

*The Capital*

April/May 2022

# KIWANIAN

The Official Publication of Capital District Kiwanis | [www.capitalkiwanis.org](http://www.capitalkiwanis.org)

**Midyear Conference  
Recap**

**Signature Project  
Contest Winners**

**New Ideas for  
Growing Clubs**

**LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES  
NURTURE A LOVE OF READING**



**Kiwaniis**

# CONTENTS

Volume 11, Number 4



<b>GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE</b>	<b>»»» 3</b>
<b>MIDYEAR CONFERENCE</b>	<b>»»» 5</b>
<b>2020-2021 RECOGNITIONS</b>	<b>»»» 7</b>
<b>KIWANIS CHILDREN'S FUND</b>	<b>»»» 9</b>
<b>SIGNATURE PROJECT CONTEST</b>	<b>»»» 12</b>
<b>AROUND CAPITAL</b>	<b>»»» 15</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creating Brighter Futures - 15</li><li>• Service Project Resources - 16</li><li>• Notes from the Executive Director - 17</li><li>• Human &amp; Spiritual Values - 19</li><li>• Meet the Candidates! - 21</li><li>• Membership Minute - 23</li><li>• Communicating in Shorter Messages - 25</li><li>• Youth Protection: Did You Know? - 26</li></ul>	
<b>CAPITAL RECORD</b>	<b>»»» 27</b>
<b>WOMEN IN THE KIWANIS FAMILY</b>	<b>»»» 29</b>
<b>SERVICE SHOWCASE</b>	<b>»»» 30</b>
<b>FAMILY TIES</b>	<b>»»» 31</b>
<b>RICHMOND KIWANIS</b>	<b>»»» 34</b>
<b>EYE ON KI</b>	<b>»»» 35</b>
<b>BEYOND THE CALL</b>	<b>»»» 38</b>





Kiwanis International Vice President Katrina Baranko addressed attendees at the Capital Next Generation e-Club panel discussion, "A Revolution in Service: Women in the Kiwanis Family" on March 21st.

## 2021-22 LEADERSHIP INFORMATION

### GOVERNOR

Elana Gardner  
Eastern Branch, DC

### GOVERNOR-ELECT

Jennifer Wolff  
Tysons, VA

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jeffrey Wolff  
Tysons, VA

### IMMEDIATE PAST GOVERNOR

Dennis Baugh  
Harrisonburg, VA

### IMMEDIATE PAST GOVERNOR (WV)

Eric Fithyan  
Wellsburg, WV

### TRUSTEE - CHESAPEAKE BAY

Josh Hiscock  
Ellicott City, MD

### TRUSTEE - HEART OF VIRGINIA

Bill Watson  
Richmond, VA

### TRUSTEE - MASON DIXON

Renee Mackey  
Hagerstown, MD

### TRUSTEE - NATIONAL CAPITAL

Tim Gillette  
Tysons, VA

### TRUSTEE - SOUTHEAST VIRGINIA

Richard Pippin  
Chesapeake, VA

### TRUSTEE - SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA

Robert Lewit  
Christiansburg, VA

### TRUSTEE - WEST VIRGINIA

Keith White  
Logan, WV

### MAGAZINE EDITOR

Jennifer Wolff  
editor@capitaldistrictkiwanis.org

The Capital Kiwanian is published bi-monthly by the Capital District of Kiwanis International.

All correspondence relating to editorial content, distribution, or advertising should be sent via e-mail to Editor Jennifer Wolff at editor@capitaldistrictkiwanis.org.

The information in this magazine is for illustrative and discussion purposes only. It is intended to provide general information about the subject matter covered.

# Governor's Message

ELANA GARDNER, 2021-22 GOVERNOR



## I KNOW CAPITAL CAN!

*“When your belief in yourself doesn’t feel quite so pure, and your “I think I can” doesn’t sound quite so sure. That’s when to push and to strive and to strain, to show the world, you’re not a giving up train.”*

- Excerpt from I Knew You Could shared by the children and grandchildren of our members at the Midyear Conference.

The pandemic may have caused hesitation, but the days of uncertainty in Capital District are becoming a distant memory. Adapting to the crossroads of the last two years created an opportunity for our entire Kiwanis Family. Every day we are picking up speed and gaining ground. We have added 175+ new members since October 1st, and if every member continues to share Kiwanis daily with someone they encounter, we will undoubtedly achieve the goal of 10% growth. I am eternally indebted to my Ruby K Kiwanians and if you have not yet sponsored five members that’s okay because each member recruited is as sweet as honey. That’s why this month club counseling, club opening and membership recruitment teams are in preparation so that Kiwanis is seen, heard and felt even stronger in the geographical areas that comprise the district so let’s enjoy the spring sunshine and delight in some BUNs (Bring Up Numbers)!

Annual club giving provides an opportunity for clubs to invest in the future of the organization and as a district, we strive towards \$6.00/member to the Kiwanis Children’s Fund so I’m proud to share that we currently average \$5.40 per member. We have an annual club giving goal to our Capital District Foundation of \$3.00/member, so contact your division Foundation Director for more information if your club has not yet made a gift and be sure to check out foundation updates on grants made this year.



Happy 2022-2023 New Year to our SLPs! Did you know that not only can your club request a grant but so can our Service Leadership program clubs? Imagine the impact our Capital Kiwanis Kids (57), Builders (46), Key Clubs (226), CKI (25) and Aktion Clubs (15) can have when they combine their acumen for identifying service opportunities and leading successful fundraisers. Contributions from your club and the CDKF to those branches plant seeds of awareness throughout the community about the values that our Kiwanis family is founded upon. With 365+ SLP clubs remaining connected with those members is essential to the development and future of our district. A signature project is your club's way of leaving a lasting legacy in your community and in this issue, we are sharing those who competed in this year's contest. If your club doesn't have a signature project, I'm hoping you will be inspired and I'm sure the clubs would be willing to share their knowledge with you.

I've traveled the district the first half of the year, I've met leaders, you know who you are and I'm excited about the contributions you are making. I hope to spend more time visiting clubs and divisions as April showers bring May flowers and as we gather for ICON.

Midyear is about looking at the first half of the year and making corrections which implies there have been missteps. As Governor, I shoulder the responsibility for any and all detours but I appreciate how you continue to encourage and act as a compass for me so that I can turn us around.

Kiwanis is a global organization, but it is this district that serves as my world. So for the next 180 days of this Kiwanis administrative year, I remain steadfast because together "I Know We Can"

Let's get there together!

*Clara T. Gardner*

## SAVE THE DATES

- **Kiwanis International Convention**  
Indianapolis, IN  
June 8-11, 2022
- **Capital District Kiwanis Convention**  
Baltimore, MD  
August 19-21, 2022



## BE MORE IN BALTIMORE

*Capital District Kiwanis Convention 2022*

**2022 Capital District Kiwanis Convention**  
**August 19th – 21st, 2022**  
**Sheraton Inner Harbor, Baltimore MD**

Let's keep our Kiwanis train rolling into Baltimore, Maryland for the 2022 Capital District Convention coming in August 2022. Save the date and look for more information coming to your station in the Spring. Tell the Conductor that your next stop is the Inner Harbor. Get ready to 'Be More' in Baltimore, Hon!





## MIDYEAR RECAP BY CATIE DUGAN VARGAS, MIDYEAR CONFERENCE CHAIRPERSON

### **We had a wonderful Midyear conference in Williamsburg, VA at Great Wolf Lodge March 4-6th!**

We were gathered with over 200 Kiwanians and CKI members in attendance for the first Capital Kiwanis Midyear Conference in two years. The weekend was full of good cheer, making new friends and seeing old ones. It was truly a great time to be a Kiwanian. We were joined by President Peter Mancuso and First Lady, Karen Mancuso. They were treated to the best Capital hospitality around. Congressman Wittman of the first District presented President Peter with a flag that was flown over the US Capitol as a thank you for all he does for Kiwanis. We heard from exciting speakers including Ayanna Castro who taught us how to work our package and be our authentic selves. Brenda Heckert shared with us about overcoming adversity and there is no normal and we have to keep showing up despite challenges. And we heard from the Vice President of Operations, Erinn Beckner from the Replenish

Foundation where we learned about what food scarcity looks like for families in our local communities and how our service projects makes a difference.

We were pleased to share that we raised \$6,193 for the Replenish Foundation which allowed us to pack 3,000 meals as we closed out the conference with our meal pack service project. Those 3,000 meals stayed locally to support families facing hunger in the Williamsburg community. Participants enjoyed workshops about signature service projects, working with SLPs and how to boost membership amongst our clubs. Saturday evening we were serenaded with beautiful sounds of The Strolling Strings, a 26-member high school string ensemble from Norfolk Public Schools. Sunday morning we remembered those Kiwanians we have lost in the last 2 years. All in all, it was a wonderful Capital District event and we look forward to seeing everyone again in Baltimore for DCON in August!









