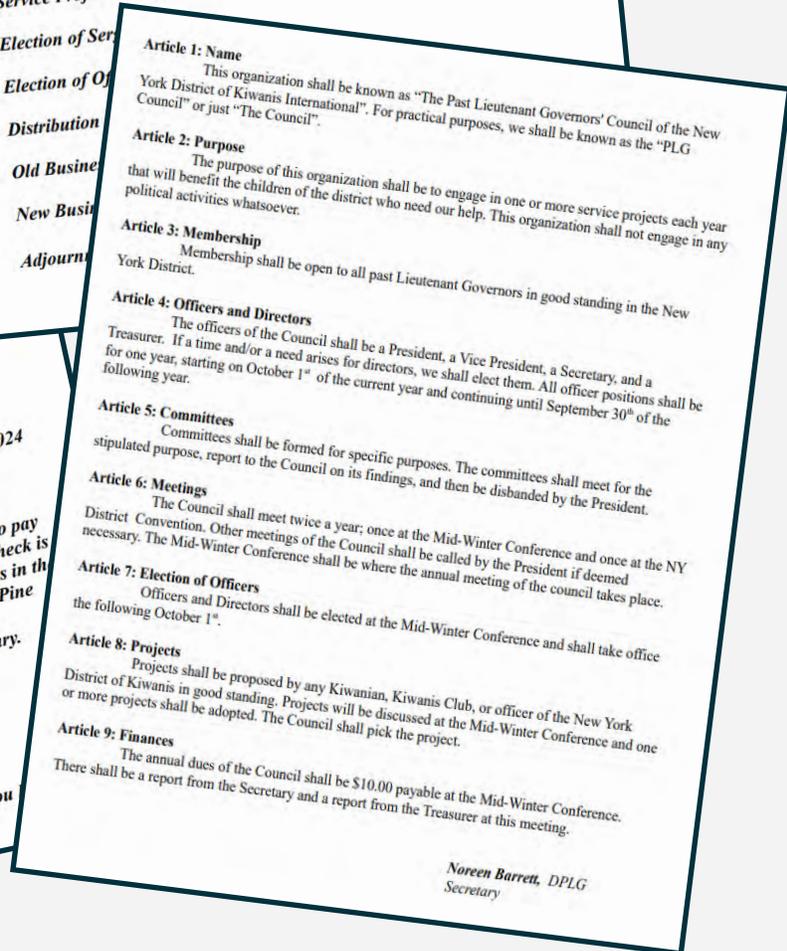
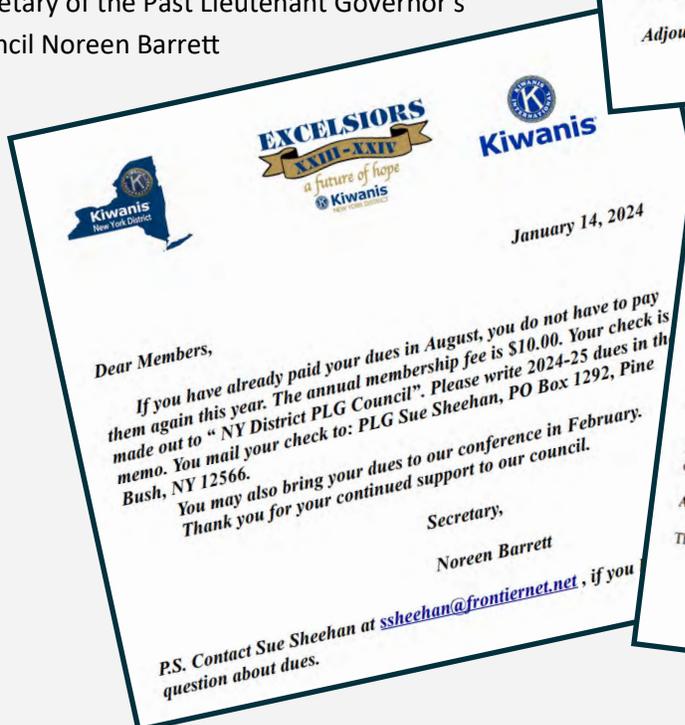
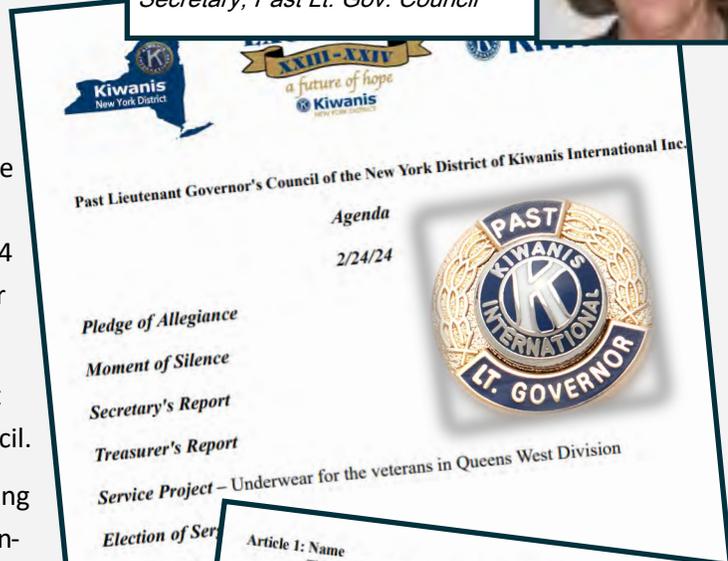


Notice is hereby given by provision of this writing of the next meeting of the Past Lieutenant Governor's Council of the New York District of Kiwanis International Inc. which will be held at the Mid-Year Conference at the hour of 10:00 am on Saturday the 24th of February, 2024 at the Desmond Crown Plaza, 669 Albany Shaker Road, Albany, New York.

The primary purpose of this meeting is to report on the monies on hand in the name of the Council.

We will also be electing officers for 2024-25 during this meeting. But they will not be taking office until the District Convention in accordance with the By Laws of the Past Lieutenant Governor's Council of the New York District of Kiwanis International.

Secretary of the Past Lieutenant Governor's Council Noreen Barrett



Public Relations/Branding



What is Branding?

While we frequently talk about the “Kiwanis brand,” many people ask what that means. What exactly is branding? And why does it matter?

Branding is the process of creating a strong, positive perception of something. It combines the logo, design, mission statement, and a consistent theme. It is what a person feels—or the anticipation of what the person will feel and experience. It is not just a logo, although the logo is what should trigger that feeling.

