

Empire State Kiwanian

Oct-Nov-Dec 2023



Official Publication of the New York District of Kiwanis International
Volume 2023-24, Issue 1

A FUTURE OF HOPE

Welcome to our 2023-2024 Kiwanis Year!

It is customary for the Governor to write about the upcoming year & all the great things we are going to achieve.

This will come in time.

In this Excelsiors XXIII-XXIV year, we have ambitious goals & new endeavors to achieve.

One such is an enhanced Empire State Kiwanian, affectionately known as the "ESK".

I would like to thank past Editor Marty Toombs for all the years of dedicated service he has provided maintaining and publishing the "ESK." Most recently I have come to realize and appreciate the extreme amount of work that Marty has provided for the "ESK"

As we begin our Excelsiors XXIII-XXIV year, please welcome our new "ESK" Editor DPLG Seth Blau of the Oceanside and Island Park clubs in the Long Island Southwestern Division.

This year's logo "Excelsiors XXIII-XXIV" - Simply translated means "Higher & Always Upward." In keeping with that premise, the "ESK" has a much-expanded volume of content. As this is the inaugural issue and as time progresses so will the "ESK"!



Looking forward to a fantastic Kiwanis year of progress and service!

Yours in Kiwanis service,

Gov. Lucien

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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
(Geneseo)

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)



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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 Hanson Steve Hanson	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 Sue Breenan	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 Pellitteri	Finance Jimmy Yee	KPTC Albany Susan Vail Rick Sturm	Public Relations Seth J. Blau	Webmaster James Johnson
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	



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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 Your District Executive Director/Secretary

Greetings New York District!

My name is Rich Hall and I serve as your District Secretary and District Executive Director. What that means is that I am the administrative officer responsible for the office functions of the district. It is my job to insure both your club and you as a member receive all the support possible to insure your success. I am here to help in any way I can in the operation and growth of your club. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any question or issue for which I can be of assistance.

Open communication is the key to any successful organization. It is key that you keep those lines open between your club, our Governor Lucien, your Lt. Governor and the District Office. One key way the district maintains communications with you, our members, is through email. It is vital that we have complete and up to date addresses for all our members. Please insure you club secretary has your valid email address. And I ask each club secretary to review your club's roster and make certain that the email addresses listed on Kiwanis International portal are correct. That will insure that all information is communicated in a timely manner.

By Richard Hall

*New York District Executive
Director/Secretary*



Thank you for being part of Kiwanis. We as an organization have so many reasons to be proud. Our clubs are doing wonderful things in our communities. Every officer in Kiwanis has the same goal, to insure our Kiwanis Clubs play a meaningful role in our communities and in the lives of our members. I am happy to do what ever I can to help you achieve that success and to build a stronger Kiwanis in this new service year. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at districtoffice@kiwanis-ny.org.



MAKE SOMEONE SMILE TODAY.



August 10-13, 2023

- District Board Meeting
- Foundation Annual Meeting
- Opening Session
- Forums
- House of Delegates
- Memorial Service
- Installation of 2023-24 Officers

District Board Meeting

Foundation Annual Meeting

The 2023 District Convention started off an air of excitement and enthusiasm with the District Board

District Foundation/Kamp Kiwanis, Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Center Foundation, and the Kiwanis Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation.

At its annual meeting, Sal Anelli announced that he was stepping down as District Foundation President after 16 years.



Governor Joel Harris

Meeting. Gov. Joel Harris addressed the Board for the final time as the

Gov. Elect Lucien provided an update on his plans for the 2023-24 service year.



Gov. Elect Lucien

The new Foundation Officers starting on October 1 are: Tom Poccio, President; Anthony Merendino, Vice President; Kim Scharoff, Secretary; and David Vail, Treasurer.

New York District Governor.

Gov. Joel also had many District Chairs provided updates on areas such as the District budget, membership, planning, finance, and SLPs. The Board was also provided with updates from the New York

The Board also heard from the Kiwanis International Trustee Steven Ingram of the Indiana District.

The Foundation also recognized Merendino with the Ivan Tarnopol Unsung Hero award for his years



of service to Kamp Kiwanis.



The Foundation will be focusing on its need to hire a new Executive Director of Kamp Kiwanis.



- August 10-13, 2023**
- District Board Meeting
- Foundation Annual Meeting
- Opening Session
- Forums
- House of Delegates
- Memorial Service
- Installation of 2023-24 Officers

Opening Session

The 2023 District Convention opening session started off by a gracious and warm welcome from the Mayor of the City of Corning, William M. Boland. Mayor Boland, a long-term Rotarian, spoke about his appreciation of community service organizations and their contributions to communities.



In attendance was Kiwanis Interna-



tional President Katrina Baranko—who had an air of excitement and enthusiasm with the District Board

Meeting. And of course it was Gov. Joel Harris’s final address to his the Board as the New York District Governor.

The opening session also featured presentations from the New York District Governors of Key Club and the Circle K. Key Club Governor Amy Wu, pictured to the right, is a student at Midwood High School in Brooklyn.



Circle K Governor David Pritchitt, pictured to the left, is a student at New York Institute of Technology.



Gerald Christiano Award

The District Convention is also when the District honors a Kiwanian with the Gerald Christiano Award. The Christiano Award recognizes someone for their long-term work in the background. Long Island South Central Past Lieutenant Governor Kevin Kamper.



Below, Kamper humbly accepts the Christiano Award before a packed room.



Gala Celebration Dinner

August 10-13, 2023

- District Board Meeting
- Foundation Annual Meeting
- Opening Session
- Forums
- House of Delegates
- Memorial Service
- Installation of 2023-24 Officers



There's nothing better than being part of the New York District Convention's annual Gala Celebration Dinner! It is a great evening in which the District formally starts the transition into the new service year!

This year was no different — starting out with the ritual pre-dinner toast with his Board, outgoing Gov. Joel later took the podium to make his final speech to the District as New York District Governor.



Gov. Joel also formally recognized Convention Honoree Martin Toombs, who "retired" after being editor of the Empire State Kiwanis for 14 years and managing the district web site for 22 years.



The dinner was also the scene for Past International President Peter Mancuso to present a Distinguished Governor ring to his brother, James Mancuso.



Attendees also had the pleasure of having the Kiwanis International Executive Director Stan Soderstrom make a presentation to Karen and Peter Mancuso.

This was in recognition to their joint service to Kiwanis during Peter's thirteen (13) years as a trustee and an officer of both Kiwanis International Foundation, now known as the Children's Fund, and Kiwanis International — quite a remarkable record of service to Kiwanis International.



The evening of fun and comradery included an excellent meal and was topped off with the winners of the District's outstanding raffle baskets.

The evening ended with everyone in high spirits! With a sense of achievement and accomplishment as Gov. Joel and his Board started the process of winding down their service year, along with a sense of excitement and enthusiasm for Gov. Elect Lucien and his Board making their final preparation in taking on their roles for the 2023-24 service year!

Next is the Mid-Year Conference in February where the officers and clubs under Gov. Joel will be recognized for their accomplishments!

2. Bylaws

HOUSE OF DELEGATES ACTION

During the House of Delegates at the 2023 District Convention, all the bylaw proposals and resolutions presented at the House of Delegates were approved without debate:

Bylaw Amendments:

Proposal 1: Wording changes to keep the district bylaws in line with the Kiwanis International bylaws. Some changes do affect district operations:

- Allows someone from outside a division to serve as lieutenant governor if no one from inside the division can be found.
- Restricts the ability of someone to run off the floor for governor-elect or lieutenant governor-elect.
- Reduces the quorum needed to elect a lieutenant governor from one-half to one-third of the active clubs.
- Expands the time period for lieutenant governor elections to take place.