# 2020-2021 RECOGNITIONS AT MIDYEAR

BY DENNIS BAUGH, IMMEDIATE PAST GOVERNOR

**Recognizing an individual Kiwanian and a club for their achievements is always a great occasion. At the 2022 Midyear Conference, we honored the 2020-2021 Clubs with Membership Growth, Distinguished Clubs, Distinguished Lieutenant Governors and Distinguished Members, that accomplished the criteria in their respective categories. This is a great honor.**

Three new clubs were chartered in 2020-2021, during the pandemic. They are Capital – Next generation eClub, Capital – Legacy eClub and Jackson River Area. Collectively, they brought 58 new members to Kiwanis.

## 2020-21 Club Membership Growth

(for clubs chartered prior to October 1, 2020)

All clubs chartered prior to October 1, 2020 that had a net increase of five (5) or more members as of September 30, 2021 will receive a banner ribbon.

- Far East Washington +11
- Portsmouth +11
- Hurley +10
- Westminster +9
- Tuckahoe, Richmond +6
- Strasburg +6
- West Charleston +5
- Fredericksburg +5

In addition to this recognition, several of these clubs are also being recognized further for their growth accomplishments.

## 2020-21 Grow to 20

(for club chartered prior to October 1, 2020)

All clubs chartered prior to October 1, 2020 with a membership total below twenty (20) members whose membership increases to 20 or more members as of September 30, 2021 will receive a banner ribbon. These are:

- Portsmouth 13 to 24
- Far East Washington 11 to 22
- South Arlington 18 to 21
- Bassett 19 to 20

## 2020-21 Club Membership Net Growth Award

Three clubs with the highest net growth in each group size will be recognized with a banner ribbon. Clubs are divided into five groups based on club size. The clubs being recognized are:

*Gold Division 101 members or more:*

- Williamsburg 118 to 121, an increase of +3
- Roanoke 142 to 143, an increase of +1

*Silver Division 71 to 100 members*

- Winchester 95 to 98, an increase of +3

*Orange Division 46 to 70 members*

- Washington 57 to 60, an increase of +3
- Christiansburg 59 to 61, an increase of +2
- Middlesex-Saluda 53 to 54, an increase of +1

*Blue Division 31 to 45 members*

- Westminster 33 to 42, an increase of +9
- Carrollton 32 to 36, an increase of +4
- Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City 40 to 44, an increase of +4

*White Division 30 members or less*

- Far East, DC 11 to 22, an increase of +11
- Portsmouth 13 to 24, an increase of +11
- Hurley 20 to 30, an increase of +10

## 2020-2021 CLUB RECOGNITION (must complete 6 of 8)

Club must be at or above Charter Strength of 15 members and to nominate a club, the Club Secretary needed to submit the application by October 31, 2021.

This year's recipients are:

- Kiwanis Club of Bethesda
- Kiwanis Club of Williamsburg
- Kiwanis Club of Toano
- Kiwanis Club of Ellicott City
- Kiwanis Club of West Charleston



**2020-2021 DIVISION RECOGNITION** (must have at least 5 clubs in good standing)

I am privileged to recognize the following 2020-2021 LTGs as Distinguished.

- Division 1 Landus M. Burroughs
- Division 2 R. Brian Bell
- Division 4 Krista Latchaw
- Division 9 Eric Lamb
- Division 10 Jamie L. Moore
- Division 11 George E, Smith
- Division 12 Mary Beth Murphy
- Division 16 Robert A. Lewitt
- Division 17 Catherine W. Cummins

**2020-2021 MEMBER RECOGNITION** (must complete 5 of 7) and to nominate a member, the Club Secretary needed to submit the application by October 31, 2021.

This year we are recognizing three individuals. They are

- Joshua Hiscock Kiwanis Club of Ellicott City
- Jennifer Hiscock Kiwanis Club of Ellicott City
- Dennis Baugh Kiwanis Club of Harrisonburg

In 2020-2021 there were approximately 140 active clubs in the Capital District and 31 in the West Virginia District. We ended the year with 3,769 members plus 476 in West Virginia. Club Presidents and Secretaries were reminded several times to submit their club and their members for recognition by October 31, 2021 online.

When the final results of nominations were received, there were a total of eight clubs submitted with only five qualifying and ONLY three members submitted. As I travelled the district last year as Governor, I know for a fact there are more than five distinguished clubs and only three distinguished members in the Capital District.

Please use the available resources to make sure your members and clubs are recognized for in 2021-2022.





# From the Kiwanis Children's Fund

BY PG DENNIS BAUGH, DISTRICT CHILDREN'S FUND CHAIRPERSON

## WHAT IMPACTS THE KIWANIS CHILDREN'S FUND WITH CHARITY NAVIGATOR?

I was approached at the Midyear Conference by a member that was concerned about where the Kiwanis Children's Fund stood with Charity Navigator. If you do not know, they, as well as GuideStar and others, rate charitable organizations on how they perform in managing their donations and distribution of funds. They assist donors in identifying organizations that are like minded with them.

The question was posed to Michael Malik, MPA, Director of Development at Kiwanis Children's Fund. Here is what he had to say:

### 1. What criteria does Charity Navigator use to calculate its rating?

Charity Navigator assesses program expenses, program expense growth, administrative expenses, fundraising expenses, fundraising efficiency (the amount spent to raise \$1 in charitable contributions), liabilities to assets and working capital ratio. Non-profits are also evaluated on transparency and accountability. The Children's Fund continues to score 100 percent on the last two sets of criteria.

### 2. Why did KCF Charity Navigator drop from 3 stars to 2 stars?

Charity Navigator ratings are based on three-year average of a non-profit's financial IRS statements. From 2015 to 2020, the Children's Fund collected payment on Eliminate Project pledges. These payments were given to UNICEF USA in the form of grants. As The Eliminate Project came to its conclusion in 2020, pledge collections decreased, as did the amount of money sent to UNICEF USA. These factors adversely affected our Charity Navigator rating.

### 3. What is the Children's Fund doing to improve our standing among nonprofit evaluators such as Charity Navigator.

The Children's Fund staff, with support of the Board of Trustees and volunteers, has put in place an aggressive plan to increase fundraising while maintaining our commitment to operating as efficiently as possible. The goal is to remain good stewards of the gifts we receive from our members and clubs and to help Kiwanians meet the needs of children around the world, specifically in areas of health and nutrition, education and literacy and youth leadership development.

### 4. As a supporting donor to KCF, how can I ensure my donations are being used appropriately?

For more than 80 years, the Kiwanis Children's Fund, formerly known as the Kiwanis Foundation, has helped Kiwanians make life better for children around the world. In fact, supporting the Children's Fund is one of the most effective ways Kiwanis members and clubs can amplify their impact. Grants from the Children's Fund have helped provide school clothes, books and supplies in the United States, delivered anti-parasitic medicine and vitamins to Honduras and supplied brain-boosting nutrients to kids around the world. Since the start of the 2018-19 Kiwanis year, the Children's Fund has awarded more than US\$9 million in grants and scholarships, including ongoing support of efforts to fight iodine deficiencies and maternal and neonatal tetanus. Tying in with what Michael reports, KCF had to write off \$15 million in unredeemed MNT pledges from our districts, clubs, and members. So, consider making a donation today through your club to help restore trust in KCF and the work we do for children.

If you have any questions concerning the Kiwanis Children's Fund, don't hesitate to reach out to me, [dennis.cdypm@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.cdypm@gmail.com).





# YOUTH PROTECTION STARTS WITH YOU.

## Keep Your Club Compliant.

Kiwanians serve children around the world. It is our job to ensure the safety of the youth we interact with in our local communities. Be sure that your club and its members understand the Kiwanis Youth Protection Policies & Procedures.

To learn more, please visit: [www.kiwanis.org/youthprotection](http://www.kiwanis.org/youthprotection)



**Kiwanis**  
CAPITAL DISTRICT



# BE MORE IN **BALTIMORE**

*Capital District Kiwanis Convention 2022*

**2022 Capital District Kiwanis Convention**

**Save the Date: August 19th – 21st, 2022**

**Sheraton Inner Harbor, Baltimore MD**

Let's keep our Kiwanis train rolling into Baltimore, Maryland for the 2022 Capital District Convention coming in August 2022. Save the date and look for more information coming to your station in the Spring. Tell the Conductor that your next stop is the Inner Harbor.

Get ready to 'Be More' in Baltimore, Hon!



# SIGNATURE PROJECT CONTEST 2022

Signature projects show the impact a Kiwanis club can have on a community. From playgrounds and parks to festivals and fundraisers, signature projects are the hallmarks of what Kiwanis clubs are known for in their communities.