A couple of extremely successful branding campaigns frequently cited by Immediate Past Governor Joel Harris are experiencing the feeling of walking into a McDonald’s and taking a bite of a Big Mac or French fries merely upon seeing their golden arches or the taste

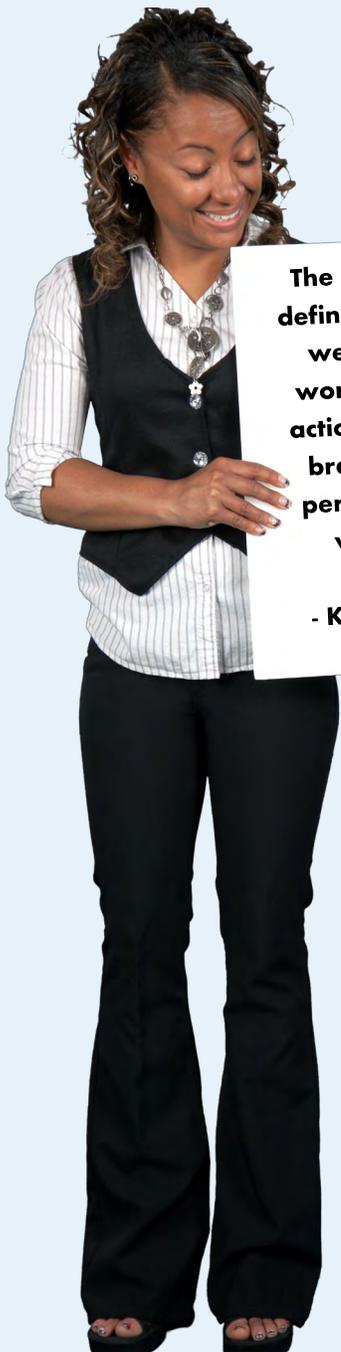
of the steaming hot, distinctly strong tasting coffee just from seeing the Starbucks logo. The ultimate goal of Kiwanis International and our Kiwanis Clubs should be to instantly instill the feeling of community service and helping children upon seeing our Kiwanis logo!

How do we accomplish that?

A key element to successfully brand Kiwanis is to be sure to use a properly authorized logo for all Kiwanis sponsored events and activities, and to prominently display it at all events. include the logo in all pictures used to publicize or events as part of news releases or on social media. The more we can publicly connect our logo to all of the positivity from our clubs, the stronger the Kiwanis brand becomes! And the hope is that a stronger brand helps bring in more members!

For more information on Kiwanis branding, go to: [Branding & marketing | Kiwanis International](#).

*



The Kiwanis brand is all the things that define how people see us. It is the impact we have on communities around the world, and the emotion our words and actions instill in them. While much of our brand is defined by public and media perception, the visual brand is whole within our control.
Make it memorable!
- Kiwanis International Brand



Aktion Club



By Kevin Cooney

*Aktion Club
Co-District Administrator*

Aktion Club is the only service club for adults with disabilities, with more than 12,000 members worldwide.

Each year contests are held among all the Aktion Clubs around the world. The New York District had one club which won in the International Contest. The Anchor Aktion Club placed second in the Club Video Contest, 3rd in the Scrapbook contest and earned Distinguished based on the club reports. Congratulations to The Anchor Aktion Club and hopefully we will have additional clubs placing in this contest next year. The contest is usually announced in August.

The clubs have been doing a great job this year! Some of the completed projects include:

- Food Drive for Veteran's Services
- Baked Goods for local Food Pantry

- Many Food Drives for local Food Banks
- Many Kiwanis Clubs hosted holiday celebrations for their Aktion Clubs.

Aktion Club Week is March 4th - 8th, consider a special project joint with your club.

If you sponsor an Aktion Club please make sure their dues are paid. We still have several clubs that still needed to submit payment.

The Aktion Club motto is:
Where development has no disability.



#KidsNeedKiwanis

#KidsNeedKiwanis

CKI[®] Circle K International



#KidsNeedKiwanis

#KidsNeedKiwanis

Greetings from New York District Circle K. Although since the pandemic years Circle K has been slow to rebound it looks like we are off to a great start for the 2023-2024 year. Governor David Prichett has been hard at work encouraging growth within the existing clubs as well as trying to reactivate those clubs that have become inactive over the past few years. We are pleased to welcome back New York University Circle K, Adelphi Circle K, and Long Island University-Post as active clubs. Also, Baruch College has seen substantial growth since last year. Circle K International has challenged all clubs within Circle K International to gain at least 10 new members this year!

Circle K is busy planning their District Convention to be held March 8-10 at the Desmond Hotel. The theme for this year's convention is "Lead with a Heart of Gold" with their decorations and fellowship events



being based on the Olympics! Registration is now open!

The Convention Honorees are Immediate Past Governor Joel Harris and Immediate past First Lady Helene, and the Glen Fitzpatrick Alumni Honoree is Immediate Past Kiwanis Lt Governor Ashley Wolfe. Although Ashley was not a NY Circle K member, she is a past Distinguished Circle K Governor of the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District while attending Augustana College as well as serving as a Circle K International Trustee. Ashley has brought her passion for Circle K to the New York District as an Assistant Administrator for NY District Circle K. Congratulations to all the honorees.

If you get a chance to attend the Circle K Convention you will be quite impressed! Forms will soon be on the Kiwanis District website if you would like to place an ad in the Convention Journal recognizing the great work that the students do on their college campuses and communities as well as the honorees!

I encourage all of you to work with the Circle K clubs in your area, not only to help them out monetarily to attend conventions but they are eager to help with your service projects and fundraisers. Even if you are not a sponsor of a Circle K club, if you have one in your division reach out to them and offer your support! We have seen a large increase in Key Club members joining Circle K and hopefully that will lead them to join Kiwanis when they graduate.

NYD Circle K has been working on a new website which should be available very soon! Thank you Kiwanis Lt Governor Jarrod Gordon for all your hard work on getting it up and running!

By Alison Mandel

Circle K
District Administrator



KEY CLUB[®]



LEADERSHIP TRAINING CONFERENCE 2024

#KidsNeedKiwanis

Key Club's service year is starting to wind down and it is looking like another banner year for the New York District! Governor Amy Wu and her Board has been busy planning its upcoming Leadership Training Conference ("LTC") which will be the weekend of March 15-17, 2024 at the Desmond Hotel in Albany.