Proposal 2: Limits the number of consecutive terms a lieutenant governor can serve to two.

Proposal 3: Wording change that affects tie votes for the position of lieutenant governor.

Proposal 4: Adds a new district committee: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Candidate Endorsement:

The delegates unanimously endorsed Past Gov. Eric Paul for election to the board of Kiwanis International. Paul will be a candidate at the 2024 Kiwanis International Convention in Denver.

Resolutions:

- Dedicating the 2023 District Convention in honor of Martin Toombs, a member of the Seneca Falls-Waterloo club. He has managed the district web site for 22 years and the Empire State Kiwanian for 14.
- Thanking Alison Mandel, Richard Hall, Udo Glosch, Kim Scharoff, Michael Wayne, and staff of the Radisson Hotel for their work insuring a successful convention.
- Thanking Richard G. Hall, Michael Wayne, Martin Valk, Sean O'Sullivan, Kim Scharoff, David Morse and Gordon Soderholm for their efforts on behalf of the district.
- Thanking Kiwanis International Trustee Steven Ingram of the Indiana district for his participation on the convention.
- Thanking Kiwanis International President-Designate Katrina Baranko of the George District for her participation in the convention.
- Thanking Gov. Joel Harris for his leadership during the 2022-23 year.

August 10-13, 2023

District Board Meeting

Foundation Annual Meeting

Opening Session

Forums

House of Delegates

Memorial Service

Installation of 2023-24 Officers



Memorial Service

A service to remember Kiwanians who have died during the past year took place on Sunday morning. Listed by name are those who served as a Lieutenant Governor or higher office.

The following were remembered (with the month they died in parenthesis):



Governor:

- Past Governor John "Hank" Baker
 - * New York District Governor, 2018-19 (September 2022)

Past Lieutenant Governors:

- Angela Politano, Bronx Westchester South Division, 2001-02 (October 2022)
- Burdge Diamond, Suffolk East Division, 1984-85 (October 2022)
- Warren Hall, Central Division, 1983-83 (December 2022)
- Donald Wolf, Hudson River Division, 2001-02 and 2003-04 (February 2023)
- Tom Mollo, Long Island Southwest Division, 1995-96 (March 2023)
- Maureen Allen, Queens West Division, 2001-02 (April 2023)
- Stephen Haller, Long Island South Central Division, 1988-89 (May 2023)
- James Dunne, Long Island North Division, 1982-83 (May 2023)
- Myron "Mike" Day, Genesee Division, 2005-06 (May 2023)
- Harry Bilton, Central Division, 1989-90, 1998-99 and 2000-01 (May 2023)

Denver in 2024!

By Past Gov. Eric Paul

*Endorsed New York Candidate
for Kiwanis International Trustee*



All Kiwanians should make an attempt to go to Denver this summer! Denver, Colorado, will be the site of Kiwanis International's Convention for 2024. It will be held the week of July 3-7 (Convention Hotels have not yet been assigned). The Workshops, Session Speakers and camaraderie at an International Convention are not to be missed!

IT IS IMPORTANT FOR CLUBS TO PUT FUND\$ in your 2023-2024 budget to send two delegates to Denver!

I have a special, personal, reason to ask each of you to attend. I am the endorsed Candidate of our New York District for the position of Kiwanis International Trustee at the Denver Convention.

A Kiwanis District may only have one member of the International Board at a time, and as our own great Peter Mancuso finished his term as



“WHEN YOU ATTEND THE KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION, YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD REGARDING THE ORGANIZATION'S LEADERSHIP AND FUTURE. DURING THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES...ATTENDEES WILL VOTE IN ELECTIONS FOR THE 2024-25 KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES.”

Immediate Past President on September 30th, we can offer a candidate in 2024. I am humbled and honored to be that person!

Check on flights! Gather tour information! Hotel information to come! Special District Event information to come!

We will have much more information to share at our 2024 Mid Year Conference at the Desmond Hotel in Albany, to be held February 23-25!

I look forward to seeing each of you in Albany, and then in Denver in July!



Kiwanis®



By Sandy Nagler

*Kiwanis Children's Fund
District Chair*



Kiwanis[®] CHILDREN'S FUND

As the NY District Chair for the Kiwanis Children's Fund (KCF), it is my pleasure to support the work the Children's Fund does for children and clubs around the world. Kids need Kiwanis and The Kiwanis Children's Fund helps you reach them, amplifying your impact in communities around the world. I believe in the mission and believe in the ripple effect of all the good we can accomplish working together to walk the talk of improving the world, one child and one community at a time.

I love adopting the term "amplify" to apply to the work the Kiwanis Children's Fund does to have a broader reach. The extended reach the KCF provides, beyond

the club, division, and even the district level, to address the health and nutrition needs of children globally is astounding. Add to that the great effort we provide in expanding literacy, education, and youth leadership opportunities, and you'll see how valuable the KCF really is.

Kiwanians around the world continue to prove that they will rally in support of one another — be it in the face of a global pandemic, food deserts and lack of healthy meals on a daily basis, lack of availability of books and educational materials to support literacy, ongoing world conflicts or developing youth leadership. At the KCF, we develop resources that transform the goodwill and vision of Kiwani-

ans into programs that serve the children of the world. We focus on issues Kiwanians care about, particularly in the areas of education and literacy, health and nutrition, and youth leadership development. We also continue our efforts to fight maternal and neonatal tetanus and iodine deficiency disorders.

I am happy to announce that as a result of your fundraising efforts, during the past Kiwanis year alone, we were able to distribute \$1.6 million in grants and scholarships that have impacted nearly 300,000 children around the world.

For Kiwanians around the world, caring for children in need begins at the community level. The Kiwanis Children's Fund provides grants to clubs and districts as well as Key Clubs and Circle K International clubs. We're a global force for good, working to address the health and education needs of children through our worldwide network of volunteers and clubs.

The global reach of Kiwanis is truly impressive and the Kiwanis Children's Fund is a big part of it. Thanks to Children's Fund grants,

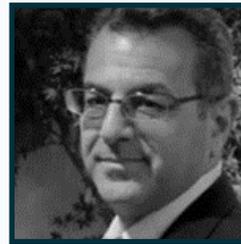
(Continued from page 40)





New York District Kiwanis Foundation Inc.

Kamp Kiwanis®



By Tom Poccio

Foundation President

Hello my fellow Kiwanians! My name is Thomas Poccio. I was elected as president of the New York District Kiwanis Foundation at our District Convention. At the same time, Anthony Merendino was elected as the Foundations new Vice President. I would like to thank Sal Anelli for all the years of service that he served as President and Lindy Marrazo for getting me involved with the Kamp.

The past couple of years has been a very difficult time for our Foundation coming out of COVID. We have gone through two camp directors in two years; one left at the end of the season and one who just suddenly and unexpectedly left the day before the season started. Needless to say, we scrambled and were able to hold the camp season together but not without an additional cost.

As I sit here writing this, we have a search committee performing interviews with three promising candidates out of approximately 30 resumes that we received. We feel confident that we will have someone in place by January.

In regard to the fees this upcoming season, unfortunately the rates will be increased and will be fi-



nalized by the second week in November. The Board of Directors has approved to hire a grant writer to assist

in finding funding and we have agreed to revamp the website.

With regards to fund raising Past Gov. Joe Aiello will be sending a package out to all Presidents and Secretaries before the first of the year.

We would like to welcome Frank Sambetts as our Scholarship chair.