Kiwanis International is hosting its Sixth Annual Signature Project Recognition Program for clubs and districts this year. Each tier will be judged separately and the top 10 finalists will be determined for each tier. The top three selections from each tier will be recognized as the gold, silver and bronze winners at the 2022 Kiwanis International Convention. Clubs submitted their project details using the online contest submission form, and entries were judged by district leadership that will be entered into the 2022 Signature Project Contest. Congratulations to the winners below:

## Tier I Winner (27 members or fewer):

### KIWANIS CLUB OF SHEPHERDSTOWN, WV

#### Annual Wine Pairing Dinner

This event benefited the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Eastern Panhandle. In addition to the wine pairing dinner itself, at each event there was a speaker who told of the influence of the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Eastern Panhandle of WV on his or her life and a speaker who told about Kiwanis International and the particular projects of the Kiwanis Club of Shepherdstown in support of our community and its children and youth. There was also a silent auction of donated items, which raised additional funds for the BGCEPWV. Because of the Covid pandemic in 2020, an online auction of donated items was conducted via Facebook and received a generous response from community and beyond in support of the BGCEPWV!



## Tier II Winner (28 members or greater):

### KIWANIS CLUB OF STAUNTON, VA

#### Kiwanis Club of Staunton Baseball: 1946-2022

The baseball program began in March and ended in June for most of the 236 participants. After a pre-season of practices, there is usually a 15-game regular season for the children who are divided into five different leagues based on age and/or ability. The Kiwanis Club of Staunton provides supervision, and staffs our concession stand for all games. In the Fall, kids who participated in the Spring season, are invited to take part in instructional activities known as Fall Ball. The City of Staunton Park & Recreation Department partner with us each year by maintaining the baseball fields to keep them in top shape, repair the bleachers and fences as needed, assist us with the registration of players each year, and the end-of-season picnic and awards ceremony for players and their families (300-400 people). The City of Staunton does not charge for use of the fields each year. The Kiwanis Club of Staunton also benefits from 35 to 40 local business sponsors, many of whom support this project year after year.



# SIGNATURE PROJECT CONTEST 2022 (CONTINUED)

Thank you to the following clubs for participating in the Signature Project Contest! The committee enjoyed reading about your projects and hope that you apply again next year. Thank you to Catherine Cummins and the Signature Project Committee for taking the time to judge all of these wonderful projects.

## Tier I Submissions



2nd Annual Photography Contest  
Kiwanis Club of Capitol Hill



1st Annual Frosty Festival  
Kiwanis Club of Poquoson



Police, Fire, and EMS Awards  
Kiwanis Club of Wilmington DE



Elkton Kiwanis, Lemonade Stand  
Kiwanis Club of Elkton



Saint Luke's Youth Center  
Kiwanis Club of Towson-Timonium

NOT PICTURED  
Gospel Sing Fundraiser  
Kiwanis Club of Wythe County



Meals For Young Minds (M4YM)  
Kiwanis Club of Fairfax, Virginia



Tuckahoe Kiwanis Fall Golf Classic  
Kiwanis Club of Tuckahoe



## Tier II Submissions



Annual Charity Golf Tournament  
Kiwanis Club of Alleghany Highlands



Christmas Shopping Spree  
Kiwanis Club of West Charleston



Shrimp Feast  
Kiwanis Club of Chesapeake



Backpacks for Breaks  
Kiwanis Club of Ellicott City



SMYAL's Clinical Services Dept.  
Kiwanis Club of Washington, D.C.



Toy for Local Kids Can Shaking  
Kiwanis Club of Colonial Capital



Bridgeville Kiwanis Barbecue  
Bridgeville Kiwanis



Kiwanis Wilderness Trail Festival  
Kiwanis Club of Christiansburg, VA



Kiwanis Kids Idea Studio  
Williamsburg, Colonial Capital, & Toano



Book Oasis In A Literacy Desert  
Kiwanis Club of Richmond



Sarah's House Dinners  
Kiwanis Club of Crofton

# AROUND CAPITAL



## CREATING BRIGHTER FUTURES

BY JEN WOLFF, GOVERNOR-ELECT

Can you sense a change in the air? I've been feeling it recently. Since Midyear Conference, where we had wall to wall Kiwanians in our workshop rooms, excited chatter at sessions, and eager members in their KIWANIS shirts packing meals for the hungry... there's an electricity. Things are opening up. People are eager to be together and make a difference. And our Kiwanis Clubs are here to welcome them with open arms.

We may have lost a lot during this pandemic. But we have also gained lessons on the importance of connection, and how flexibility is necessary. I want to thank our leaders, PG David Lurie, PG Dennis Baugh, and Gov. Elana Garder for getting us through the tough times.

Now that we are on the other side, it is time to get to work and seize those new opportunities. Our team is

working hard to bring clubs the tools they will need to be strong. In order for us to do that, we need clubs to take an honest look inward so that we can go ONWARD. Have you figured out what your club is good at and what you can improve on? Have you taken advantage of these fabulous [ACE Tools](#) to help you see what needs to be done to take your club to the next level?

If this seems daunting, you can reach out to your Lt. Governor to request a Club Coach, who is certified to help your club succeed. Email them today!

There are exciting programs coming our way, and I look forward to this journey with all of you as we **Mend Our World** so that we can **Create Brighter Futures**.

### District Opportunities for Next Year

#### District Convention and Midyear Planning

Do you enjoy planning events? Our Conventions and Conferences Committees are looking for help with planning our 2023 Midyear Conference in Arlington, VA and District Convention in Richmond, VA. Some of the committee roles include: Secretary, Budget, Decorations, Exhibitors, Family Engagement/Tours, Physical Arrangement, Entertainment, Public Relations, Registration, Service Project, Sponsorships/Ads, Speakers VIPs, and Workshops. You can sign up to help with a particular event, and check off the role you prefer [at this form here](#).

#### Lt. Governor-Elect Positions Available

We are working to fill the 2022-23 Leadership Team! We currently have a few Lt. Governor-Designate positions that are vacant. If you are a Past President from divisions 5, 6, 17, & 20, please consider this worthwhile position. You will join the rest of the team in Virginia Beach in May for our training conference.

To get started, you will need to complete the [District Pre-Election Pledge](#). If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

### Membership & Experience Survey

The Capital District continues to seek information from our members about their professional and educational backgrounds. [Please complete the brief survey here](#).



If you have any ideas or observations that you would like to bring to my attention, OR if you wish to serve on a District Committee next year, you can email me at [jen.woff@capitaldistrictkiwanis.org](mailto:jen.woff@capitaldistrictkiwanis.org)!



Jen with the newly elected SLP Governors - Izza Ahmad (Key Club) and Akilah Richards (CKI)



# Service Project Resources

BY DAVE ROTHBERG, SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

**Service is at the heart of every Kiwanis club, no matter where in the world it is located. Each year, Kiwanis members stage nearly 150,000 service projects, devote more than 18.5 million hours of service, and raise nearly US\$100 million for communities, families and projects.**

In this edition of The Capital Kiwanian, I want to highlight two (2) areas of service projects that your club might be able to take advantage of.

## I. "SERVICE IN A DIGITAL WORLD"

At our Capital District Midyear Conference in March, Michelle Yuth, Immediate Past President of the Next Generation EClub, and Katie Brownfiel, Immediate Past President of Capital Legacy EClub, presented a workshop on how we can perform service as we continue to navigate in a digital world. Even though a lot of Kiwanis Clubs are back meeting in person and doing in-person service projects, the concepts and ideas from this workshop can assist your club to find fresh projects that can be completed both virtually and in person.

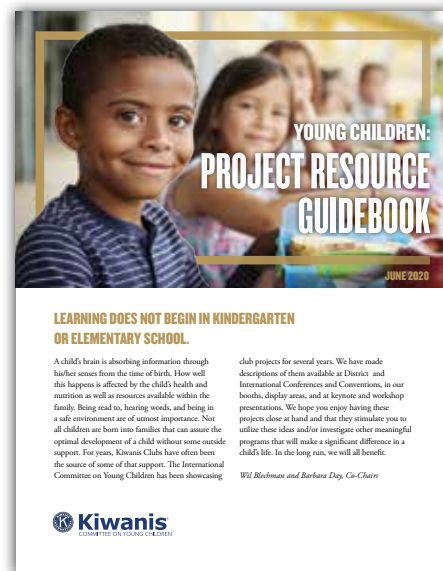
I encourage you to look at the PowerPoint presentation from this workshop. You'll find it on our Capital District website, or by following this link: [Service In A Digital World](#). A simple worksheet from the workshop can be found here: [Worksheet](#)



## 2. "YOUNG CHILDREN"

Kiwanis International has a resource that I would term a "hidden gem." Did you know there is a "Young Children: Project Resource Guide" on the KI website? If you look hard under "Member Resources," "Service Projects", "Resources", "Service Project Ideas", scroll down to the bottom of the page, and "Click Here", you will find suggestions from the International Committee on Young Children. Not an easy find, so just click here: [Young Children](#).

This Project Resource Guide has twenty (20) shared service project ideas from Kiwanis Districts. Projects about bike helmet safety, child safety seats, shoes for kids, backpack project, Head Start reading, diaper drive, veggie kits, even a Capital District project to benefit March of Dimes. The projects are about Safety, Help for Parents, Nutrition, Education, Literacy and Awareness. Take a look and see what your club might consider.



If you are unable to get your Service related questions answered, feel free to reach out to me at: [madventuresinc@yahoo.com](mailto:madventuresinc@yahoo.com).