#KidsNeedKiwanis

LTC 24

CONFERENCE DIAMOND SPONSOR

\$1,500

CONFERENCE CORPORATE SPONSOR

\$2,500

LTC 24

FRIENDS & FAMILY DIGITAL BOOSTER

\$50

WORKSHOP

Audience Exposure:

\$100

RECEPTIONS

Audience Exposure:

\$150

MEAL SESSION

Audience Exposure:

\$250

GENERAL SESSION

Audience Exposure:

\$500

GOVERNOR'S BALL

Audience Exposure:

\$750

For Kiwanis Clubs interested in financially supporting the LTC, the Key Club District has once again set up tiered sponsorship level. Additional information for any Club or Kiwanian interested in sponsorship opportunities can go to: [Conference Sponsorships | New York District Key Club \(nydkc.org\)](#).

Sponsorship Benefits	Diamond/Corporate	Governor's Ball	General Session	Meal Session	Receptions	Workshop	Booster
1. Booster displayed on screen at various points during conference							★
2. Verbal acknowledgement during respective conference sessions		★	★	★	★	★	
3. Logo and/or name on display at conference entrance or respective session (dependent upon sponsorship level)	★	★	★	★	★	★	
4. Sponsor recognition on New York District Key Club Leadership Training Conference website	★	★	★	★	★	★	
5. Logo & website/contact information (if applicable) displayed on appreciation card distributed at check-in	★	★	★	★	★	★	
6. Exposure to conference attendees (audience exposure varies by sponsorship level)	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★
7. Public acknowledgement at all general sessions throughout the conference	★						
8. Inclusion of corporate/organizational material in registration packets	★						
9. Day pass for Saturday, March 16th (including lunch & Promotional table)	★						
10. Certificate of recognition during Saturday general session	★						

Kiwanis Kids (K Kids)

Developing Leadership Skills at the Youngest Levels

Kiwanis K Kids is the perfect starting point to begin developing leadership skills for our future leaders. Involvement in K Kids provides the opportunity to develop self-esteem, leadership skills, and character education where learning that their opinions count. It is remarkable seeing the changes of a member from the time they begin as a member and when they graduate school. It is life changing.

Now is a great time to consider starting your own Kiwanis K Kids Club. Clubs can be started by connecting with your local Elementary School, community center, churches, libraries, or any facility that works with students in grades 3 through 5. Once you make that connection, your club will appoint a Kiwanis Advisor that will work with the school's Faculty Advisor. All it takes is to find a member who can be a former educator or who just likes working with students. Training and education are all provided online on the K Kids website where you can find meeting and service ideas using the IDEA toolkit.

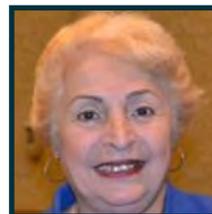
Kiwanis K Kids all around the world have launched their annual Global Service Project. This year's challenge is to host a book drive to encourage literacy and a love for reading in your community. Please have each club launch a book drive. The books donated can be new or gently used. It is easy to do and information on the steps involved can be found at <https://www.kiwaniskids.org/news/global-service-project-2023-launched-at-global-kickoff/>. When the book drive is finished you can report the results to https://kiwanis.formstack.com/forms/k_kids_global_gathering_service_project_photo_sub

[mission form copy.](#)

K Kids week will be held February 12 to 16. The event gives members the opportunity to show their community what K-Kids is all about. Each day places an emphasis on service and allows members to promote K-Kids. Consider in February inviting your K Kids leaders and advisors to your Kiwanis meeting where they can show you all the great work they do. Information on K Kids Week is at <https://www.kiwaniskids.org/k-kids-week/>.

Finally consider entering your K Kids club in their annual contests and awards. The contests are for speech, poster, scrapbook, and club video. All members are encouraged to participate. Use different students for each contest. Also, club achievement forms and nominations for distinguished club, member, and advisor are online. Let's show off all the great work our clubs are doing by entering and applying for these awards. The deadline for applications is April 1, 2024. More information is available at <https://www.kiwaniskids.org/awards-and-recognition/>.

If you need any further information, please contact myself at (516) 993-4246 or my assistant Kevin Kamper at knkamper@gmail.com. Thank you for your support of Kiwanis K-Kids.



By Mickie Leamey
K Kids
District Administrator



#KidsNeedKiwanis

#KidsNeedKiwanis

Bronx Westchester South Division

By Lt. Gov.
Nancy K. Shaw



Fordham Kiwanis Club

The Fordham Club hosted its Holiday Party/ Past LTG Recognition dinner. They sang Christmas carols and Hanukkah songs, and honored Ashley Wolfe, immediate past LTG and 2020-2021 LTG Mariana Terranova. Due to Covid, the Division couldn't host a proper dinner. The event was sold out and a good time was had by all. Ashley, Mariana, and 30 other Kiwanians were inaugural recipients of an Angie's Angels pin, which is a new giving program (to be officially launched at the Mid-Year Conference) for the Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation in memory of Past Distinguished LTG Angie Politano of our outstanding division.



The Bronx Shore Kiwanis Club

The Bronx Shore club hosted the Division's Kiwanis Family Night on November 14th. The event was held as a mini-convention. The students from Builders Club and Key Clubs throughout the Division displayed their banners and visited each others' stations to exchange ideas and get to know each other.



Left to Right: Sumaya Suma, Key Club LTG; Tiffany Ortiz, Key Club District Secretary and former Division 12 LTG; Abigail Choi, Key Club International Trustee; Amy Wu, Key Club Governor; Deja Crawford, Circle K LTG; Anis Choudhury, Circle K District Secretary; and Jaqueline Esquivel, Circle K District Bulletin Editor.

(Continue on page 32)

Bronx Westchester South Division

(Continued from page 35)

Joseph M. Wuest, Morris Park and Westchester Village Kiwanis Clubs

Thanksgiving: gave out 25 \$75 local supermarket gift cards to families in need.



Christmas party for children of NY Institute for Special Education in the Bronx for 25 children and staff. The Clubs supplied food, drinks, gifts, Santa Claus and a magician. Pictured from left to right: Division Secretary Dr. Frank Coppola (L) with magician John Turdo (R)

Bronx Westchester South Division consists of all Bronx County and that of the county of Westchester lying southerly of a line from the Hudson River easterly on Sunnyside Lane to Peter Bont Road on the Saw Mill Parkway, thence to the southerly border of Elmsford, thence easterly to the western border of White Plains, thence southwesterly to the western border of the Town of Mamaroneck and to the Long Island Sound.

