

Empire State
Kiwanian

New York



An Eye to The Future 2022-2023

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New York District, Kiwanis International

The Year of the "Visionaries"

By Gov. Joel Harris

Happy Kiwanis New Year to our wonderful New York District Kiwanians.

We continue our journey to grow and strengthen our district. New York has been and will always be that "lighthouse district" that everyone looks at. Let's continue to be that guiding light to those around us.

Thank you to Immediate Past Governor Jim Mancuso who raised the bar and showed us that we can open many kinds of clubs that will enable us to show our Kiwanis brand and what we do to help our communities and children of the world.

My goal this year is to add 750 members through our existing club growth and by adding new clubs. The most important thing we can do is to continue asking people you meet to join Kiwanis. We are coming off a banner year of new clubs. Let's keep that momentum going and hit our numbers.

Our Service Leadership groups, K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, Circle K



and Aktion clubs need our support more than ever. We must show that we are behind them 100 percent. Make sure that you attend their meetings and let them know that we're here for them. My project, working with the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation was put in place with that in mind. We want to have our SLPs working with them showing how our family works as one cohesive unit. I am sure that the First Lady's literacy

project will set a new standard making books available for anyone, especially children.

This year, our team's name is "Visionaries." The dictionary's meaning of the word is: "having or marked by foresight and imagination," "a visionary leader". It is not enough to see what's out there but to imagine what we can do with it. I am confident that our new leaders will work to help create more leaders. Let's listen to see what is needed, then work to implement these items.

Thank you to everyone who have agreed to assume roles as my committee chairs. I am so happy to have the opportunity to work with you, learn from you and serve our mighty New York District. Thank you to our past leadership who has help guide me through my journey.

I leave you with the words that I so humbly said in my acceptance speech...

Just one year. I have just one year to accomplish my goals until we move to our new leadership.

Why do we continue to do the things we do? Because #KidsNeedKiwanis



The Bronx is Blooming

Fordham Circle K had a fantastic time participating in "The Bronx is Blooming" Project. After learning about native trees planted in the Bronx, members spent several hours tending to the plant life around Frank Frisch Field near the Fordham University campus. "The Bronx is Blooming" is a nonprofit organization dedicated to environmental stewardship, community building, and youth leadership development.

How to Prevent Lyme Disease Infection

By Distinguished Past Gov. John Gridley

Ticks do not jump or fly onto their victims. They wait on vegetation and cling to animals and humans as they brush by. While there is no way to protect yourself 100 percent from encountering a tick while in an infested area, there are some steps you can take to reduce your risk:



- Stay on the center of trails and paths - don't brush against vegetation if you can avoid it.
- Wear long pants and long sleeved shirts, and tuck the legs into your socks or boots, this helps keep ticks from reaching your skin.
- Wear light colored and tightly woven clothing. This makes it easier to see ticks.
- Use repellents that contain 20 percent or more DEET on the exposed skin for protection that lasts up to several hours. Parents should apply this product to their children, avoiding hands, eyes and mouth.

- Products containing Picardin and IR3535 can also serve as effective repellents.
- Products that contain permethrin can be used to treat boots, clothing and camping gear. Always follow product instructions.
- Check yourself, your children and pets at least once per day for ticks. A tick is so small it can easily go unnoticed. Pay special attention to the backs of knees, behind the ears, the scalp, armpits and back.

If you think you got bit by a tick, see your doctor immediately and tell him or her of your suspicions, especially if you have found a tick attached to your skin. Since Lyme disease can mimic other illnesses, this information can help your doctor make a diagnosis. Remember that time is of the essence when it comes to tick bites. Early diagnosis and treatment is critical in preventing a serious later stage Lyme disease and potentially a chronic illness.

Remember that the main thing is to keep the main thing when it comes to children and Lyme disease. If you would like to support the Kiwanis Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation by purchasing a Brittany Fellowship, any level of the Emerald or Diamond Fellowships or to simply make a donation to foundation simply give me a call or any board member a call.

Anyone Can Nominate a Kiwanian for the Christiano Award

Every New York District Kiwanian has the opportunity to recognize and honor an "unsung hero," grass roots Kiwanian with the District's highest Distinguished Service Award.

The deadline for nominations is Jan. 1 of each year.

If you know of a Kiwanian who works tirelessly and continuously to help your club improve the lifestyle of disadvantaged citizens in your community and is seldom or never recognized for his or her efforts, you can reward them by nominating them for this prestigious Distinguished Service Award.

The New York District Past Governors Council encourages all New York District Kiwanians to submit recommendations for nominees to receive the Gerald P. Christiano Distinguished Service Award sponsored by The New York District Past Governors Council.

The award is intended for the "grass roots Kiwanian," often overlooked for their contin-

uous dedication, untiring efforts and commitment to the betterment of people in their community who are less fortunate than themselves.

The award may be presented to only one Kiwanian each year at the New York District Kiwanis Convention. The honoree should be a living New York District Kiwanis member in good standing, who has "exhibited outstanding meritorious service to individuals in the community and has contributed in an extraordinary manner over a significant period of years to the advancement of Kiwanis."