# Notes from the Executive Director

BY PG JEFFREY WOLFF, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Spring has sprung and so has a return to in-person events. Last month, we had a very successful Midyear Conference with over 275 Kiwanians, Circle K members and guests in attendance. Our focus now turns to our first true in-person Kiwanis International Convention since the pandemic.**

From June 8-11, we will be in the home of Kiwanis International, Indianapolis, Indiana for an event you won't want to miss. Registration is open now through May 1st, so if you are thinking of attending, don't delay. .

This year's convention will focus more than ever before on educating members on how to be great leaders and improve a club's service to the community. Redesigned master classes will go deeper into leadership training and community service with subject-matter experts. These trained professionals will get you thinking and send you home with a to-do list designed to take your club to the next level.

Kiwanis is offering a variety of registration options (including a virtual option for \$49) and since a majority of the in-person event is labeled as an "Education and Leadership Conference" Clubs can pay all or a portion of each member's expenses for the Kiwanis Education and Leadership Conference — part of the Kiwanis International convention — from its service account. The increased educational tracks offered at the 2022 Kiwanis International Convention meet the requirements of educational expenses allowed to be deducted from a club's service account. Covered expenses can include: Registration fees up to US\$299, hotel, airfare or mileage, meals, per diem and other expenses as determined by the club.

The Capital District delegation will be staying at JW Marriott directly connected to the convention center. Rooms are available at a negotiated rate of \$189/night. We are also planning a Capital District dinner on Friday, June 10th and more details will be forthcoming.

Having not had a Business Session since 2019, there is a large number of amendments that will be brought up at the House of Delegates on Saturday, June 11th. Most notably, the Kiwanis International Board is officially proposing a remote voting option for clubs who can't attend future conventions in person. This is something that the Capital District has been advocating for since 2014.

## Here are the proposed amendments:

### **Proposed Amendment 1: Protection of Kiwanis Name and Marks**

Purpose: To provide stronger protection of the Kiwanis name and marks and therefore reduce liability risk exposure for Kiwanis International, clubs, and districts.  
[Read more.](#)

### **Proposed Amendment 2: Designation of Kiwanis International Officers**

Purpose: To significantly reduce liability for both the organization and members who hold key leadership positions by reducing the stated officers of the corporation to just president, president-elect, vice president, immediate past president, and executive director, and to give the board authority to designate other corporate officers as deemed necessary.  
[Read more.](#)

### **Proposed Amendment 3: New Member Add Fee**

Purpose: To relocate the provision regarding the existing new member add fee and clarify the text, with no change to the meaning or implementation.  
[Read more.](#)



#### **Proposed Amendment 4: Club Status to Propose Amendments and Resolutions**

Purpose: To clarify that clubs must be in good standing to propose bylaw amendments and resolutions to be considered by the Kiwanis International House of Delegates.

[Read more.](#)

#### **Proposed Amendment 5: Emergency Conditions Adjustments**

Purpose: To update and improve provisions regarding emergency conditions in light of lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Read more.](#)

#### **Proposed Amendment 6: Remote Voting for Kiwanis International Business**

Purpose: To provide for candidate nominations and initial review of proposed amendments and resolutions at the Kiwanis International convention, with final voting to take place via secure remote voting.

[Read more.](#)

#### **Proposed Amendment 7: Voting Process to Elect Kiwanis International Vice President**

Purpose: To revise the election process for Kiwanis International vice president to allow delegates more options if no candidate receives a majority vote on the first ballot.

[Read more.](#)

#### **Proposed Amendment 8: Basic Structure Governing Comprehensive Bylaws Revisions**

Purpose: To adopt a basic structure that will govern consideration of major bylaws revisions, whenever comprehensive amendments are deemed necessary or advisable.

[Read more.](#)

#### **Resolution: Kiwanis International Bylaws Modernization Revision**

Purpose: 1) To request the Kiwanis International Board to propose the pending Bylaws modernization revision; and 2) to adopt special rules that will govern consideration of the modernization revision at the 2023 Kiwanis International Convention.

[Read more.](#)

#### **Proposed Amendment 9: Lieutenant Governor Election Criteria**

Purpose: To allow a member from outside a division to serve as lieutenant governor if no one from within the division is will or able to serve.

[Read more.](#)

#### **Proposed Amendment 10: Prohibition on Purchase of Alcohol**

Purpose: To prohibit the use of any Kiwanis International revenue, including membership dues, fees, or non-dues revenue, to purchase alcohol for or by Kiwanis International Board members or staff or their spouses or companions.

[Read more.](#)

#### **Proposed Amendment 11: Prohibition of Purchase of Airfare**

Purpose: To prohibit the use of any Kiwanis International revenue, including membership dues, fees, or non-dues revenue, to purchase first-class or business-class air tickets for the Kiwanis International Board members or staff or their spouses or companions.

[Read more.](#)

#### **Proposed Amendment 12: Family Membership Status**

Purpose: To designate a new family membership status that provides a 50 percent discount on Kiwanis International dues and fees for qualifying members. Clubs may utilize this new status only if the club's district first adopts a family membership discount option also.

[Read more.](#)

Finally, a resolution to begin a bylaws modernization effort will be presented to the House of Delegates. The last comprehensive review of the Kiwanis International Bylaws was conducted in 1988 and 1989 – 30 years ago. A special Governance Committee composed of members from North America, Europe, and Asia-Pacific spent two years conducting a new comprehensive review of the Kiwanis International bylaws and recommended several changes which have been approved by the Kiwanis International Board. The revision will be introduced to clubs at the convention this year, but formal action will take place at the 2023 Kiwanis International Convention.

If you have any questions about the Kiwanis International Convention, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [jeffrey.wolff@capitalkiwanis.org](mailto:jeffrey.wolff@capitalkiwanis.org) for more information.



# IT TAKES A VILLAGE — OF VALUES — TO BE IN COMMUNITY!

BY PG REV. CAROLYN RICHAIR,  
HUMAN & SPIRITUAL VALUES CHAIRPERSON

**This year, Governor Elana has identified 12 human and spiritual values to help our clubs and our members join together. These values: Communion, Grace, Neighbor, Service, Fellowship, Joy, Friend, Family, Acceptance, Favor, Gentleness, and Peace are each a part of a monthly tool kit to give your club ideas!**

## The Monthly Tool Kit includes:

1. Club Icebreaker using Value of the Month
2. Choice of Quotes/Invocations to use during club events or in club media
3. Service Project Idea(s)
4. Club Speaker Ideas

I invite your club to – devote a part of each meeting or just one meeting — to the value of Fellowship, the sharing or exchanging among a company of equals or friends.

Use of the quotes/invocations to start your meeting, along with a club icebreaker to get to know your members better. If you are looking for a hands-on project, try one of the ideas. And if you need a club speaker, there are ideas for that also.

We hope your club will continue to use these resources with the value of Joy — a source or cause of delight for the work that you do as a club.

I would love to get any feedback you want to share how these ideas worked for your club. Please feel free to share feedback with me, offer suggestions or ask questions. Call me at 703-505-0265 or email carolynsrichar@hotmail.com.

## 2021-22 VALUE FOCUS

**Communion:** the sharing or exchanging of intimate thoughts and feelings, especially when the exchange is on a mental or spiritual level. *OCTOBER 2021*

**Grace:** courteous goodwill; and (verb) do honor or credit to (someone or something) by one’s presence. *NOVEMBER 2021*

**Neighbor:** Good neighbors are friendly. They introduce themselves, maintain relationships, and are approachable. They also enjoy being social in their community and encourage others to do so as well. *DECEMBER 2021*

**Service:** the action of helping or doing work for someone. *JANUARY 2022*

**Fellowship:** a company of equals or friends *FEBRUARY 2022*

**Joy:** a source or cause of delight *MARCH 2022*

**Friend:** one attached to another by affection or esteem *APRIL 2022*

**Family:** a group of people united by certain convictions or a common affiliation *MAY 2022*

**Acceptance:** the act of accepting something or someone: the fact of being accepted *JUNE 2022*

**Favor:** approving consideration or attention *JULY 2022*

**Gentleness:** the quality or state of being gentle especially : mildness of manners or disposition *AUGUST 22*

**Peace:** harmony in personal relations *SEPTEMBER 2022*



## FRIEND TOOL KIT – APRIL 2021

**Friend:** a person attached to another by feelings of affection or personal regard.

### Club Project ideas

1. Hold a toiletries (or other needed items) drive for local homeless shelter or VA hospital
2. Cook dinner or provide food for local Ronald McDonald Home near children's hospital.
3. Sponsor a talk at local Boys and Girls club on Friendship – with Kiwanis providing refreshments.

### Club Ice Breakers

1. What makes a good friendship?
2. What is something precious a friend did for you?
3. What famous person would you choose to be friends with and why?