East Yonkers Kiwanis Club

East Yonkers' Paideia 15 Builders Club brought in Feeding Westchester, an organization that brings good, nutritious food to areas in need in Westchester County.



Finger Lakes Division

By Lt. Gov.

Christine Mitchell



The Finger Lakes Division is proud to be the location of our District's newest club—The Kiwanis Club of Eastern Wayne!

In addition—our clubs have been extremely busy:

Canandaigua Kiwanis Club

Canandaigua Kiwanis Club spent many of their Saturdays ringing the bell for Salvation Army during their Red Kettle campaign at several locations around their service area.



The club also participated in the Making Spirits Bright Adopt-A-Family program at the Canandaigua VA where they adopted a 44-year-old Veteran, his wife, and their 3 children ages 13, 11 and 9 for the holiday. Gifts were purchased for each family member based on their wish lists and delivered to the family through their social worker in time for Christmas!



Finger Lakes Division includes the counties of Wayne, Seneca, Ontario, Yates, and all of Monroe County east of the Genesee River excluding the towns of Henrietta, the City of Rochester and the township of Irondequoit except that part of the territory of the Kiwanis Club of North Rochester.

Geneva Kiwanis Club



The Kiwanis Club of Geneva donated \$1000 to Glove House Family and Children's Services to help provide additional gifts for children and families in need.

Bushness's Basin-Pittford Kiwanis Club

The Bushnell's Basin-Pittsford Kiwanis Club provided several turkeys and books to the Pittsford Food Cupboard this past Thanksgiving.



Newark Kiwanis Club

Kiwanis Club of Newark is thankful to their volunteer knitters and crocheters for the hats and mittens they made and donated this year. They were delivered this morning to the ABCDaycare Center in Williamson.



(Continue on page 34)

Finger Lakes Division

(Continued from page 33)

Farmington-Victor Kiwanis Club

The Kiwanis Club of Farmington-Victor Children's Christmas drive-thru party was a huge success. The @keyclubvictor helped us wrap (and distribute), a small group of very busy elves shopped, planned, organized, and delivered hundreds of gifts and Budding Readers distributed



books to every child. The Victor/Farmington Food Cupboard was our host this morning and we ended the day making a donation of thanks to both Budding Readers and the Food Cupboard to support more families in our community this holiday. Over 250 children will have gifts under their tree thanks to the generosity of our community and hard work from member volunteers. You really should join our Club. We have great fun and do great work.

Webster Kiwanis Club



Kiwanis Club of Webster, hosted a Christmas Party with Santa and Mrs. Clause making a stop for their Aktion Club.



Kiwanis Club of Honeoye Falls-Lima, Mendon

The Bushnell's Basin-Pittsford Kiwanis Hosted a Scarecrow contest throughout the Village of Lima, where local businesses could put up a scarecrow along the village streets and the local community voted on them, to kick the fall season off right.



They also purchased gifts for families in the communities, as well as supplied several gift cards to be handed out to the local grocery store for holiday meals. Even Santa was able to take some time away from his busy schedule to help deliver some of the gifts.



The club also helped stage three warming centers for a planned power outage on January 6th. Two major poles needed to be replaced and taking out power in at least 5 communities. The Club along with the local government officials set up two warming locations, where Kiwanians supplied soup and games for

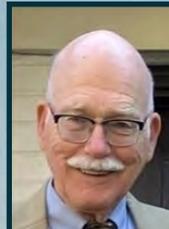


anyone who needed to come in and get warm, and the third location Kiwanis

teamed up with the local Rotary club to do the same.

Hudson River West Division

Kiwanis Club members in the Hudson River West Division undertook numerous activities during the first quarter of the 2023-2024 Kiwanis year. My write-up for the Fall 2023 ESK focused on the activities of the Kiwanis Clubs of Chester, Middletown, Minisink Valley, and Monticello. For this addition, I will highlight mainly the Kiwanis Clubs of Roscoe, Callicoon, Washingtonville, and Woodridge.



By Lt. Gov.
Gef Chumard

Kiwanis Club of Roscoe

Roscoe Kiwanis' held its installation meeting on Nov. 15 at Raimondo's in Roscoe. Lt. Gov. Gef Chumard installed Pres. Laurie Kuehn, VP Janice Phillips, and Sec. Betty Tempel. A new member, Elizabeth Kuehn, was also installed bringing Roscoe Kiwanis above Charter strength, with 16 members.

Roscoe Kiwanis donated baked goods to welcome back teachers to school, purchased pencils for students with the saying "The Roscoe Kiwanis wishes you a good year" along with a flyer of our club's activities.

The club ran a Halloween Trunk 'n Treat, serving 150 kids, and its Pumpkins for Kids project involved giving 130 K-6th students pumpkins to carve or paint, which we purchased from a local farm.

Roscoe Kiwanis participated in the Big Apple Crunch, purchasing 250 apples for K-12 students.

Roscoe's Christmas Angels project involved club member volunteers takes a less fortunate child and buys them \$50 worth of presents.

Kiwanis Club of Callicoon

Callicoon's Installation meeting was held October 16 at Villa Roma. Lt. Governor Gef Chumard Installed our Club Officers for the 2023-2024 Kiwanis year (Left to right, front row; Secretary Linda Whitmore, LTG Gef Chumard, President Patricia Ellmauer. Standing, Fred Stabbert, Treasurer Ruth Brustman, President-Elect Jim Stone).



Callicoon Kiwanis distributed over \$2,000 worth of books to students in grades Pre-K through 6th grade the week before Thanksgiving.

The club partnered with the Interfaith Outreach United to distribute Thanksgiving food baskets to 68 families, serving a total of 276 people. We ordered \$900 worth of turkeys from our local food market in support of this initiative.

Callicoon Kiwanis Club's Christmas get together was held Dec. 3, to distribute over \$8,000 to 12 local youth organizations in the community.

Callicoon Kiwanis has a unique piggy bank, which we just call "the Pig." It is passed around at different events, including its Installation meeting. At their November meeting, the club "slaughtered" the Pig which netted \$1,000. That money was used to purchase twenty \$50 food gift cards, to be distributed by the Sullivan West School District.

(Continue on page 36)

Hudson River West Division

(Continued from page 35)

Kiwanis Club of Washingtonville

Washingtonville Kiwanis had its Installation meeting on September 26 at Loughran's Irish Pub in Salisbury Mills. LTG Gef Chumard installed the following club officers: President Betty Ann Van Leeuwen, Secretary Meaghen Consalvo, and Treasurer Judy Biagini.