I look forward to working with every club and Kiwanis member, please do not hesitate to contact me at boardpresident@kampkiwanis.org.



KIWANIS PEDIATRIC TRAUMA CENTER FOUNDATION (LONG ISLAND)



By Doris Molina
KPTC 1st Vice President

27th Annual Black & White Ball

Our Host, KPTC President, Joe Corace, began the evening by welcoming everyone. Many attendees traveled from the far corners of New York State. That's one of the best features of the Annual Black & White Ball — you get to greet so many wonderful Kiwanians that you don't see but once a year.



The ballroom at Leonard's was adorned with black and white balloon centerpieces and the front of the room was lined with generously donated raffle baskets. There was a 50/50 raffle and a very special prize of a magnificent TV donated by PDG Joe Aiello and former First Lady Cookie. Our favorite dance band, Tradewind Entertainment, began to play and more than half the attendees immediately flocked to the dance floor.



Early in the program Joe called up members of our KPTC Scholarship Committee to announce the 2023 scholarship winners. KPTC Scholarships are awarded to graduating students who plan to seek higher education: college or trade school. The main criteria for eligibility is that the student performed outstanding community service.

The three scholarships that KPTC administers are:

- The DPG Al & PFL Rita Bevilacqua Scholarship
- The Robert 'Bob' Cummo Scholarship
- Rich Santer 'Pay It Forward' Scholarship

Then came the highlight of the evening - the presentation of the KPTC Fellowship Awards in recognition of a \$1,000 donation given in the honoree's name. Or, an additional \$1,000 for a Diamond Fellow. Shown below are the 2023 award recipients and we all get to share in this celebration.



(Continue on page 17)

KPTC FOUNDATION (LONG ISLAND) (CONT)

Stony Brook Children’s Hospital Says “Thank You” to KPTC

On Saturday, October 14th, the KPTC Board of Directors was invited to Stony Brook Children’s Hospital for a special reception as a ‘thank you’ for KPTC’s support and collaboration.



Bryan Sekunda, Stony Brook Children’s Hospital Director of Development, and Kristi Ladowski, MPH Injury Prevention & Outreach Manager, greeted us warmly at 12 noon and provided a tasty brunch for us all to enjoy. Bryan also took his guests on a brief tour of the Children’s Medical Center and gave us an update on Stony Brook’s latest achievements.



One of the days highlights for the board was to view the new plaque on the Stony Brook Childrens Hospital’s Donnor Wall in the front lobby where KPTC is acknowledged as a major donor.

By Doris Molina
KPTC 1st Vice President

The KPTC Board of Directors proudly joined KPTC President Joe

Corace as he presented Stony Brook Children’s Hospital with a check in the amount of



\$10,000. We look forward to another year in partnership as we strive to keep our children safe.

(Black and White Ball—Continued from page 16)

KPTC Foundation Officers, Board and Committee Members were invited to the front of the ballroom to join President Joe and First Lady Nydia as they ‘cut the cake’. Joe graciously thanked all members of his board who give of their time, creativity and energy to fulfill the KPTC Mission.



We were very pleased to have representatives from both Level 1 Trauma Center hospitals in attendance: Cohen Children’s Medical Center and Stony Brook Children’s Hospital.

All in all, it was a wonderful evening. Congratulations Joe & Nydia for another great event. We all look forward to celebrating with you again next year.

Kiwanis Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation

By DPG John Gridley

Founder, Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation



The Lyme Disease problem was brought to Kiwanis' attention during 2000-01 during my term as the New York District Kiwanis Governor. I vowed to do something to help children afflicted with this terrible disease.

The Lyme Disease Project was quickly set up to help pay for medical treatment for children with this disease. Unfortunately most insurance companies do not pay for its treatment, which is very expensive.

Our support is funded through donations from Kiwanis Clubs and individuals and channeled into the Pediatric Lyme Disease Fund. We have 27 active grants for children with this disease.

Lyme Disease is caused by bacteria usually transmitted by the deer tick. It is a scary possibility to

consider for New York State residents who enjoy spending time outside during the summer months. Lyme Disease may affect the brain in many ways. The most common is a disturbance in thinking. Other symptoms that occur frequently include headache, mood swings, irritability, depression, and marked fatigue.

The spirochete which causes Lyme Disease can invade the central nervous system within days to a week of initial skin infection. The majority of people who are treated early with antibiotics do well and incur no long-term problems. People who are not treated until later may have a more complicated outcome.

For more information about donating to the Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation, go to our website at [Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation \(kiwanis-ny.org\)](http://kiwanis-ny.org).



THIS IS WHY WE VOLUNTEER

GOVERNOR'S PROJECT

1,000 Kids to Kamp Kiwanis

Wow, what a great jump starts to Governor's Lucien Giancursio's first fundraiser this past Saturday. The fundraiser helped



By Roger Awe
Governor's Project Chair

raise funds for his signature project, 1,000 Kids to Camp. It was a special night indeed, Fellow Kiwanians from around the great state of New York gathered for good friendship and good food to raise additional funds to send additional children to Camp Kiwanis. A special shout out to fellow Kiwanian David Crispino from the Rochester West Central club. David had the winning 3-digit number that opened the master lock on the Mystery Trunk / Chest and won \$400.00 in gifts.

As chair of the Governor's 1,000 Kids to Camp project, I am seeking help from all the

Kiwanis clubs to help meet this ambitious goal. Over the next few weeks, I will be reaching out to all the Lt Governors throughout the state via Video conferencing to discuss and share ideas as to what their respective clubs can do to raise funds to send additional children to Camp Kiwanis.

The Mystery Trunk / Chest is a great example of a great fundraiser. Another might be for each club to donate the fines/happy dollars during their weekly or bi-weekly Kiwanis meetings once during the club's



year...some might do two. Kiwanians, as a group, are very creative as to how to raise money for helping the children in their respective communities and we are looking to tap into that creativity.



Governor Lucien will be traveling throughout the state visiting individual clubs seeking your help in sending more children to Camp Kiwanis while also attending and supporting your individual fundraising events. The Governor realizes all the clubs throughout the state have their own signature projects to support through hard work and dedication that goes into making their club successful, however, as you plan your fundraising events for 2023/ 2024, keep the governor's project in your heart and help send an additional child to camp.





FIRST FAMILY'S PROJECT

Backpacks for Kampers



They say it takes the village to raise kids...well, let's take that sentiment and apply it to a District project for Governor Lucien's year. Because of that mindset that is why this year, it's called the First Family's Project – Provide a fully stocked backpack to every camper during the 2024 Kamp Kiwanis season (June – August). Every camper will complete a wish list with their application.



Wish lists will be distributed to each Lt. Governor to encourage club participation and fulfillment. 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 - www.dollardays.com/landing/kiwanis.

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

- Girls' Underwear (SKU #2342396 from Dollar Days)
- Boys' Underwear (SKU #274876 from Dollar Days)
- Toothbrushes (SKU #2182152 from Dollar Days)
- Bath Towels & Wash Clothes (SKU #1797964 from Dollar Days)
- Mini Journals (SKU #2354248 from Dollar Days)
- Notebooks (SKU #2362774 from Dollar Days)
- Mosquito Repellent Bracelets (SKU #2315003 from Dollar Days)
- Disposal cameras

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

If your club/division would prefer to send in a donation of

funds, that is 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.

It will take the entire Kiwanis family to help make this First Family's Project a success, which complements Governor Lucien's project of sending 1,000 kids to Kamp Kiwanis for the 2024 Kamp season, so please, participate if you and your club are able. If you do not hear from your Club leaders or Lt. Governor directly, please do not hesitate to reach out to them to see what you and your club can do to get the ball rolling.