### Quotes/Invocations/Prayers

- **Hindu Prayer:** "Lord, make me so pure and strong That all creatures may look upon me with friendship. And may I also look upon all creatures with friendship." – *Yajur Veda*
- "The antidote for fifty enemies is one friend." – *Aristotle*
- "Similarities create friendship, while differences hold them together."
- "Some people arrive and make such a beautiful impact on your life, you can barely remember what life was like without them." – *Anna Taylor*

### Speaker Ideas

- TED Talk: [I Have No Friends](#)
- TED Talk: [A middle school student talks about making friends.](#)
- Invite club members to give a 2-3 minute description of how a friendship changed their lives – have several club members share.

## JOY TOOL KIT - MAY 2022

**Joy:** the emotion of great delight or happiness caused by something exceptionally good or satisfying; keen pleasure; elation.

### Club Project ideas

1. Make a Wish program for children, wish fulfillment for nursing home resident or at facility serving those who are isolated/underserved.
2. Sponsor a picnic/fun fair at a local Title I elementary school or Boys and Girls Club – for a class or as large a group as your club can support
3. Sponsor a social at a local subsidized senior housing facility with music/food/games

### Club Ice Breakers

1. What birthday or holiday present do you remember loving most during your childhood?
2. What is a time/event in your life during which you remember feeling great joy?
3. What was an experience when you felt a great sense of joy within a group or community?

### Quotes/Invocations/Prayers

- "Sometimes your joy is the source of your smile, but sometimes your smile can be the source of your joy." – *Thich Nhat Hanh*
- "I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy." *Tagore*
- "The great secret of true success, of true happiness, is this: the man or woman who asks for no return, the perfectly unselfish person, is the most successful." *Swami Vivekananda*
- **God's Garden – Islamic tradition**  
"Lord, the air smells good today, straight from the mysteries within the garden of God. The trees in their prayer, the birds in praise, the first blue violets, kneeling." *Rumi*
- **Prayer from Jewish tradition**  
"Teach me always to believe in my power to return to life, to hope, and to You, God, no matter what pains I have endured, no matter how far I have strayed from You. Give me the strength to resurrect my weary spirit. Revive me, God, so I can embrace life once more in joy, in passion, in peace. Amen." *Rabbi Naomi Levy*

### Speaker Ideas

- Creating Joy for Children – Elementary School Guidance Counselor, Child Psychologist.
- ReKindling Joy as Adults – Adult Psychologist, Adult Clown Instructor,
- TED TALK Videos about Joy

# MEET THE CANDIDATES!

## 2022-2023 GOVERNOR-ELECT CANDIDATE PROFILES



### ERIC LAMB KIWANIS CLUB OF CHARLOTTESVILLE

#### Why did you decide to run for office?

Working in the District leadership circle for the last few years, it has been encouraging to see the positive direction that the Capital District is going. I want to continue forward growth in our work with Key Club, CKI and Aktion Club members, seeing them for who they are, listening to them and helping to empower them to shape Kiwanis into what they need it to be for their generation.

#### What qualifies you to become Governor of our District?

I have served on nonprofit boards and have been teaching leadership and strategy to boards for almost 30 years. In the Capital District, I have chaired the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee; am a Regional Membership Coordinator; was a Distinguished President; a Distinguished LTG twice; President of the LTG District Committee; confidante for two Governors; District Public Relations Chair; certified club coach; certified club opener; and certified Kiwanis Educator. My focus is always strategic thinking.

#### How will you leave your mark on Kiwanis?

My motto is "MAKING TOMORROW TODAY". We need to focus on ensuring we are doing all we can now to ensure the next generation of Kiwanians are strong. Through my community experience as a teacher, diversity leader and work with nonprofits, I want to help diversify our district in age, ethnicity, gender, ability challenges and thought process. Differences cause hard conversation and hard conversations lead to strong organizations. Let's work on "Making Tomorrow Today"

#### Biographic Summary

I was born and have lived my life in Charlottesville, Va. I have been a teacher, school administrator, business owner and am now the Executive Director of "Ben Hair Just Swim for Life Foundation". The work of my foundation focuses on teaching the lifesaving skill of swimming and drowning prevention education to underserved populations in the state of Virginia, in the past 10 years we have taught over 32,000 people to swim. ([www.bhjsl.org](http://www.bhjsl.org))



This little guy is not only an Afghani refugee, but also a survivor of open heart surgery. So good to see him flourishing in the water



Learn more about the candidates here: <https://k03.site.kiwanis.org/governor-elect-candidates/>

Club Delegates will vote for their candidate of choice at the 2022 District Convention in Baltimore, MD!



## **WILLIAM H. NATHAN JR. KIWANIS CLUB OF GREATER LANDOVER**

### **Biographic Summary**

William H. Nathan, Jr. a CKI Alumni, and current Kiwanis member in the Capital District for the last 12 years through his three main initiatives to Inspire, Connect, and Grow, has allowed him to bridge the gap between the Kiwanis family and the community to inspire members, family, and friends to grab the gauntlet and press forward to create a safe and prosperous future for our youth and service leadership programs we support.

### **Why did you decide to run for office?**

I believe the combination of my life's work with my passion of serving others through Kiwanis is a strong case for my qualification to lead the Capital District. With this in mind I would like to partner with district committees with a clear objective to provide support to our clubs from a local and regional level. This is essential to furthering the goals of the district around support for our SLPs, increased service, and fundraising.

### **What qualifies you to become Governor of our District?**

My education and business background in project management, business administration, human resources, and a creative business leader with years of expertise in retail and commercial banking, branch management, risk management, credit management and strategic planning provide a strong base of knowledge and practical experience that coincide with the duties of a Kiwanis International Capital District Officer.

### **How will you leave your mark on Kiwanis?**

I will leave my mark on Kiwanis by creating a frame of action working with the district officers, members, and community to ensure that the youth we support will be able to realize their potential to become active, engaged, and thriving members of the community, as a leader of the district, I will work with my team to help the youth nurture their social-emotional, cognitive, and physical development through holistic youth programming, support, and experience.



Will and his home club participated in a Food Drive for PGC Homeless Shelter. Councilman Martin Mitchell was in attendance.

# Membership Minute

BY PG JOHN MORRIS, CAPITAL DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

## New Ideas for Growing Your Clubs

For too long, many of our clubs' primary growth strategy has been to have their members ask their friends to join. We certainly want our friends to join, but that strategy severely restricts the scope of our potential prospects. Several new ideas and methods have emerged to help our clubs broaden their growth strategy.

Kiwanis International encourages multiple clubs to join together in membership drives, describing them as Boosts. Our Governor-Elect Jen Wolff participated in such a Boost in Indiana at her Governor-Elect training. President-Elect Burt West had his class of governor-elects go out with local Kiwanians to help increase the size of many Indianapolis area clubs. Jen wants to bring that concept and effort to the Capital District.

On May 13 and 14, Jen is organizing a Boost to grow several clubs in Division 14. As of this writing, nine clubs, four of which have 15 or fewer members, have agreed to be part of that Boost. They are not just willing to have other people help them grow. They have committed to being very involved in helping themselves. Each club has agreed to participate in the process, including committing to provide multiple members to be part of the recruiting event on both days. In other words, the clubs will be a significant player in their own club growing process.

We are delighted that the larger clubs in the Boost have agreed to provide extra members to help the smaller clubs grow. Since this event

is scheduled in conjunction with Jen's training of the incoming class of lieutenant governors, those new leaders and the new trustees will also be involved. We are recruiting other Kiwanians from outside Division 14 to help. Kiwanis International will be sending a club growth specialist to help with the appointments. We have applied to Kiwanis International for a grant to obtain financial support for this effort. Hopefully, the next newsletter will contain an article about how helpful the Boost was to many clubs in Division 14.

**“A Boost like the one being done in Division 14 can be done anywhere in the Capital District by any club. Your club can use the same process for yourself. However, partnering with another club expands the reach of each club.”**

A Boost like the one being done in Division 14 can be done anywhere in the Capital District by any club. Your club can use the same process for

yourself. However, partnering with another club expands the reach of each club. Having multiple clubs helps not only because of the extra energy but also because not all prospects will be compatible with your meeting time or location or some other factor. Having two or more options of types of clubs to join increases the chances that each prospect will end up in a Kiwanis club. Also, if two or more clubs participate, the Boost becomes eligible to apply for a grant to help cover expenses. The District also stands by to help. If you are interested in doing a Boost, either by yourself or with one or more other clubs, contact your lieutenant governor, divisional membership coordinator or regional membership coordinator.

Even if your club does not want to do a Boost, there is another new growth idea from Kiwanis International for individual clubs called [Two For Two](#). A club identifies two members to reach out to two prospects for each of the next several months. This way two people are responsible for recruiting for the short term. Members will work in pairs. Teams have been found to be more successful. They support each other and reach more people more





rapidly. You never know which member a prospective member will relate to better. It's a great way to work, from strategizing to honing how they explain the club, its impact on the community and the benefits of fellowship.

When members reach out to prospects, they should use a couple of simple steps. Connect by thanking the prospect for the impact the prospect has made, whether by service, donations or other activities. Then ask the prospect for a date and time to discuss the club and its service to the community as well as to explain the dues structure and to answer questions.