The Club held a Mitten Tree Project in partnership with the Country Kids Food Pantry. Kiwanians and community members donated items such as mittens, scarves, gloves, and socks.

They also ran a Blessing Baskets event. Kiwanians and community members donated non-perish-able foods for a Thanksgiving meal, along with kitchen staples, paper towels, and a Shop Rite gift card of \$15 toward a turkey. 32 baskets were collected and distributed to known families in need in all three elementary schools.

The Club put together 200 bags of items (hand warmers, glow sticks, candy, and a card telling



about Kiwanis) for distribution at the Christmas parade in Washingtonville.

They teamed with Mamba's Creations LLC to provide floral arrangements to seniors at Newburgh Sapphire Nursing Home. The club collected childrens books to donate to Country Kids Food Pantry.

The Washingtonville Kiwanis Club members also donate their time twice a month at the local food pantry, handing out donations of clothing, hats, and scarves, from local businesses.

Washingtonville Kiwanis performed its signature project of Our Flags for Heroes Event. Community members sponsored flags to proudly display at Firemen's Memorial

Park for a few weeks. A medallion indicating the hero's name and the sponsor is hung on each flag. The medallion was mailed to the hero or the hero's family when the flags are taken down.



Sullivan County Aktion Club

On October 25, LTG Gef Chumard installed officers of the Sullivan County Aktion Club. The meeting was run by the Aktion Club, with guidance from Kathy Garlick and Sheila Lashinsky of the Monticello Kiwanis Club, and Sue Kasofsky of the Woodridge Kiwanis Club. There were 34 Aktion Club members in attendance.

(Continue on page 37)

Hudson River West Division

(Continued from page 36)

Kiwanis Club of Woodridge

The Kiwanis Club of Woodridge had its Installation meeting on September 7 at the Casa Mia restaurant in Hurleyville. It was a joint Installation meeting with the Kiwanis Club of Shawangunk Valley. LTG Gef Chumard installed the following officers for the Kiwanis Club of Woodridge; President Dawn Kaplan, Vice-President Deborah Jacobsen, Secretary Sue Kasofsky, and Treasurer Diane Garritt. Sue Nibe was installed as President of the Kiwanis Club of Shawangunk Valley.

Woodridge Kiwanis gave out six \$1,000 scholarships to Fallsburg students. The club participated in the National Night Out and hosted the 3rd Annual Fall Festival/ Duck Race.

The Club conducted an autumn bake sale. It gave out 115 Dictionaries to 3rd grade students.

Woodridge Kiwanis hosted a Halloween Trunk 'n Treat in the Village of Woodridge. The Club also participated in a Haunted Forest Walk, and sold glow sticks to kids and adults waiting for the Hay Ride to the Forest to be scared!

The Club donated to two local food pantries. It had a joint Veterans project with the Monticello Kiwanis Club. The Club also purchased 20 coats for students in need.

Woodridge Kiwanis participated in a Village Santa Party. The Club also handed out Holiday Gift Cards and small gifts to seniors and others in the Village of Woodridge. Students at Liberty Central School and Kiwanians made hand-crafted Holiday Cards and ornaments.

Hudson River West
consists of all of Orange and
Sullivan Counties.

Long Island South Central Division



By Lt. Gov.
Ross L. Schiller

The LISC Kiwanis Division honored our Veterans, along with those still missing in action, with a Remembrance Ceremony at Eisenhower Park.



Our Division held its November Divisional to honor our leaders of K Kids, Builders Clubs, Key Clubs, and Aktion Clubs, hearing all the great work they have done and are planning for in the future.

Another great event where multiple clubs participated in Carroll's Kitchen Thanksgiving with host Bellmore Kiwanis.



We attended the Wreaths Across American.



Our division is also collecting coats and jackets to be delivered to NUMC and our members helped deliver coats to those families in need, the homeless, children, and our Veterans.

Long Island South Central Division consists of the portion of Nassau County of the Town of Hempstead lying north of the Southern State Parkway from the NYC line east to the Meadowbrook Parkway and then south to the Atlantic Ocean including that part of the Elmont Fire District lying south of the Southern State Parkway and that part of the Town of Oyster Bay south of the Southern State Parkway.

Wantagh Kiwanis

Wantagh Kiwanis hosted winter wonderland, collected food, toys, and clothing for the holidays, participated in wreaths across America, and rang the bells for the Salvation Army



(Continue on page 39)

Long Island South Central Division

(Continued from page 38)

Hempstead Kiwanis

Hempstead Kiwanis delivered Christmas gifts to the Hempstead community.



Bellmore Kiwanis Club

Bellmore Kiwanis did a wonderful job organizing and sponsoring Carroll's Kitchen Thanksgiving meal. With the help of many volunteers and a grant from the Kiwanis Childrens Fund, the project delivered over 15,000 meals across the New York area and gathered lots of media attention including on NBC, News 12 and much more.



Massapequa Kiwanis

Built 5 Fields of Honor for Veterans, held Christmas at the cabin for their local families, and donated food to those in need from other areas, collected food and toys for the holidays.



Uniondale Kiwanis

Uniondale Kiwanis organized Trunk or Treat, held food drives, fed the seniors for the holidays, filled in the food banks at the church, and held a toy parade where they gave out 1,000 toys and participated in the read around the world book fair.



Levittown Kiwanis

Levittown Kiwanis collected food and gift cards for the community pantries, manned a table at the Forest City Fall Festival, and collected toys and blankets.



Garden City Kiwanis

Sponsored families for the holiday season and participated with the Salvation Army.

(Continue on page 40)

Long Island South Central Division (Continued from page 39)

East Meadow Kiwanis

East Meadow proudly chartered the Barnum Woods K Kids Club, starting strong with 85 K Kids.



East Meadow Kiwanis set up Field of Honor at two High Schools to honor our veterans. The Club held food drives and made food deliveries for our 120 families for Thanksgiving, serving over 300 meals at their annual Thanksgiving dinner.



East Meadow collected toys and gift cards for their secret snowflake drive, served over 160 families and provided toys for Christmas. The Club also brought back Christmas Caroling, worked with their K Kids to raise \$1,000.00 dollars for the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Center, and hosted the Kamp Board Members for a discussion at our meeting, helping to pledge to send kids to Kamp Kiwanis. East Meadow also participated in purchasing a Excelsior T-Shirt to help raise money for Kamp Kiwanis.



Franklin Square Kiwanis

Franklin Square Kiwanis held a Trunk or Treat event and hosted the community Christmas tree lighting at Garden World in Franklin Square.