Thank YOU for being part of the village!

First Family's
Project Co-Chairs



SDPLG Heather Henderson Past First Lady Bonnie Baker
(706) 331-1022 (716) 259-7250
heather35976@gmail.com golde1951@gmail.com

2023 – 2024



First Family's Project



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



2024 Camp Dates: June - August

Membership & New Club Openings

Kiwanis International provides an annual checklist for all Club Membership Chairs. It is easy to follow, it just takes commitment and dedication.

THROUGHOUT THE KIWANIS YEAR

- All members are provided new member orientation - to be conducted prior to actual joining is preferred.
- Follow-up on all leads for new members. • Do exit interviews with all members to determine why they are leaving the club.
- Work with club leadership to provide a strong Kiwanis experience for all members.
- Encourage all members to invite prospective members to club events.
- Keep all prospective member information in stock to share.
- Follow-up with members not attending, to determine how to

keep them involved in the club.

- On-going recognition of member accomplishments and important life events.
- Send new member information and money to Kiwanis International immediately. • Conduct induction ceremony for all new members.

OCTOBER-DECEMBER

- Provide Kiwanis education to all club members at a club meeting.
- Plan a social event over the holidays. Take the time to ensure members all know each other and feel a part of the club.
- Follow up after the event with Thank You notes to all who attended, include an invitation to join the club for an upcoming service event.

JANUARY-MARCH

- Work with your Service Leadership Program advisors to hold joint events with your program members and their parents or guardians. Use this celebration of partnership and support to also



encourage others to join your club. This could be installations of officers, scholarship awards, or joint service projects.

- Continue to follow up with all people who have shown interest in more club involvement.
- Take the opportunity on or around the Kiwanis birthday to plan a large fun, fellowship and recognition event to celebrate your members and their contribution to the community. Invite past members, supports and partners to celebrate the club's impact and successes.

APRIL-JUNE

- Work with your service chair to start planning for a large service project to use as a membership event.
- Get all members to recommend the names of people who would be

(Continued on page 40)



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

In the 1999-2000 Administrative year, a discussion was begun at that year's Mid-Winter Conference about creating an advisory body to aid the NY District, while itself engaging in one or more service projects each administrative year to benefit the children of the NY District of Kiwanis who need some form of assistance. The Council was envisioned as a 'farm team' for the then sitting and subsequent Board of Directors of the District and the Governors in office each year.

The membership of the Past Lieutenant Governor Council is open to all Past Lt. Governors in good standing, who served a division of the NY District as Lt. Governor. The Council meets twice per year, once at the Mid-Winter Conference and again at the NY District Convention. Other meetings may be called by the Council President as necessary. Officers of the Council are elected annually at the Mid-Winter Conference when the Council holds its annual meeting. They consist of a President, a Vice President, a Secre-



By Ed "Woody" Ryder

*Past Lt. Gov. Council
Public Relations Chair*

tary, and a Treasurer. Officers elected or re-elected at Mid-Winter take office the 1st of October following their election. Other committees may be appointed for specific purposes, which committees will meet in person for the purposes impaneled, present their findings, and then be discharged.

The Council is supported financially by voluntary annual dues of ten dollars (\$10) paid by any past Lt. Governor in good standing who wishes to be a member of the Council.

Projects of the Council for potential undertaking, either *via* financial donation or provision of volunteer labor, may be proposed by any Kiwanian, Kiwanis Club, or officer of the NY District in good standing. Projects will be discussed at the Mid-Winter meeting and one or more projects may be adopted subject to fiscal ability to underwrite multiple projects simultaneously. A vote of the Council will determine the project(s) to be undertaken.

To date, the Council has underwritten, among other projects, disaster relief appropriations and stipends to further the efforts of other NY District entities, such as donations to the Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation and the NY District Foundation.

Past Lt. Governors of the NY District are requested to provide their current e-mail addresses to Council Secretary DPLG Noreen Barrett at her e-mail address of: LGNBARRETT3@nycap.rr.com.



KEY LEADER[®]



By Dean Beltrano

Key Leader Chairperson

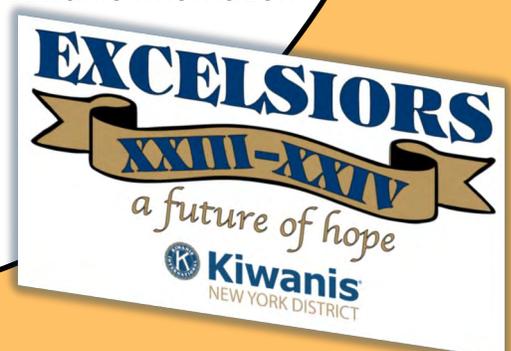
I would like to start this year off by thanking all those who have supported the Key Leader program for the past years. We are excited to be back stronger than ever!

Ann Holevinski and I are looking forward to another great year a Camp Stella Maris. We can't wait to see the returning students and meet the new ones. As always, I come hat in hand to our New York District, seeking funds to educate students on what it means to be a Servant Leader. To this end, I am asking any club that is unable to send students to please send \$100 to the district towards sponsoring a student participant. If your club is still sponsoring students to attend, we are grateful and look forward to their attendance. If you would like to help defray the costs for other students to attend, then please send a donation of \$100 and a student, somewhere in New York, will be able to attend.

Students will enjoy three days of learning and making new friends as well as reconnecting with friends they may have made at past events.

I am proud to serve as the district coordinator and I know Ann loves being the site coordinator. We look forward to serving the district once again.

There is something new on the horizon from Kiwanis International regarding the Key Leader events, so stay tuned. As I learn more, I will keep everyone informed.



Public Relations/Branding

Use of Proper Kiwanis Logo

Over ten years ago, Kiwanis International revised and adopted the current organization logo. So if your club is still using the old “globe logo,” also commonly referred to as the “birdcage” logo, your club needs make sure it switches to the current logo.

To be clear, the “birdcage” logo is no longer used:



Repeat: KI *no longer* uses the “K” in the “birdcage” or the globe (as seen above).

Instead, Clubs

should now use the Kiwanis logo that just includes the “K.” KI believes that this provides a consistent, easily recognizable branding that makes the organization stronger. Specifically, the logo should be:



This does not mean that clubs need to go out and recreate or re-order every item that has the old logo, but please be mindful when creating any new items or literature that are to include the Kiwanis symbol.

Lastly, KI creates a free logo specifically designed for clubs and divisions (see below). KI will also design logos for specific anniversary dates. For more information, use the link: [Kiwanis custom logos | Kiwanis International](#).



Kiwanis
NEW YORK DISTRICT

Aktion Club

By Jessica



To show the impact that Aktion Clubs have on their members and communities, this month our New York District Co-Chairs Jamie Neurenger and Kevin Cooney gave their ESK allotment to Jessica, proud member and Corresponding Secretary of the Anchor Aktion Club.

My name is Jessica and I have been in the Camp Anchor Aktion Club for two years. I look forward to every meeting and event we hold. I love giving back to our community and Aktion Club has given me the opportunity to do so. I am thankful for it. It is a privilege being one of the Aktion Club officers. I am the Secretary of Correspondence. This means that I send out e-mails after each meeting outlining what we spoke about and accomplished and I remind other members about upcoming meetings and events.

I have learned so much from being in the Aktion Club. I learned to be a team player. I learned that even if your team is small, you can make a huge difference. I learned that no matter what people's different opinions are, we can work together effectively towards a common goal.