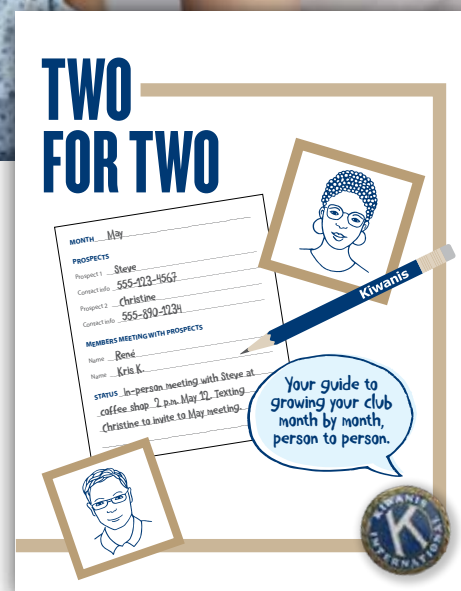
Your two members would then invite the prospects to a meeting or service project. After the invitation, the members should follow up with a reminder call before the meeting or event as well as sending a handwritten thank you, with details specific to the prospect. Any questions of the prospect that could not be answered during the face to face meeting should be promptly addressed in writing. The prospect should also be added to the club's newsletter distribution list.

When should this begin? Now would be a great time. There is no prescribed time for starting any project but now is always the right time to be recruiting new members.

**“Kiwanis International has a brochure for Two For Two, with helpful hints, worksheets and other ideas to make your drive successful.”**

This effort does not need to be done by just two members of your club. Depending on your size, it could be done by as many two person teams as you want. The key is to have members work together in pairs. They do not have to be close friends or be involved in the same projects or activities. However, it is important to make them accountable to focus on recruiting two prospects each month.

Kiwanis International has a brochure for [Two For Two](#), with helpful hints, worksheets and other ideas to make your drive successful. A copy of that brochure was sent to your club's secretary in March. If the secretary did not receive it or cannot find it or you



want more copies, ask your lieutenant governor, divisional membership coordinator or regional membership coordinator.

Be strategic in approaching membership. It will not happen by itself. Do not just ask your members to invite their friends. Consciously and deliberately determine what persons would be valuable to have added to your club and go out and invite them.

These are not the only strategies for increasing the membership of your club. However, if what you have been doing has not been growing your club adequately, give one or both a try. Membership is too important to leave to chance. Remember, more hands mean more service.

# Communicating in Shorter Messages

BY ERIC LAMB, DISTRICT PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRPERSON

It can be so easy to share exciting news, announcements, club issues in long emails that make sense to the sender but can be frustrating for the recipients. Kiwanis is an organization filled with many projects, many exciting things to report and project details that need sharing. It can be daunting to share these messages in short, to-the-point messages. In this article, we will explore how to make messaging shorter and have the same impact.

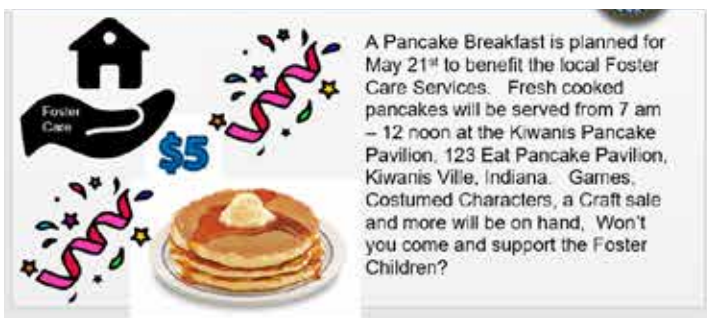
As a former educator, I was always taught that you have 5 seconds per year or age to communicate a message effectively to someone. I am  $49 \times 5 \text{ seconds} = 245 \text{ seconds} / 60 \text{ seconds} = 4.08 \text{ minutes}$ . As a person becomes more mature in age, the 5 seconds decreases to between 2-3 seconds per year of age. So, a good rule of thumb is to keep any messaging approximately 2.5 seconds per year of age. For example, if the average age of your club is 65,  $65 \times 2.5 = 162.50 / 60 = 2.7 \text{ minutes}$ . This is a good rule for written communication. So, when does the time start? From the second the message is opened to the time it is closed. Brief and effective communication is a necessary part of volunteer life.

As volunteers, we are easily overwhelmed with lots of messaging because we are impacting many organizations in our communities. Let's make our internal messaging exciting and to the point!

Let's begin with a "normal Kiwanis topic", The Kiwanis Club of Kiwanisville is going to have a pancake breakfast. Here is a sample communication that could be made:

*A Pancake Breakfast is planned for May 21st to benefit the local Foster Care Services. Fresh cooked pancakes will be served from 7 am – 12 noon at the Kiwanis Pancake Pavilion, 123 Eat Pancake Pavilion, Kiwanisville, Indiana. Games, Costumed Characters, a Craft sale and more will be on hand, Won't you come and support the Foster Children?*

This is a great message with good information. Could the same message be communicated in a more memorable way?



Adding pictures is always a good way to grab attention to your messaging. This new message is eye catching because of the pancake image, the fun energetic ribbons, the cost of \$5 is clear and the beneficiary is identified with their logo. This is definitely an upgrade on what we initially had. However, the question is still, is the wording too long? How can we further simplify the message to be even shorter and more effective?

What about this?



This image gives us many things. The place, time, cost, who it is benefitting and it is pretty clear that delicious pancakes are being served. The rainbow tells us that this is a happy celebration event. This image tells me that it is an event that I would like to attend and makes me want to support a worthwhile cause. All the same information is communicated from the original word-based post but now mainly in images.

In a world where our inboxes and our brains receive so much messaging, consider making your communications shorter more effective.

No matter how you communicate, do it. However, it is always a good idea to think and strategize your communication techniques.



# Did You Know?

BY JOSH HISCOCK, DISTRICT YOUTH PROTECTION MANAGER



**Did you know that Kiwanis clubs are required to educate their members on the Youth Protection Policies every year? Kiwanis clubs are encouraged to spend time at a meeting reviewing the current Kiwanis Youth Protection Policies document with members. It is a great idea for a virtual program that is both informative and important!**

Kiwanis International has deemed it an annual club requirement for all members to review these important guidelines that govern our organization's work with youth in the community. Club secretaries are reminded to visit Kiwanis Connect to report the completion of this task prior to September 30 for the 2021-2022 Kiwanis year.

This year, we have a goal of 100% club compliance with this annual education requirement prior to August 2022. As of March 2022, we are far from achieving this goal with only 22% of clubs (37 of 170 clubs) reporting the completion of this important task. Plan to cover the Youth Protection Policies at your next meeting. This will help us to easily meet our compliance goal for this Kiwanis year. Do not forget - this requirement applies to all Kiwanis clubs, even those that do not sponsor a service leadership program (SLP) club, such as K-Kids, Builder's Club, Key Club, CKI, or Aktion Club.

The Kiwanis Youth Protection Policies set clear expectations of Kiwanians while providing important best practices that all clubs should have in place regarding the transportation of youth, how members communicate with children in-person and via social media, and how members should conduct themselves at events where youth are present. The policies also provide clear instructions and expectations regarding

required biennial background checks for Kiwanians serving as Kiwanis Advisors to service leadership program clubs. Lastly, the guidelines outline the expectation that Kiwanians report misconduct or troubling behavior to keep the children we interact with safe.

For more information about the Kiwanis Youth Protection Policies, background checks for Kiwanis Advisors, the annual club education requirement, or to seek counsel regarding a potential youth protection compliance issue you are facing in your club, please contact Josh Hiscock, Capital District Youth Protection Manager, at [hiscockj@gmail.com](mailto:hiscockj@gmail.com).

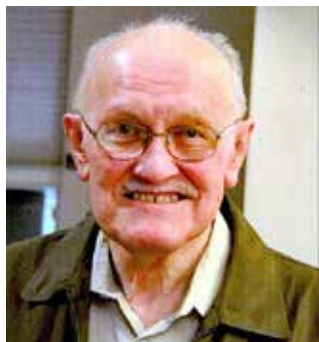
For more information on this topic, please visit: [www.kiwanis.org/youthprotection](http://www.kiwanis.org/youthprotection).





## Kiwanis Club Of Arlington Establishes Memorial Scholarship

A scholarship that will enable Arlington high school graduates to pursue higher education has been established by the Kiwanis Club of Arlington in memory of the Club's longtime secretary and Washington-Liberty High School Key Club sponsor, Richard L. "Dick" Barr. Kiwanis scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic achievement, honors and recognition, extra-curricular and community volunteer activities, including participation in a Key Club, and letters of recommendation. The Dick Barr Scholarship will be awarded annually with preference going to Key Club members from Washington-Liberty and other Arlington high schools.



Dick Barr died suddenly in September 2021. In addition to his work with Kiwanis and the Key Club, he was a devoted member of Clarendon United Methodist Church, where he served as head usher, played in the handbell choir and sang in the choir. He was born in Ohio in 1934 and came to Arlington in 1962 to work at the Bureau of Naval Personnel. He was a member of the Kiwanis Club for 27 years.