Farmingdale Kiwanis

Farmingdale Kiwanis set up their Field of Honor to honor veterans and raised money to help the victims of the Farmingdale High School Band school bus crash.



The East Coast Kiwanis Club

East Coast Kiwanis donated to Birthday Fairies, helped create a holiday party at the Ronald McDonald House, and donated monies to send a Kamper to Kamp Kiwanis.



(Continue on page 41)

Long Island South Central Division (Continued from page 40)

Merrick Kiwanis

Merrick Kiwanis celebrated their 75th anniversary, collected food for the needy, held a pancake breakfast, manned a table at the Merrick Street Fair, held a sock drive for General Needs, held a toy drive and delivered hundreds of boxes of toys and food, gift wrapped at Roosevelt Field Mall for the holiday season.



Bethpage Central Park Kiwanis

Organized their annual street fair. Collected toys for the Salvation Army. Held food drives to stock the local community's food pantries and participated in Wreaths Across America.



Malverne Kiwanis Club

Malverne Kiwanis cleaned-up Hempstead Lake for Kiwanis One Day, held a movie fundraiser of the Taylor Swift concert with the help of Key Clubbers, and created holiday cards and notes for our veterans.

The Club also chartered the Malverne High School Key Club which was well attended by over 23 new members and local politicians.



West Hempstead Kiwanis

West Hempstead Kiwanis held the 4th annual elf shoppe and collected toys for the annual Nassau County victory games.



Seaford Kiwanis

The Seaford Kiwanis Club participated in community affairs and activities.

Long Island Southwest Division

The Long Island Southwest Division has gotten off to a fast start! So proud to see clubs support each others' events!



By Lt. Gov.
Dominick A. Curra

East Rockaway Kiwanis

East Rockaway Kiwanis awarded Club member Theresa Gaffney as its Kiwanian of the Year.



East Rockaway Kiwanis's Centre Ave. KKids Club held a holiday food collection.



East Rockaway Kiwanis also sold poinsettias and holiday blankets.

Peninsula Kiwanis

Peninsula Kiwanis donated \$2,000 to SIBS Place, an organization that assists children who have sibliigns with cancer or another devastating illness.



Peninsula Kiwanis donated toys and clothes to students at a local elementary school.



Island Park, Lynbrook, and Valley Stream Kiwanis Clubs

Island Park, Lynbrook, and Valley Stream Kiwanis Clubs joined together for a Comedy Club Night Fundraiser.

Long Island Southwest Division consists of all of Nassau County bounded by the Southern State Parkway on the North, on the east by the Meadowbrook Parkway, and on the west by the New York City line.

(Continue on page 43)

Long Island Southwest Division

(Continued from page 42)

Oceanside Kiwanis Club

Oceanside Kiwanis Club held a fundraiser at Outback Steakhouse.



Oceanside Kiwanis honored retiring Nassau County Legislator Denise Ford for her twenty (20) years of representing the community.

The Club raised \$500 at its Holiday Dinner to donate to the Oceanside Scholarship Fund.

Oceanside Kiwanis also sponsored its annual Holiday Happenings for hundreds of children in the community



Sailors Aktion Club

The Long Island Southwest Division hosted a holiday dinner for its Sailors Aktion Club.



Five Towns Kiwanis Club

Five Towns Kiwanis member presented a donation of toys to the children of Cohen's Children's hospital.



Five Towns Kiwanis delivered toys to the U.S. Marines Toys for Tots Foundation.

Five Towns Kiwanis recognized local business Ambiance Salon for their work with "Mondays at Racine" Cancer Care program.



Lynbrook Kiwanis



Lynbrook Kiwanis Member and Lynbrook High School Faculty Advisor Dr. Ben Tieniber was honored by the Lynbrook Chamber of Commerce.

Lynbrook Kiwanis also had a great time at its annual ugly sweater party.



Metropolitan Division

The Metropolitan Division had its installation dinner on October 26th at Staaten in Staten Island. 140 people were in attendance as Lt. Gov. Jerry Burt installed all Metropolitan Club Officers and 11 new club members in the Division.



By Lt. Gov.
Jerry Burt

Metropolitan Division

Consists of Manhattan and Staten Island.

Verrazano Kiwanis Club

Verrazano Kiwanis participated in Wreaths Across America at St Mary's Cemetery in Staten Island. Over 75 people were in attendance while 276 Wreaths were placed on graves of deceased Veterans.



North Central Kiwanis

North Central Kiwanis hosted a Veterans Flag Event on November 4, 2023. Flags were hung at Staaten restaurant for sponsored Veterans. 160 sponsored flags with Veterans names were proudly displayed



The Metropolitan Division had a Divisional fundraiser on October 4th for its Lieutenant Governor at Osteria Santina, in Staten Island. Over 120 people were in attendance to raise funds for the Lt. Gov. Jerry Burt. Special thanks to South Shore Kiwanis (home club of the Lt. Gov.) members Tom Beyar, Paul Betar, Frank Gallinaro, and Club President Thomas Conte.



(Continue on page 45)

Metropolitan Division

(Continued from page 44)

Richmond County Kiwanis

Richmond County Kiwanis - performed the traditional "Bell Ringing" for the Salvation Army at the Staten Island Mall. A dozen members of the Richmond County club participated.



South Shore Kiwanis

South Shore Kiwanis recently had its annual Breakfast with Santa at Applebee's restaurant. This event was co-sponsored with Kids Against Cancer. Over 100 special needs children and their families were received breakfast

and toys from an MTA bus driven by Santa and Mrs. Claus.



South Shore Kiwanis members spend 3 days a year, (Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day) participating with Meals on Wheels in delivering meals to the homebound elderly on Staten Island. Members prepared meals at Beyar's Market as Meals On Wheels is closed on these holidays. Over 100 meals were delivered.



Niagara Frontier South Division



By Lt. Gov.
Martha Ann Anderson

Niagara Frontier South has been busy with the holidays and supporting each other in our division.

We had our division meeting in December with 8 of our 14 clubs in attendance. There was a lot of holiday merriment and good discussion.

Alden Kiwanis

Alden Kiwanis had a Toys-for-Tots drive and served several families. The club is now getting ready for their Super Bowl Chicken BBQ.

Elma Kiwanis

Elma Kiwanis had a Honor dinner for their local police and Fireman.