Being one of the Camp Anchor Aktion Club members has taught me motivation and leadership. I encourage our Aktion Club members to read my follow up emails and I tell the other members things like "keep up the great work!" I believe that encouraging my other members has helped our club be successful at so many of our events and during our meetings.

A project that my Aktion Club helps almost every year is the Long Island Harvest Food Drive. This Food Drive collects food for people who are going through tough times, who are struggling financially (like people who may have a very tight budget), who are facing unemployment, or who have food insecurity. By collecting food and items in need the drive radiates kindness to the people's faces who benefit from the supplies. This drive shows kindness, love, and happiness to people who are going through a hard time financially and going through food insecurity.

The Camp Anchor Aktion Club shows this organization kindness by donating food and other essentials through a drive we hold at our camp. This drive helps to get the community in-

involved in collecting items so that we can make a difference in other people's lives. The kindness of the Aktion Club members for setting this up and those who donate show so much kindness, love, and compassion. This food can potentially save people's lives. The donations we collect can help people thrive in a time when they did not think they would thrive.

I am proud to be part of the Camp Anchor Aktion Club because they set up this helpful drive every year. We are always donating boxes of food and essentials to Island Harvest. It feels good to know that people are benefiting from our help. For me, it always feels great to show kindness to our beautiful and growing community and because we are saving/helping other people. We love the people in our community. With every "Thank You" we receive we know that the people we are helping appreciate our help and kindness. This is what we love to do. We will always continue to spread kindness, love, and compassion to make our community happier and healthier.

KEY CLUB[®]



By John Goldstein

*Key Club
District Administrator*



I encourage you to be involved with your Key Club and work with them on your projects and theirs. The students are really great to work with. Please remember with are a Kiwanis Family!

March 15-17, 2024 at the Desmond Hotel in Albany . We had three (3) new clubs organized over the summer, one was organized this past month, and I know of at least one new club in the works on Long Island.

Greetings from the New York District Key Club. We are excited to report that we finished the year September 30, 2023 with over 13,000 members in about 245 clubs. We have not reached the 13,000 mark since about 2015. We sent 20 students and 4 adults to the Key Club International Convention in July. We had several Distinguished District Officers including our Immediate Past Distinguished Governor Gabriella Sloatsky. We had 5 Robert F Lucas Award winners and over a dozen Distinguished and Diamond Distinguished Key Clubs.

This years Governor, Amy Wu, is looking forward to another successful year. The Board is busy planning their Fall Rallies and next years Leadership Training Conference. The Leadership Training Conference is the weekend of

Key Club Pledge



I pledge, on my honor,
to uphold the objects of Key Club
International;
to build my home, school, and community;
to serve my nation and world;
and combat all forces that tend to under-
mine these institutions.

#KidsNeedKiwanis

#KidsNeedKiwanis

Kiwanis Kids (K Kids)

Ready for a New Year of Service

Welcome to the new service year! To kick off the new year, Kiwanis International and K Kids Clubs around the world will be participating in a global service project. Details of the project are available on the K Kids Club website at www.kiwaniskids.org/globalkickoff/. The program was recorded on September 30 and will be available for viewing at a club meeting. As part of this program, you will learn about this year's Global Service Project, get ideas for different types of service projects, hear updates on the K Kids Program, and get information on Trick or Treat for UNICEF.

Kiwanis International has rolled out a new set of tools for Faculty Advisors, Kiwanis Advisors, and members at www.kiwaniskids.org/advisors/. At this site you will find the new K Kids member guides, service guide and advisor guides. These guides and materials contain new ideas for service and recruiting new members. At the same site you will find video training materials for both new advisors and the experienced advisors. At this training you will learn how to use the new materials. You can also register for seminars for club growth at the site.

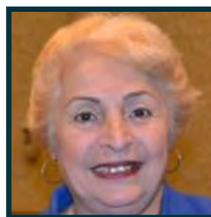
Please be sure that your club Secretaries of Kiwanis Clubs that sponsor Kiwanis K Kids Clubs have taken the required steps for renewing their club's

membership by entering a member count, mailing address and phone number in their Secretary Dashboard, and paying their invoice. K Kids Clubs will not be mailed their materials until these steps are completed.

October brings us Youth Protection Week. As per Kiwanis International policy, please be sure that your advisors take their Praesidium training, and your clubs review the Kiwanis Youth Protection policy. Information is available at www.kiwanis.org/youth-protection/youth-protection-training/

If your club does not sponsor Kiwanis K Kids Club, now is a great time. Please consider looking into adding a K Kids Club in either a school, library, or community center. A promotional video is available at www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_eNGRQvArQ.

For more information feel free to contact myself or my assistant Kevin Kamper at knkamper@gmail.com or find more information at www.kiwaniskids.org/.



By Mickie Leamey
K Kids
District Administrator

#KidsNeedKiwanis

#KidsNeedKiwanis



Adirondacks Division

By Lt. Gov.
Katherine A. Peterson



Adirondack Division consists of Clinton and Essex counties.

Plattsburgh Noon Kiwanis

Plattsburgh Noon Kiwanis held its annual coin drive on September 30th to raise funds to send kids to Camp Jericho where we built Lake Kiwanis and the Kiwanis Lodge. We have supported this camp for over 50 years. This year we raised nearly \$4000. We also had a membership drive on September 28th at Oval Craft Brewing and had 11 guests attend. We are hoping to convert some of those to members. Finally, our annual food and diaper drive titled "Stuff the Strand" where we Stuff all 901 seats of the Strand Theatre with 4 pounds of food/diapers/formula etc was Friday October 13th and all donations go to the JCEO and the Interfaith food shelf.

The Kiwanis Breakfast Club in Plattsburgh held its Dozer Fest on June 3rd and had over 6700 in attendance. This is their largest fund raiser of the year which allowed them to donate over \$23,000 in grants to North country organizations that help local kids. It is a great community effort and kids get to come and climb on bulldozers and other heavy equipment.



Rouses Point/Champlain Kiwanis club

Rouses Point/Champlain Kiwanis club assisted the Champlain Knights of Columbus with their annual food drive on September 29th. In a separate event on August 22nd, they delivered much needed school supplies to Julie Bouchard at the JCEO Champlain Outreach Center.

Bronx Westchester South Division

By Lt. Gov.

Nancy K. Shaw



I am proud to report that on the first day of this service year the Bronx Westchester South Division started off by raising over \$1,600 for the Alzheimer's walk on Sunday, October 1.

The East Yonkers Club

The East Yonkers Club prepared 40 meals for families whose children receive medical treatment at Ronald McDonald house.

From left to right: PLG Mariana Terranova, PP Vickie Moore, PP Claire Campisi, Grace Moore, President Antoinette Cantone and son Tyler, Secretary Erika Carosone and LTG Nancy Shaw.



Two barbers volunteered their time to offer free haircuts to 23 boys at the Salvation Army as part of our back-to-school project.



Volunteer barber Christian Vega and standing are: foreign student Matteo, Tyler next to Mom, and President Antoinette Cantone, LTG Nancy Shaw, and barber Brendan Martinez.

The Hartsdale Club

The Hartsdale Club held its annual carnival on Labor Day weekend. The funds raised go to all their service projects throughout the year: scholarships, KampKiwanis, Thanksgiving, and Holidays. The weather was beautiful and the event was well attended.

From left to right: Mildred Galloway, County Executive George Latimer, Greenburgh Town Board Member Ellen Hendricks, Andrea Cecchini, Bridget Roberti, and standing in front President Irene Kanowitz.



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.