Donations to the Dick Barr Scholarship Fund may be made by check payable to the Kiwanis Foundation of Arlington and sent to the Foundation at P.O. Box 100131, Arlington, VA 22210. The Club hopes that many of Dick's friends will want to honor his memory by helping the youth of Arlington fulfill their dreams of higher education.

## In Memoriam

- Harry Kriemelmeyer, Waldorf
- Bruce Malkin, Mt. Vernon
- Robert Stanley "Bob" Skelly Jr., Williamsburg
- Gary Stickley, Keyser

## Welcome to Kiwanis

- Ann Christian, Williamsburg
- Joan Esworthy, Ocean Pines-Ocean City
- Jessica Plunkard, Canton-Fells Point

## Happy Anniversary

### February

- Wellsburg, WV ..... 1921
- Charlottesville, VA ..... 1922
- Logan, WV ..... 1924
- Elkton, MD ..... 1932
- Wythe County, VA ..... 1948
- Mount Airy, MD ..... 1949
- North Parkersburg, WV ..... 1954
- Williamsburg, VA ..... 1958
- Suncrest Area, Morgantown, WV ..... 1966
- Churchland, Portsmouth, VA ..... 1974
- Greater Landover, MD ..... 1979
- Montgomery Village, MD ..... 2003
- Strasburg, VA ..... 2010
- Forest, VA ..... 2018

### March

- Washington, DC ..... 1917
- Alexandria, VA ..... 1921
- Danville, VA ..... 1921
- Frederick, MD ..... 1922
- Harrisonburg, VA ..... 1922
- Seaford, DE ..... 1923
- Weirton, WV ..... 1928
- Suffolk, VA ..... 1947
- Christiansburg, VA ..... 1949
- Gilbert, WV ..... 1949
- Rockville, MD ..... 1950
- Crofton, MD ..... 1976
- Shenandoah Valley, Staunton, VA ..... 1981
- Old Point Comfort, Hampton, VA ..... 1981
- Bull Run-Manassas, VA ..... 1985
- Clinch River, Richlands, VA ..... 1988
- Mitchellville, MD ..... 1995
- Old Town, VA ..... 2006
- City Center Newport News, VA ..... 2009
- Canton-Fells Point, MD ..... 2019
- Greater Nitro Area, WV ..... 2019
- St. Albans, WV ..... 2019





Governor Elana Gardner recently attended the **Botetourt Kiwanis** Annual Winter Recognition Dinner on February 12, 2022. In addition to Governor Elana, Key Club Division 15 LTG Olivia Turner and local Key Club Presidents were in attendance. The evening began with piano music provided by Kiwanis Chaplain Father Rich Workowski. Father Workowski also led the group in singing "America The Beautiful." Two-time LTG and Capital District Foundation Vice President Hiawatha Nicely introduced Governor Elana who spoke about the Williamsburg Midyear Kiwanis Conference and presented Olivia Turner with her Key Club LTG pin. Olivia shared information about Division Key Club activities and introduced local Key Club Presidents Hayleigh Horan, James River High School, and Anida Sejtanic, Lord Botetourt High School. The Glebe Retirement Community staff provided an excellent buffet dinner. Following dessert, the club presented Governor Elana with a gift basket filled with local goods and enjoyed a group valentine gift exchange.



**International President Peter Mancuso and his wife Karen** were given a tour of the Kiwanis Kids idea Studio in Williamsburg, VA during their visit to the Capital District.



## Teenager of the Year Update

BY JUDY PANTELIDES, DISTRICT TEENAGER OF THE YEAR CHAIRPERSON

Thanks to all of our Capital District Kiwanis clubs who encouraged students to apply this year for the 2021-2022 Teenager of the Year Award. We are in the final stretch of the competition and the district committee will begin review of the eight division certified names who won at the club and division levels. We had a total of 29 applications submitted this year from 8 divisions. A big thanks to Divisions 2, 3, 4, 12, 13, 15, 17 and 20 for their

submissions. A special thanks to LG Krista Latchaw with Division 4 and especially Chesapeake Region Trustee Josh Hiscock with the Kiwanis Club of Ellicott City for 8 submissions and LG Matt Brent for the 13 applications submitted from Division 12. Both the Kiwanis Clubs of Northern Neck and Poquoson in Division 12 worked with 5 students each to complete applications this year! Please be sure to send letters to all students who submitted

applications thanking them for applying and for their service to the community. Also be sure to publicize the winners with your local news and social media outlets. The district committee will send the name of the district winner to Governor Elana by May 1st. Thanks again to all who helped to recognize the great work being done by the youth in all of our communities!

# A REVOLUTION IN SERVICE: WOMEN IN THE KIWANIS FAMILY

BY KATHERINE PAJEWSKI, CAPITAL NEXT GENERATION E-CLUB

To celebrate Women's History Month, the Next Generation Kiwanis e-Club held A Revolution in Service: Women in the Kiwanis Family with five powerhouse women from across the K Family. The panel included Kiwanis International Vice President Katrina Baranko, Capital District of Kiwanis Governor Elana Gardner, Capital District of Kiwanis Governor-Elect Jennifer Wolff, Circle K International Trustee Madeleine Eichhorn, and Capital District of Key Club Governor Macy Lindblom. Josh Hiscock led the conversation around each of their journeys in service leadership, the importance of diversity in the Kiwanis family, and the ways in which women have made an indelible mark on Kiwanis, CKI, and Key Club.

Though it took until July 7, 1987 for delegates at the 72nd annual international Kiwanis convention to vote to amend the constitution and bylaws to allow women into Kiwanis clubs, women have been making strides to make Kiwanis the organization it is today. The panelists reflected on how the first women to join Kiwanis clubs in the 1980s overcame great resistance to pave the way for substantial change and their own journeys joining the K Family.

Looking back to the early days of CKI and Key Club allowing women to join clubs, Macy expressed her appreciation for these first women who joined CKI and Key Club years before Kiwanis opened their organization by saying "Thank you so much for the fight you put up" and that "We are lucky enough to reap the benefits of all the tireless work that these original leaders put in." Madeleine shared her experience that she sees more women participate in CKI clubs and CKI leadership, and that the hard work of the original women has clearly paid off. Looking at the K Family now, Madeleine wanted to see how the organizations can continue to promote diversity and inclusion, beyond gender.

The panelists shared some of the personal obstacles they've faced related to their gender as a woman while being a part of the K Family and being leaders across the organizations, showing that there is still bias in the organizations we participate in and love.

Josh asked all the women leaders what their message to young leaders is as they begin their journey as a servant leader. Katrina encouraged these future leaders "to work hard, to build relationships, to understand your strengths, to seek advice from others, to set goals, to be self confident and motivated, but the most important thing would be to be yourself." Jennifer called for future servant leaders to

"do what makes you happy, that fills your cup, and seize every opportunity that comes your way that you are ready to reach for and don't apologize...unless you actually did something wrong because we women, apologize too much." Elana's advice to any future Kiwanis member is to value what you think of yourself and "your vision of yourself" over what others think of you

Macy called for future leaders to "embrace every aspect of the journey, take risks because it's your ideas that have to surface in order to change our organization and continue to innovate, as we move into the future."

Past KI President Jane Erickson concluded the night by sharing her experience as the only woman in her club when she joined Kiwanis. When she was questioned about being the first woman President of the club, one of the other members spoke up to support her and said that "it's the right leader at the right time for the right reason doing the right thing." Looking to the future, Kiwanis will continue to grow and become more inclusive.

If you would like to watch (or rewatch) the discussion, visit our Kiwanis website here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AAAdBwXa1QJunCobmqWkgkTthldZOzpOT/view?usp=drivesdk>

The poster features five circular headshots of the panelists. Katrina Baranko is on the top left, Elana Gardner in the top middle, and Jennifer Wolff on the top right. Madeleine Eichhorn is on the bottom left, and Macy Lindblom is on the bottom right. The event title is in a blue banner at the top. The date and time are in the center, and the Zoom link information is on the right. The Kiwanis logo is on the left.

**Katrina Baranko**  
Kiwanis International  
Vice President

**Elana Gardner**  
Capital District of Kiwanis  
Governor

**Jennifer Wolff**  
Capital District of Kiwanis  
Governor-Elect

**A REVOLUTION IN SERVICE:  
WOMEN IN THE KIWANIS FAMILY**

**Kiwanis**  
CAPITAL - NEXT  
GENERATION E-CLUB

**Mar 21**

**7PM EST**  
Panel discussion  
Virtual on Zoom (link in bio)

**Madeleine Eichhorn**  
Circle K International  
International Trustee

**Macy Lindblom**  
Capital District of Key Club  
Governor



# Service Showcase



## Division 5

On February 3, 2022, the new officers of the **Stephen Decatur Middle School Kiwanis Builders Club** were installed by sponsoring club **Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines-Ocean City** President Tim Lund and Kiwanis advisor Sarah Walker. Also, the sponsoring club presented a \$500 check to the Builders Club for their use in doing their service projects this school year. Members immediately began working on projects after the installation and check presentation. They're making Valentines cards for veterans and the nursing home. They are also making a quilt for Showell Elementary student, Lakelyn, who is courageously battling cancer. Her father is a teacher at Stephen Decatur High School. The Builders Club is also making a "Movie Night" basket to be auctioned off at a fundraiser to benefit Lakelyn.