Governor-elects, sitting Governors and Past Governors are not be eligible.

District Kiwanians can propose an award nominee to any Past Governor.

Approval of each award recipient shall be by a two-thirds majority vote, by closed ballot of all Council members present at the Mid-Year Conference Council Meeting each year. If no candidate receives two-thirds support, no award will be given that year.



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2022-23 Events

Oct. 22, 2022:

Kiwanis One Day

Feb. 9-12:

Mid-Year Conference, Desmond Hotel, Albany

June 21-24, 2023:

Kiwanis International Convention, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Aug. 10-13, 2023:

District Convention Radisson Hotel, Corning

Membership is a Continuing Project

By Past Gov. James Mancuso

Devotion to process, creativity and good recruitment (a.k.a club and division membership committee chairs) are the keys to membership growth.

These are the biggest lessons about membership I learned during my year as governor.



Membership is an extremely challenging topic. Recruiting volunteers who get paid no money but need to do a lot of work (i.e. community service) is certainly a difficult proposition. But, while I believe it is hard, it's not as hard as we sometimes make it out to be.

The greatest challenge for any club to grow is having a dedicated team focusing week in and week out on the recruitment of new members. This requires regular weekly meetings which review a list of

candidates and follows up with each until they become a member or are eliminated from contention.

If you are a club president, you, and your membership committee (I say "you" because the president needs to own membership) build that list of potential new members. The sources are all around you. Your local fire departments, chamber of commerce, restaurants, and government organizations are rife with people who may not know it now, but if you ask, one day may become a Kiwanian (and eventually thank you for it!).

If you are a lieutenant governor, the same rules apply, including you must own membership. Figure out where a new club makes sense. And, that new club may not be a traditional one located in a town. It may be a virtual club, meeting over the Internet. It may be a sole-purpose club that can focus on a multitude of possibilities.

A club that teaches English as a second language or a neighborhood community watch club (the district built both of those kinds of clubs last year) are good exam-

ples. When it comes to club building, being creative with your new club's concept and finding a group of like-minded individuals focused on a mutual purpose are your "membership friends."

A word of caution; many fall into a trap by starting to think one cannot build a club because there are so many other clubs in a division that are "struggling." Certainly, as a lieutenant governor, president, and membership committee chair, you have a responsibility to help restore clubs.

But, one thing is certain, if we do not both build new clubs and restore struggling ones, we will not grow but shrink. It is just like trying to lose weight, exercise plus dieting produces the best results (except in this case we are trying to gain!).

One final note: It is every member's responsibility as a Kiwanian to recruit members. As I like to say: "If you love Kiwanis you have to love membership!"

Happy new member hunting! The future of Kiwanis is dependent on your success.

Kiwanis shouldn't be a secret

Give the Gift of Kiwanis Membership

By Thomas Cesiro
District Membership Chair

So here we are at the beginning of a new Kiwanis year. What will this year bring us? As the new district Membership Chairman it's my job to help our district grow both in new clubs as well as new members.

People ask all the time, "Why do we need more clubs?" Every town deserves a Kiwanis Club. What better way to build community pride than to have a group of dedicated citizens whose goal is make their community a better place.

The second reason why a town needs Kiwanis is the children, it's simple #KID-SNEEDKIWANIS. There is no greater feeling than when you see the smile on a child or hear them laugh at one of your community events; when they receive their new backpack filled with supplies for school, or receive their new warm coat.

Whatever your club does that makes a

difference in that child's life is the best feeling in the world. Doesn't that new community deserve a club like this?

Gov. Joel doesn't only want to build new clubs, he has asked me to help increase the overall membership of our New York District by 750 new members. For this to be done, each club needs to set their goals for the year. If we can get each club to commit to set a goal to add three new members over the next 12 months we can accomplish this goal. If you don't commit and set a goal it won't happen, in some cases we might even exceed this goal.

Kiwanis is the best kept secret there is. How do you get a new member to join, all you need to do is a simple task -- you just have to ask! If you never ask that person they will never join.

Why did you join? What's your favorite Kiwanis memory? All too often we keep this to ourselves, you need to share it and tell your story. Invite a guest to your meeting or your next community event. Let them in on the secret.

I look forward to working with the Visionaries and all of the membership team to set up plans and commitments to help each division to accomplish our goal.



13th Huntington Field of Honor

Huntington Kiwanis volunteers and Scouts of Matinecock Council installed the 13th annual Field of Honor on the front lawn of the Huntington Town Hall. The display in honor of veterans will fly from 9-11 through Pearl Harbor Day in December.

2022 District Convention Took Place in Rochester

There were no contested elections or bylaw amendment votes at the 2022 House of Delegates. There were 229 delegates in attendance.

Gov.-Elect Joel Harris, former Long Island North lieutenant governor and a member of the County Seat, Mineola club, was elected governor for 2022-23.