Finger Lakes Division

By Lt. Gov.
Christine Mitchell



The Finger Lakes Division is off to a great start!

- We hosted our first divisional on October 2nd where we had some great discussions regarding club membership recruitment.
- Many suggestions were made, some were successful, others were not but it was a great way to share our ideas with each other, and help each club think outside the box to ways we are able to continue recruitment.
- One comment made by a Past Lt. Governor of the Division was: "We cannot wait to focus on membership when our clubs are in trouble, membership should be an ongoing thing, even when we have a strong number of members."

How true that statement is!

We must continually focus our efforts on membership, so we do not get to a point where membership is so low it's difficult to fill those gaps!

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.

Calendar of Events— Finger Lakes Division

- * October 15: Newark Kiwanis— Chicken BBQ
- * October 18: Honeoye Falls-Lima Mendon Kiwan— Oktoberfest
- * October 28: Webster Kiwanis— Annual Dinner and Reverse Raffle
- * October 28: Canandaigua Kiwanis— Halloween at Onanda Park
- * October 28: Canandaigua Kiwanis— Fall Into Canandaigua
- * November 7: Canandaigua Kiwanis— 56th Annual Election Night Dinner,
- * November 7: Waterloo Kiwanis— Election Night Dinner
- * December 5: Penfield-Perinton Townships Kiwanis— Christmas Holiday Party

For more information regarding the Finger Lakes Division and our events please visit <https://fldivisionkiwanis.org/>.

Genesee Division

By Lt. Gov.
Dr. Eugene Scherline



Genesee Division kicked off the 2023-24 service year by participating in the 36th Annual Game for the Physically Challenged!

Over two days, volunteers worked the food service to ensure a smooth and successful food line for 274 participants and 450 helpers, assistants, family and staff!

Fifteen (15) Kiwanians from the Genesee Division from six clubs (i.e., Batavia, Brockport, Geneseo, Greece, Livonia, and Spensorport) volunteered to make this a huge success!



Left to Right: James Peasley, Reita Fletcher, Dave Jewell, Ann Holevinski, Jean Dibble, Randy Dumas, Brigitte Duschen, Lt. Gov. Gene Scherline, Donna Peasley, Barb Morgan, Pete Head.

Genesee Division includes the counties of Genesee, Livingston, Orleans, and all of Wyoming except the townships of Bennington, Sheldon, Java, Arcade, and all of Monroe County east of the Genesee River known as the towns of Henrietta, and the City of Rochester and the township of Irondequoit not part of the territory of the Kiwanis Club of North Rochester.

Hudson River West Division

Kiwanis Club members in the Hudson River West Division have been engaged in numerous activities, including fundraisers, service projects, and presentations in the last months of the 2022-2023 Kiwanis year. This quarter the activities and service projects by the Kiwanis Clubs of Chester, Middletown, Minisink Valley, and Monticello will be highlighted.

Kiwanis Club of Chester

The Kiwanis Club of Chester, under the Community Outreach Committee provided tote bags this summer, stuffed with needed items for new pre-K and new Kindergarten students. 65 stuffed tote bags were given out.

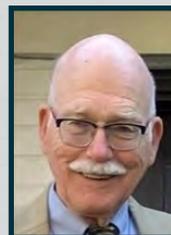


In July, the Kiwanis Club of Chester stuffed Summer Fun Bags in conjunction with the Chester Community Food Pantry. 36 Summer Fun Bags were stuffed and given out.

The Kiwanis Club of Chester gave out five \$1,000 scholarships to Chester High School Graduates.



Chester Kiwanians also read to students at their elementary school. Chester Kiwanian and Past Lt. Gov. Danielle August reading to elementary school students.



By Lt. Gov.
Gef Chumard

Kiwanis Club of Monticello

The Kiwanis Club of Monticello donated books to 11 second grade classes at George L. Cooke Elementary School in June.



The Monticello Kiwanis Club held its Scholarship Dinner at Robert Green Auto Dealer new Monticello. Nine high school seniors each received a \$1,000 scholarship. Monticello Kiwanian Foundation Chairman Robert Green with Scholarship Recipient Xavier Footman. Xavier's grandfather Leonard Frazer looks on.



(Continue on page 33)

Hudson River West Division

(Continued from page 32)

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

Kiwanis Club of Middletown

The Kiwanis Club of Middletown completed a Little Free Library at Circleville Park to the Town of Wallkill Boys and Girls Club, on August 9, as part of First Lady Helene's signature project, and filled it with donated books. Middletown Kiwanian and former Orange County Supreme Court Judge Joe Owen is shown in the photo affixing the nameplate.



On August 23, Middletown Kiwanian Ross Micelli, CEO of the Middletown YMCA, was the guest speaker. The Club has had a long involvement with the YMCA, dating back to the 1930's, when they jointly started a Ki-Y Club, which was a forerunner of Key Clubs. John Goldstein presented a check for \$1,000 to the YMCA.



The Kiwanis Club of Middletown recently held its second annual Flags for Heroes event in which the names of the heroes were read aloud. Speakers included Christian Farrell, Director of the Orange County Veteran's Service, and Wallkill Town Supervisor George Serrano.



We are grateful for the tremendous assistance from the Town of Wallkill in helping to bring this event to fruition.



Middletown Kiwanis members collected plastic bags, and wraps to have 2 "Buddy Benches" made. One of the Buddy Benches was placed near the entrance to the Middletown Thrall Library.

During the first week of October, the Middletown Kiwanis Club handed out dictionaries to third grade students in Middletown, as part of the Dictionary Project. Last year the Club handed out over 500 dictionaries.

Kiwanis Club of Minisink Valley



The Kiwanis Club of Minisink held its Annual Sweet Corn Festival on September 10, in the Town of Wawayanda, Orange County, NY. The event began in 2015 and only paused during the covid years. Approximately 2,000 visitors attended. There were games, a corn maze, cornhusking contest, and vendors.

The Minisink Kiwanis Club also collects plastic caps for benches.



Metropolitan Division



By Lt. Gov.
Jerry Burt

BEST OF LUCK to Governor Lucien and all my fellow Lt Governors on a fast and successful 2023-24 year.

The year has started out on a very fast pace with tons of events:

- On Tuesday Sept 26, the Metropolitan Division had its Divisional Changover meeting where Immediate Past Lt. Gov. Kevin Heltzer turned the Metropolitan Division over to Jerry Burt.
- 110 attendees attended with an agenda that included three items:
 - 1000 KIDS TO KAMP;
 - 100 New Members for the NY District; and
 - 6 New Clubs in NY District.

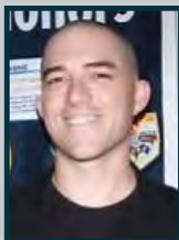
Metropolitan Division

Consists of Manhattan and Staten Island.

Calendar Metropolitan Division Events

- * **October 4**— Division Fundraiser for Lt. Gov. Gerald Burt -Osteria Santina;
- * **October 26**— Division Installation Dinner-all club officers and new members from each club will be officially installed;
- * **November 4** – North Central Kiwanis – Salute to Our Veterans -Flag Sponsorships in any Veterans name -\$25 for a flag sponsorship. Contact Dennis Mangiero (tagene@aol.com) for more information.
- * **November 11**-Veterans Day --LTG Gerald Burt -guest bartender-- Manor Restaurant located at 917 Manor Road in Staten Island . Proceeds go to Metropolitan Division;
- * **November 15**--North Central Kiwanis Bingo Night --The Staaten - contact tagene@aol.com;
- * **January 18**— South Shore Kiwanis Wild Game Dinner - South Shore Kiwanis/Kids Against Cancer, 7pm at Vanderbilt South Beach; and
- * **February 19** – Staten Island Kiwanis 100th Birthday.