Holland Kiwanis

Holland Kiwanis had Seniors Honor dinner for their senior citizens, also completed many Holiday food baskets

Lancaster Kiwanis

Lancaster Kiwanis is having Best Pizza Contest in February

Java-Strykersville Kiwanis

Java- Strykersville did several food baskets for their community

Springville Kiwanis

Springville Kiwanis had a T.F.T drive that helped many families and Children's Hospital of Buffalo, a check was provided to SES/CES to provide all 518 students with a book at the book fair.

Tri-County Kiwanis

Tri-County Kiwanis had a Christmas family toy drive that served several families, this club also presented \$10,000 to The Children's League of Springville West Seneca Kiwanis had a Key club food drive. Then invited the local Circle K and Kiwanis to help sort and create baskets for several families in need.

Van Rensselaer Division

By Lt. Gov.
Donna Zobre Baxter



Van Rensselaer Division was very busy this past December with a Division-wide raising of funds for the “Bells of Life” for the Albany Medical Pediatric Trauma Center. School SLP clubs also participated in this event. There was also a Division-wide fund night at the RPI Hockey for members and families (thank you Elissa Prout).



Hoosick Falls Kiwanis

In December, Hoosick Falls Kiwanis participated in a school “Toy Drive” with their Key Club. They shopped for mittens and served food at the school “Band Concert”. Through fundraising, the club was also able to provide 4 scholarships, plus two additional awards for students that excel in Citizenship.

East Greenbush Kiwanis

In January, along with their Key Club, East Greenbush Kiwanis will be supporting “Winterfest” at Goff Middle School with a craft table for children.

In February, the club will be hosting its 3rd Annual free bowling for students on President’s Day. It will be using this opportunity to do a community analysis survey with the parents.

March 9th will be the Club’s annual “Comedy Night.” There will be silent auction, raffle, and dinner before the show. The show will include a national headliner as well as a local comedian. Contact Noreen at lgbarrett3@nycap.rr.com for more info.

Van Rensselaer Division includes the counties of Columbia and Rensselaer.

(Continue on page 48)

Van Rensselaer Division

(Continued from page 47)

Rensselaer Kiwanis

On December 16, Rensselaer Kiwanis had "Christmas in the City", with Key Club, and the Rensselaer Police & Fire Dept. They served over 150 children with presents, met Santa, went on carriage rides, and more. Rensselaer will be celebrating their 95th anniversary on February 14, 2024 (they have heart).

Troy Kiwanis

In December, the Troy Kiwanis Club participated in the "Angel Tree" shopping for children, *i.e.* presents and clothing. The Club had a "Fruit Distribution" fundraiser. They also volunteered at the Foodbank, cooked at Joseph's House, and filled stockings at the Boys and Girls Club.

Sand Lake Kiwanis

Sand Lake Kiwanis recently celebrated its 75th anniversary at the Burden Lake Country Club. On February 10, 2024, the club will be having its 4th annual "Ice Fishing Tournament" on Burden Lake. And in May, the club will have its 1st Annual "Youth Fishing Derby" at the Sand Lake Town beach on Reichards Lake.

Castheton-Shodack Kiwanis

In December, the Club supported their SLP events, such as K-Kids Food Drive, bowling for kids, chaperoning SLPs at Crossgates, and the Colonie Center "Bells of Life."



The Club also supported local Boys Scouts by attending local fire station for fire safety.

North Greenbush

In December, North Greenbush Kiwanis provided a one-hour "Building Resilience in Children" for staff at START Children's Center. They donated funds to "Mom Starts Here" to provide funds for their annual client families holiday party (which featured a catered meal, visit from Santa with a photo, toy giveaway, and community resource navigation opportunities).

The Club's upcoming plans for 2024 include: CPR/AED class, Trivia Night, 518 Community Day (paint town meeting room), and tree plantings along perimeter of North Greenbush field.

(Continued from page 1)

Kiwanis Club of the East Coast Supports the Birthday Fairies Project

Birthday Fairies make sure that many children in that position have the joy of a birthday party with all the presents and things that go with the occasion. So, with many smiles, Club Secretary DPP Lisa Hallett, DPG James Mancuso, Treasurer Bob Raimon, and Club President Charlie Cronin gathered to present the donation.

The club's members and in this case a corporate sponsor, Ridgewood Savings Bank, provided the funding. Every calendar quarter each member donates \$100 to the Kiwanis Club of the East Coast Charitable Foundation which then in turn donates to various charities. The club meets over the Internet, an hour per month, and is designed to require limited time and involvement, but makes a big impact through its collective philanthropy.

Birthday Fairies has few independent funding sources. Our donation provides enough money for fourteen birthday parties. After the check was presented, President Charlie Cronin said, "It gives me great joy to be a

part of a club that will help dedicated volunteers put a smile on a child's face on their birthday."



From left : DPG James Mancuso, Olivia Marine from Birthday Fairies, Club Secretary DPP Lisa Hallett, Club President Charlie Cronin, and Club Treasurer Bob Raimon.

(Continued from page 19)

existing norms, DEI may create some discomfort or even elicit a visceral reaction from some Kiwanians. This is to be expected. That is why we are starting this journey organically. By enabling a listening environment where facilitated conversations can take place in an intentional, respectful and constructive way we can create a culture of inclusion and belonging within Kiwanis.

DEI

is vital for an organization like Kiwanis, as it enhances its capacity, impact, and sustainability in serving the kids who need them most. By promoting DEI within and beyond its organization, Kiwanis can demonstrate its commitment to its vision of creating a better world, one community and one child at a time.

(Continued from page 1)

Welcome Easter Wayne Kiwanis

Starting on November 7, 2023, Lt. Gov. Christine assembled 5-6 people to make phone calls and visit local businesses and organizations. With additional assistance from outside the area, they were able to make some great connections.

A huge boost to these efforts was meeting Libo Alexanian, Lyons Community Schools Principal. A career educator, Libo immediately related to the core values and mission of Kiwanis. In addition to his knowledge of the area, his work throughout the Lyons Central School District, and his own connections, Libo took on the role as the Club's inaugural President.

The new club members are excited to get going and change their community, and are especially interested in starting all SLPs from KKids up to Key Club throughout the school district.

The Club will be scheduling its charter night in April.

(Continued from page 1)

Kiwanian sworn in as Family Court Judge in Monroe County

was invited to witness her being sworn in as the newest Family Court Judge of Monroe County. Monroe



which covers both the Genesee and Finger Lakes Division of Kiwanis.

Representing Kiwanis was Finger Lakes Division Lt. Governor and New York District Board President Christine

Mitchell and her daughter and fellow Kiwanian Kennedy Mitchell.