Former Genesee Division Lt. Gov. Lucien Giancursio was elected governor-elect for 2022-23. He is a member of the Rochester West Central club.

Seven Resolutions were approved unanimously:

- Endorsing the candidacy of Past Gov. Eric Paul for a seat on the Kiwanis International Board of Trustees. He will be a candidate the next time the New York District is able to nominate a candidate.

- Honoring the Convention Honorees, Kiwanis International President Peter Mancuso and Karen Mancuso, for their contributions to the district and the Kiwanis world.

- Expressing thanks to individuals who were key to the convention's success: Alison Mandel, Richard Hall, Udo Glosch, Kim Scharoff, Martin Toombs, Erica Newburger and the staff of the Hyatt Regency.

- Thanking the convention Site Committee: Bill Davis, Thomas David and



Joel Harris following his election as governor for 2022-23.

Heather Henderson.

- Thanking individuals for their efforts on the district's behalf during the past year: District Secretary/Executive Director Richard Hall, District Treasurer Michael Wayne, Parliamentarian Martin Valk, Legal Counsel Sean O'Sullivan, Ex-

ecutive Assistants Kim Scharoff, David Morse and Maureen Neuringer.

- Thanking International Trustee Chuck Fletcher for his participation in the convention.

- Honoring Gov. James Mancuso for his work during 2021-22.

Board Members Elected at District Foundation Annual Meeting

Two new members were elected to the Foundation's Board of Directors, and one incumbent was re-elected at the District Foundation Annual Meeting with took place at the convention.

The elections were not contested. Re-Elected was Past Metropolitan Lt. Gov. Keith Cummings of the Richmond County Kiwanis club.

The new members are Past Niagara Frontier North Lt. Gov. Dean Beltrano of the Lewiston club, and Finger Lakes Lt. Gov. Thomas David of the Seneca Falls-Waterloo club.



Tarnopoll Award

The Ivan Tarnopoll Award, which is presented to an unsung hero for their efforts in support of the foundation, was presented to Distinguished Past Gov. Michael Malark of the New Scotland club. Malark has long served as the foundation's Disaster Chair. Pictured are Distinguished Past Gov. Joe Eppolito, Malark and Foundation President Sal Anelli.

Many more pictures are available on the district web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org

Black & White Ball Supports KPTC

Thank you to everyone who joined in supporting the Black & White Ball!

Cheers to 26 Years!

Since 1996, the Black & White Ball has been hosted at Leonard's of Great Neck. The Ball is the signature fund raising and donor recognition event supporting the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Center Foundation, which sponsors programs at the Cohen Children's Medical Center and the Stony Brook Children's Hospital.

Thanks to your generosity through this event, you have helped us expand pediatric trauma efforts at the Cohen Children's Medical Center as well as programs throughout the area to protect the safety of children and to improve the ability of local emergency medical services response teams for children across the region; and so much more.

You've supported our past and present, and now the future of our children's health is ours to build – together. Join us and help transform care for tomorrow.

If you didn't get a chance to make the Black & White Ball, or if you'd like to give a little bit more, your generosity is always welcome.

For more information on the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Center foundation, see its web site at <https://www.kiwanispediatrictraumacenter.org/>



East Meadow Fills 160 Backpacks for Back To School

Nothing says back to school like a fresh new backpack filled with carefully selected supplies. But with inflation and the growing costs of said supplies, the task becomes much harder.

Thanks to East Meadow Kiwanis, roughly 160 kids in the East Meadow School District will have a new backpack with everything they need. Members young and old gathered at Coldwell Banker American Homes on Hempstead Turnpike last week to assemble them.

"I've seen the generosity go up over the years," said Jennifer Reinhardt, president of East Meadow Kiwanis. "Any time that we do this, the community comes together – the businesses, organizations. I'm always so floored at the generosity of our community."

The idea for this fundraiser came from a similar project Reinhardt participated in at the ABC television network. Reinhardt created the Pack a Backpack drive with co-chairs Diane Krug and Donna Goldstein. The idea struck to create one in East Meadow in 2020 once the summer was

winding down, and they were looking for more ways to get involved in the community.

Once the backpacks are done, they get dropped off at the Leon Campo Salisbury Center, where they are then distributed to students who need them.

Supplies come from all over, Reinhardt said. The New York Islanders donated 100 folders, 100 notebooks and 100 packages containing 19 different school supply items. The East Meadow Fire Department donated 400 filled baggies to be put into the backpacks. Sunrise Assisted Living of East Meadow donated supplies as well.

Apart from donations, the club received a \$1,776 grant from the Kiwanis Children's Fund in order to keep the fund raiser going.

"This isn't just a fundraiser, it's a way to directly help the kids. And we're all about the children," said Kiwanian Kevin Kamper. "Kids need Kiwanis, so wherever there is a need to fill, we try to fill it."

"So, this is a way for a child to not have to worry on the first day of school if they

have the tools they need to succeed," Kamper said.



On July 16, the Hicksville club collected food for distribution to local pantries.