Niagara Frontier North Division



By Lt. Gov.
Marty Pauly

Greetings from the Mighty Niagara Frontier North Division. Our clubs have been hard at work closing out the 22-23 year and opening the 23-24 year.

The Kiwanis Club of Wheatfield

The Kiwanis Club of Wheatfield ended our year by hosting a divisional. During this time of fellowship, the Lieutenant Governor Banner was passed onto Lewiston, and I had the pleasure of installing officers. Wheatfield Kiwanis recently held a Meat Raffle fundraiser in October and proceeds to help fund scholarships and send kids to Kamp. They will also be a part of the Town of Niagara's Trunk or Treat where they will hand out candy bars with Kiwanis logo stickers.

Niagara Frontier North includes all of Niagara County and all of the area within the townships of Amherst, Cheektowaga, Clarence, Grand Island, Newstead and Tonawanda in Erie County excluding the village of Depew.

The Kiwanis Club of Lewiston

Lewiston ended their year with great momentum as they held another successful Peach Festival. Their dedicated members will now recognize the fruits of their labors when they spend this year donating the proceeds to charitable organizations, community events, and numerous SLP events. Lewiston's first event of this new year will be Holiday Food Baskets at both Thanksgiving and Christmas. Each holiday will see at least 65 families receive a dinner personally delivered by the members.

Kiwanis Club of Northern Niagara

As we move a little north, the Kiwanis Club of Northern Niagara sold their classic meat sticks at the Peach and Celtic Festivals. They will also be having a Meat Raffle in November. Proceeds from each of these will be added to their scholarship fund. They award 3 scholarships each year to students from local high schools.

Kiwanis Club of Ken-Ton

The Kiwanis Club of Ken-Ton held their installation dinner on October 19. They closed out the 22-23 year by holding another successful Golf Tournament fundraiser. Along with being a part of the town's Halloween Bash at the end of October, Ken-Ton Kiwanians continued their Veterans Drive to collect toiletries, socks, and gloves for homeless male and female veterans. Collection bins were located at four different sites around town.

The Kiwanis Club of Amherst

Moving further south, we find ourselves at our division's most southern point, Amherst Kiwanis. They held a successful membership drive a couple months back and look forward to introducing the newbies to the wonderful service projects Kiwanians operate. Two of those projects will take place in October. One will be at Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Building where members will help build beds for children in need. Amherst's other event will see them take the local Boys and Girls Club to a University at Buffalo football game.

(Continue on page 40)

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 recently installed a new President and Officers.



The club held a comedy night at the Governor's Comedy Club in which proceeds went towards scholarships for East Rockaway High School Students.

The Club also sold beautiful chrysanthemums at The Village of East Rockaway's Halloween in the Park event.



For Kiwanis One Day, East Rockaway Kiwanis held a food drive.

Peninsula Kiwanis

Peninsula Kiwanis held its annual Christmas Dream Breakfast. The Club uses proceeds from this event to purchase holiday gifts for 800 children. Students from the Hewlett High School Key Club were on hand to help out.



Long Beach Kiwanis

Long Beach Kiwanis has started off the year with some fundraising by selling Irish day bling at the Long Beach Irish Day Parade.

The Club also fundraised by having local bands play in six different pubs throughout the community.

Long Beach Kiwanis also recently hosted a food drive to donate to their local pantry.

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 37)

Long Island Southwest Division

(Continued from page 36)

Oceanside Kiwanis Club

Oceanside Kiwanis Club held its annual installation dinner. The dinner is also used to raise funds to send kids to Kamp Kiwanis and for scholarships



For Kiwanis One Day, the club partnered with other local organizations in a costal clean up of a local lake and surrounding area.



In the spirit of Halloween, the Club co-hosted a pumpkin carving and decorating contest, as well as a Ragamuffin parade for the

children of the community. Oceanside Kiwanis also participated in the Oceanside SEPTA Trunk or Treat festival.



Five Towns Kiwanis Club

Five Towns Kiwanis Club held its annual testimonial to its Immediate Past President and installed its new officers.



In recognizing its members, Five Towns Kiwanis recently sponsored four KPTC Fellowships, plus one KPTC Diamond Fellow.

The Club also sponsored the LI Crisis Center Suicide Walk at the Long Beach Boardwalk.

In memory of a benefactor, the Club has sponsored a Horse from Equine Advocates, a rescue facility in Valatie, NY.

Five Towns Kiwanis Club also sponsored the Fall Festival at a local school. Each child received a mini pumpkin for Halloween. On hand were President Bill Bressant.



Island Park Kiwanis Club



Island Park Kiwanis had a successful local food drive with the help of its Builders Club from the Lincoln Orens Middle School.

The club was also out during a local car show at the Island Park Library with its logo, banner, and applications soliciting new members.



Susquehanna Division

The Susquehanna Division is off to a good start. October saw Installation Meetings and members enjoyed several inter-clubs.

I had the honor of meeting with each club before their installations in order to get to know the club members in a less formal setting. Each of the division clubs have chosen increasing membership as their annual goal.

As our projects develop over this year, we hope to see a monthly project for each club where membership opportunities can be a primary focus in the normal month-to-month work in our communities,



By Lt. Gov.
Kathy Newell

Susquehanna Division

Consists of the Counties of Broome, Chenango, Oswego and that portion of Tioga County assigned as the territory of the Kiwanis Club of Oswego, and all of Delaware County except the townships of Harpersfield, Kortright, Roxbury and Stamford.

Owego Kiwanis recently held two membership/community-based projects for young child literacy by collecting back to school supplies for our local women's shelter. New and gently used books were collected and donated. Patrons were invited to join us for coffee and learn more about Kiwanis. Membership applications were readily available!

**Kiwanis Club of
Owego**



Van Rensselaer Division

By Lt. Gov.
Donna Zobre Baxter



The Van Rensselaer Division clubs are excited to start sharing their 2023-2024 year events with their communities!

Some events included are:

- ⇒ East Greenbush Club hosting their 2nd annual “*Touch a Truck*”;
- ⇒ Castleton-Schodack, NY finishing up their *Family Concerts Series*;
- ⇒ Sand Lake celebrating their *100th Anniversary* this December;
- ⇒ Troy having their annual “*Fresh Fruit Fundraiser*”;
- ⇒ Hoosick Falls working closely supporting their sponsored Services Leadership Programs by getting ready for *Thanksgiving meals*;
- ⇒ North Greenbush is continuously cooking in support of *Ronald McDonald House*; and
- ⇒ Rensselaer preparing for their annual “*Pre-Election Pancake Breakfast*”.

Several clubs will also be part of their communities “*Trunk or Treat*” festivities.

Thanks to Troy Club President Elissa Prout— the Division will also be enjoying a night of comradery at a RPI Hockey Game in January.

Of course, the Van Rensselaer Division’s clubs will come together to support the annual “*Bells of Life*” (along with Capital and Mohawk Divisions) for the Albany Medical Pediatric Trauma unit.

Thank you Robert Loveridge of Sand Lake/ Castleton-Schodack and Susan Vail of Capital for coordinating this momentous event).

Van Rensselaer Division includes the counties of Columbia and Rensselaer.

(Continued from page 14)



Kiwanis[®] CHILDREN'S FUND

Kiwanians change kids' lives — in clubs' own communities and a world away. We hope you're proud to be a part of this global organization and inspired by your worldwide impact.