“What an honor it was to sit in the courtroom today surrounded by so many family, friends, and colleagues of Kristine for her swearing in! On behalf of all of her home club and the Finger Lakes division clubs, we are excited to have someone like Kristine sitting in such an important position knowing that she will be serving the children of this community and changing the world one child at a time! Congratulations Kristine!!” said Lt Governor Christine.



(Continued from page 12)

Message from NY District Foundation Board President:

that back up to be able to send at least 80 military children to Kamp.

Finally, the New York District Kiwanis Foundation is now accepting Scholarship Applications for students exhibiting outstanding community service and leadership. The Foundation will present a minimum of 4 scholarships not to exceed \$1,000 each to graduating seniors in 2024. The following criteria must be met:

1. Participated in both school and community activities that demonstrate outstanding community service;
2. Participated in both school and community activities that demonstrate outstanding leadership.
3. Have demonstrated academic success.
4. Have a documented financial need.

Conditions of eligibility:

- ⇒ Must be nominated by a Kiwanis Club;
- ⇒ Must submit a written application by April 15th;
- ⇒ Funds can only be used for certain college-related expenses; and
- ⇒ Funds are a one-time award and will be mailed to directly to the College.

Completed applications and attachments must be postmarked or emailed no later than April 15, 2024.

All clubs should have received copies of the application by emailed. If anyone needs additional copies, please email NYDFScholarships@kampkiwanis.org.

We are looking forward to a great year!



Extra Extra! Introducing... DANIEL TRADER



The NY District Foundation recently introduced Daniel Trader as the new Executive Director of Kamp Kiwanis. ESK recently spoke with Daniel:

Welcome Daniel to the NY District of Kiwanis and Kamp Kiwanis!

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to introduce myself. I come to Kamp Kiwanis with a long camp career in a variety of camp roles and programs. I plan to utilize these experiences to help move past the chaos of recent years and take Kamp Kiwanis to new heights it hasn't seen yet.

Tell us a little about yourself.

My camp journey began as a camp counselor during my college summers near where I grew up home in Beckley, WV. Little did I know at that time that the impact I saw camp have on the campers, as well as the welcome and joy I got even as a staff member, would eventually lead me to change my major from Biology to Psychology and pursue camp as a career.

And any experiences after college?

Yes, quite a bit. Following graduation:

- I worked with an Outdoor Education program at a camp in Tennessee leading nature and recreation classes for students on field trips and retreat groups;
- I spent a summer as a counselor at a camp in Florida;
- I was part of a 9-month program at a camp in Georgia designed around learning and working with all aspects of camp leadership including program planning, budg-

eting, maintenance, and kitchen help;

- I returned to my first camp as part of their summer leadership team;
- I worked at a camp in Michigan for 4-1/2 years as part of their Outdoor Education program as a Program Instructor and then Program Coordinator and Waterfront Leadership, followed by Age Group Leader in the summers;
- I then made the move to full-time year-round as Assistant Environmental Education Director at a camp in New Jersey; and
- Lastly, I spent the last 2-1/2 years as Camp and School Age Director in Wisconsin before finding my way to Kamp Kiwanis.

It was during my time in Michigan that I met my now wife Sarah while we were both Program Instructors. We are both very grateful for the opportunity provided by Kamp Kiwanis and the welcome we've had in our first month in our new home.

Any thoughts to all the Kiwanians in New York who get concerned with all the changes ?

I know that transition is hard and that the numerous transitions at Kamp Kiwanis recently may make it hard for some to have confidence in Kamp. But we are working hard to gain that faith back. In just this first month of

work I've started conversations with former staff (including nurses) and staff looking to return, have begun the hiring process for summer staff. We're back on track for ACA re-accreditation this year, and reservation forms and applications for Kamp are available at the link below.

You sound incredibly excited and optimistic for this summer!

I truly am. Let this restore everyone's trust in Kamp Kiwanis and its leadership! Let's work together to make it just the beginning. It takes the involvement and support of EVERYONE to make sure that Kamp Kiwanis succeeds.

If there is anything I can help you with, please feel free to contact me at executivedirector@kampkiwanis.org. Or if you just need an excuse to stop by Kamp, let me know. There's always something we can find that needs to be done.

Reservation Forms and Applications: <https://1drv.ms/f/s!AqKoCYpt->



Empire State Kiwanian



From your Editor:

I want to thank everyone for your efforts and cooperation in sending in your ESK articles! This is a great way for everyone to share your valuable information and exciting projects! As I said in the past, the key to a successful bulletin is receiving the articles and pictures on a timely basis - so please keep it up!

Given our ability to not be restrained by page limits, this year Governor Lucien is asking articles from our District Officers, Committee Chairs, Foundation Chairs, and for all Division Lieutenant Governors to submit at least one-half of a page update on the happenings of their respective Divisions. Our hope is for 100% participation!



Tips for Submissions

Email articles and photos to me.

Articles: Please be sure that articles are originally written. This means that previously published (*i.e.*, non-original) articles cannot be used without the express, written consent of the author.

As we all learned in elementary school, articles should clear and concise, and contain the five "W's": who, what, when, where, and why:

- Who participated/benefited;
- What the project/event was;
- When the project/event took place;
- Where the project/event was;
- Why the project/event was important.

Please proofread for substantive and grammatical accuracy.

Photos: Please email me photos separate from articles. Try to send high resolution photos to ensure the best quality. Photos from

events should be action shots that encapsulate its impact, as well as display the Kiwanis brand. Unless the event is presenting a banner, sign, or citation, please avoid those "posed" pictures (yes, you know what I am talking about).

Deadlines

The ESK is published quarterly—in October, January, April, and July. It is important that all submissions are received prior to the stated deadlines—the 10th day of the month that it is to be published. Specifically, that means:



~~Oct. 10 deadline for Oct. Dec. issue~~

~~Jan. 10 deadline for Jan. Mar. issue~~



Apr. 10 deadline for Apr.-June issue

July 10 deadline for July-Sept. issue

Please do not miss the deadlines!

Just to be clear - our next deadline is April 10th for the April-June issue of the ESK.

Please note: the Editor retains the right to make the final determinations with respect to edits and inclusions in the ESK.

Lastly, I would be remiss if I did not extend my appreciation and gratitude to Gov. Lucien for having trust and faith in me to carry on the legacy of the Empire State Kiwanian!

Yours in Kiwanis Service,
DPLG Seth J. Blau
District Bulletin Editor
esk@kiwanis-ny.org
#KidsNeedKiwanis