Grants are made to clubs to carry out projects in their communities, including micro-grants to clubs with less than 35 members. Grants are distributed 2 times a year (March & August) and all of the info is available at <https://www.kiwanis.org/members/grants-scholarships/>, or I can certainly assist you further. Since 2018, KCF has awarded over \$9M in grants and scholarships and improved the lives of over 16 million children. The next grant cycle will be awarded March 1, 2024, but a Letter of Inquiry needed to be submitted by than November 1, 2023.

Of course to provide all the support to members and clubs, we encourage every club to make an annual donation. If you donated last year, THANK YOU! If you've never given, won't your club commit just a dollar a day, \$365, to help meet the needs of children you may never even meet but will feel your impact every day? We also encourage members and clubs to support fundraising efforts with a Hixson Fellowship for \$1,000 or a Blechman fellowship for a \$2,500 donation. These awards underscore your support and help provide recognition of members for their generosity and support of Kiwanis. If you have questions, please reach out to me before making your contribution so I can help guide you through the process. On behalf of the KCF, I do thank the clubs who have already committed to making your annual giving contribution for '23-'24!

If anyone has any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at snagler@televue.com or by phone at (845) 781-0891.

(Continued from page 21)

Membership & New Club Openings

have good members for your club. in-person conversations

- Use the Hosting a Membership Event to plan the event.
 - Prepare the club for the event.
 - Follow up from event to ensure all interested parties join the club.
 - Begin working with your successor so that they can be prepared for their year.
 - Make follow-up calls or
- with people who have shown interest in the club to see if you can get them to join before the end of the year.
 - Have in-person conversations with any members who may be thinking of dropping their membership to try to keep them involved.
 - Conduct a membership contest amongst the membership to bring in more new members.

JULY-SEPTEMBER

(Continued from page 35)

Niagara Frontier North Division

Kiwanis of the Tonawandas

Venturing south into the land of the Kiwanis of the Tonawandas, we are reminded of the longest standing high school football rivalry in NYS: Tonawanda HS vs. North Tonawanda HS. These Kiwanians host an annual luncheon preceding this game. Players, coaches, and cheerleaders from both schools attend this great event which emphasizes good sportsmanship, fellowship, safety of the players and the proud tradition. This luncheon also includes a keynote speaker in the field of athletics as well as Kiwanian Jay Holler. Jay is a terrific Kiwanis ambassador and local historian. He gives a short presentation to the players on the significance of the Dick Grapes Trophy which is awarded to the winning school each year.



Extra Extra! Talking with... MARTY TOOMBS

Marty Toombs served as the New York District Webmaster since 2004 and Kiwanis ESK Editor since 2009. After a remarkable run, Marty decided to step away from those roles.*

Why did you decide to step down as the New York District's ESK Editor and Webmaster?

I have other involvements. I'm currently president of three non-profit boards. The smallest of the three does not have money to hire administrative staff so, I serve as "acting executive director" as well.

Since I took over the website I've attended eight International conventions, all district conventions, and have missed only one or two Mid-Year Conferences. I don't just attend, but generally take 120 to 150 pictures at each event, have done forums, etc. so it's a busy time.

What are the biggest changes that you experienced in these positions during your time as ESK Editor and Webmaster?

The combination of the two roles in 2009 meant that what had been going just to the ESK before started coming to me for the website as well. Since then, 2,859 news items have been posted on the website. Before I started doing the website in 2001, it was averaging about 7,000

hits per month. So far this year, it has averaged 299,542 hits per month (October through May).

What were the challenges that you faced over the years in these roles?

The need to balance the requests with the actual activity around the district.

How have the positions changed over the years?

The change in 2009 merging the jobs increased the workload markedly. That same year we started taking Mid-Year and Convention registrations online which was extra work. Now all the registrations are online.

Several years ago we had to begin collecting submissions for the annual Club Achievement Awards online as well.

What did you find to be most rewarding or most enjoyable?

Seeing the traffic increase.

Any advice to your successors?

Keep up with the work. Letting it pile up complicates



everything. I try to clear my inbox of requests, submissions, etc., each day.

Below is Marty's first column as Editor/Webmaster from December 2009.



This issue of the Empire State Kiwanian looks different than what you have been accustomed to seeing, but it marks a change in more than appearance.

Over the years printing and postage costs have increased even as more and more Kiwanians have gotten access to the Internet, which is seen by the fact that traffic on the district web site is now 10 times greater than it was eight years ago.

During the past few months, district officials have taken a new look at the way the district was communicating with its members and have decided it's time to update how that is being done.

Under the new plan, the Empire State Kiwanian will continue as the official publication for District Kiwanians, as part of a coordinated communication effort that calls for increased use of the district's web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org, and Webmaster's Office. With the appointment of a single person as ESK Editor and Webmaster, the intent is to make the best possible use of both the ESK and the web site, taking advantage of the strengths of each.

Publication deadlines and space limitations are always a factor for any print publication. Often items don't get the attention they are due because of timing issues, and cost issues prevent print publications from growing to accommodate the volume of information that date the ESK for publication and might be available continuously and which can be updated continually, such as news items, club service projects, K-Kids and other media, such as videos.

A new plan means that many items of district and club news previously had to wait until the next issue of the ESK for publication or be published quickly on the web site, and the space restrictions included are less on award presentations, club service projects, K-Kids and other media, such as videos.

Circle K projects are featured on the site's front page, and those that have been posted by club name and in other ways. It arrives in the advantages as well. District Kiwanians, this printed publication has advantages of every other to members without requiring them to remember a look at the web site, and provides a source of information which does not require a computer. The ESK remains a key part of the district's communication plan.

In its new role, the ESK will focus on upcoming Kiwanis events in the New York District and in Kiwanis International. This issue features information about the upcoming Mid-Year Conference, which will include a visit from Kiwanis International President Paul Palamides.

The ESK focus will be on information items such as registration forms for district events will be posted on the district web site for easy download. These changes mean there will be fewer and smaller issues in the past, but the total quantity of information published in the district web site will be much greater than ever before.

Every club in the district is welcome to be a part of the new effort by submitting information on club projects to be added to the district web site. Fund raising efforts, service projects and special awards are all welcome. When sending news, be sure to include all the information that will be needed to explain in the event of people visiting the web site. The preferred method of submission is by e-mail to webmaster@kiwanis-ny.org. e-mails will be acknowledged. Printed information and photographs can be sent to me at 44 Bridge St., Seneca Falls, NY 13148.

If you are looking for help with preparing articles or taking good pictures, that's available on the web site at www.kiwanis-ny.org/esk.htm. Your comments are always welcome at webmaster@kiwanis-ny.org.



* While Marty has, in fact, stepped away from these roles, he has graciously agreed to temporarily continue as webmaster to ensure a smooth transition.

Empire State Kiwanian



From your Editor:

I am ecstatic to be your ESK Bulletin Editor for the 2023-24 service year. Marty Toombs leaves huge shoes to fill after 14 years of ensuring that all Kiwanians were informed as to what was going on throughout the New York District.

As you may notice, while there are some stylistic changes to the ESK, my hope is to continue to provide a quality bulletin that is valuable, interesting, and informative.



As Marty advised me, the key to a successful bulletin is receiving the articles and pictures on a timely basis. This year, in addition to providing articles from our District Officers, Committee Chairs, and Foundation Chairs, Gov. Lucien is asking all Division Lieutenant Governors to submit at least one-half of a page update on the happenings, past and present, of their respective Divisions. The 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—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!

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

esk@kiwanis-ny.org

#KidsNeedKiwanis