## Division 9

On February 22, 2022 at (approximately) 2:22 p.m. ten members of the **Kiwanis Aktion Club at Innisfree Village** prepared and packed up a marvelous home-cooked dinner for the people staying at the Ronald McDonald House in Charlottesville. This effort was coordinated and led by Innisfree's amazing activities counselor, Carol Evans. Fifteen individually packed trays of meatloaf, gravy, broccoli, mashed potatoes, and rolls; along with three dozen eggs sourced from their farm, a hundred fresh-baked chocolate chip and blueberry nut cookies; and two bags of apples and oranges were delivered to RMH-Cville by **Kiwanis Club of Charlottesville** members Jim Hart and Dana Douglas. As you know, families are able to stay at the facility for free while their children are being treated at the University of Virginia Children's Hospital, one of the nine trauma hospitals supported every year by the Capital District Foundation through the proceeds of Ducky Derby.

Thank You! 



# Family Ties

## Key Club IZZA AHMAD, GOVERNOR

Hey Kiwanis!

My name is Izza Ahmad and I am the newly elected Capital District Governor for the 2022-2023 Key Club service year. I wanted to take some time to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the Capital District and trust me to take over the role of Governor.



We recently had our District Convention, in Arlington Virginia. We were fortunate enough to have West Virginia Key Clubbers join us as we now officially merged into one Capital District Key Club. We had a blast at the dance party and costume night with all the workshops and awards that were spread through the convention. During caucusing, all the candidates rotated between five rooms to introduce themselves and give their speeches on why they should be elected as a Capital Key Club Executive. The Key Clubbers had great questions for all the candidates which gave them a better viewpoint of who to vote for.

As the convention came to its near end, we had to say goodbye to Mr. Joe Stankus. He served on the Capital District Key Club Adult Committee since 2004, and this year was his very last year as District Administrator. Even though we had to say goodbye to the man who had a huge impact on the Capital District, we are able to officially have Ms. Kristina Dlugozima begin her term as District Administrator. Installing the new board and saying goodbye to the last was both exciting but emotional as everyone had teary eyes and hugs were going all around.

This year, Board Training will be held in a unique way. We will be having two online sessions in April and an in-person, overnight board training in late May. Each Lieutenant Governor will be trained on how to accomplish their roles and how to have a successful jump-start of their terms. I have begun talking to other newly elected governors through social media and can't wait to start this journey on a new Key Club term stronger than ever before, as Key Clubbers, as servant leaders, as a family.

Yours in Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Izza Ahmad".

## CKI AKILAH RICHARDS, GOVERNOR

Hi K-Family!

My name is Akilah Richards and I am the new 2022-2023 Capital District Governor for Circle K International! I am eager for this service year and am so grateful for this opportunity. I am a rising Senior at Bowie State University in Bowie, Maryland where I am studying Child and Adolescent Studies.



As my favorite thing about CKI is the impact our service can have on our communities, I can't wait to assist clubs in collaborating on service projects so that we can have an even larger effect.

Recently, our District Convention was held in conjunction with Kiwanis Midyear Conference in Williamsburg, VA. As this was our first in-person event in two years, it was a new experience for our attendees. Overall, we regrouped and established some goals for the district for the coming service year. All of our attendees assisted with the Generosity Feeds service project, where over 3,000 meals were packed thanks to amazing teamwork. Myself, Gina Alfred, our IP Secretary-Treasurer and Brittany Gates, Secretary-Treasurer-Elect attended the Key Club District Convention to connect with Key Club seniors and encourage them to join CKI. We had the opportunity to meet some of their newly elected officers and look forward to creating a better bond between the Kiwanis family.

My main goals for the year includes improving District-Club communication, continuing to grow membership, and enhancing district participation in international service initiatives such as Active Minds. I anticipate learning how best to serve as Governor at GATC in Indianapolis. Also, to end on a spectacular note Circle K International has been officially chartered at Howard University on March 29, 2022! Many congratulations to them!

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Akilah Richards".





## K-Kids CLAUDIA ANDERSON, ADMINISTRATOR

Hello K-Kids family, it is beautiful to speak with you again. I want first to address the results from my last update. I have not received any information or pictures from K-Kids Week to award the promised prizes. I know many clubs are making a significant impact in the Capital District, and I want to acknowledge and encourage them.

Something I would like to discuss this time around is "Springing into Action" this season. Now that we have officially made it to Spring, the days are getting longer, the temperatures are getting warmer, and there is more opportunity to get outside and do service projects. Many of our K-Kids have not been able to attend school formally for an extended time and have finally gained back some form of normalcy. Springing into action can get them back into service projects that take advantage of the outdoor settings. Removing trash from school grounds or cleaning up your nearest beach or waterway can be educational, refreshing, and fulfilling. I empower us all to disconnect and Spring into Action this season.

Recently I have been doing much research on advocacy for a project I am doing in my master's program; it made me think of all the impactful work that the Kiwanis family does.

We are here to help kids worldwide and assist in turning them into the leaders of the future. One way is by advocating for a common idea identified as a need by the kids for the community. Advocacy brings awareness to the community and even to the local and state government if the idea has enough support and the correct guidance. Did you know that K-Kids can advocate using the I.D.E.A. toolkit in their community? I stands for identifying a need, D stands for developing passion, E

stands for executing the project, and A stands for advancing the impact. My current project is on hunger and food insecurity in my county. I picked this project by looking at a community needs assessment, and our K-Kids can do this. Using the idea toolkit gives them the ability to discuss and find out what means the most to them, draw up a group of ideas for high-impact service projects, and then vote on the one the K-Kids have the most passion for. Having the Kiwanis family assist the k-kids in advancing the impact will show them some supporters believe in their high-impact service project and family to assist in moving it forward. So ask yourselves, do you have an I.D.E.A. that you want to "Spring into Action"?



## Aktion Club JENN HISCOCK, ADMINISTRATOR

Wow! We had an AMAZING Aktion Club Week in the Capital District! Thank you to our members, advisors, and supporters for helping to share that “development has no disability” during our celebratory week.



Our celebrations for Aktion Club Week kicked off on Sunday, March 6th during the breakfast session of the Capital District Kiwanis Midyear Conference. Aktion Club member Juan Serrano from the Williamsburg Aktion Club addressed the crowd with a poem he wrote and shared what being an Aktion Club member meant to him! In addition, Williamsburg Aktion Club Kiwanis Advisor, Ms. Suzanne Holliday, also addressed the crowd. It was a terrific way to spread the message of Aktion Club and share how special this Kiwanis family branch is to many of us.



In addition to having Aktion Club represented at the breakfast, six Williamsburg Aktion Club members (Juan, Matt, Erica, Mandy, Katie, and Erica) and two advisors (Suzanne and Carrie) stayed to help with the Midyear Conference service project. Alongside Kiwanis members and guests, they assisted in packing 3,000 meals through the Generosity Feeds initiative coordinated by The Replenish Foundation. All 3,000 meals stayed in the Williamsburg community to feed children experiencing food insecurity. We certainly connected the K's to complete service hand-in-hand. Hopefully, we can always kick off Aktion Club Week with such a great Kiwanis family celebration and opportunity for collaboration.

**Our Aktion Clubs within the Capital District serve all year long, not just during Aktion Club Week!** This is important to maintaining connections in the community, retaining current members to keep them engaged, and recruiting new members to join our Aktion Club family. Check out a few clubs that were “Caught in Aktion” lately making a positive difference:

### Spring Dell Center Aktion Club:

Aktion Club members partnered with the Kiwanis Club of Waldorf to sell shamrock sponsorships for the Spring Dell Center’s Easter basket project. The shamrocks pictured represent an amazing effort put forth and will join 138 other shamrocks that were sold by other members of the Spring Dell Center community. The Waldorf community sure is lucky to have so many wonderful leprechauns who also happen to be our Aktion Club members!



### Westminster Aktion Club:

Members assembled Blessing Bags for individuals who are displaced. These bags include a variety of travel-sized toiletries. Afterwards, club members gathered at IHOP to enjoy a great meal and fellowship as part of their club’s Aktion Club Week fundraiser. All patrons who showed their flier were able to donate 20% of their bill back to the Aktion Club!





# DIVERSITY AND LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES AT RICHMOND KIWANIS

Despite the constraints of the pandemic, the Kiwanis Club of Richmond has continued to support the community, help the children of Richmond, and expand our understanding of the people with whom we work. Two programs in particular have really grown this past year.

Our newly formed Diversity Committee has organized field trips and other events which have provided fun, fellowship, and education for club members. These activities include:

- Richmond Slave Trail – a walking tour of the trail walked by enslaved Africans arriving in the new world;
- R. R. Moton Museum in Farmville – a tour of the segregated school building involved in the early desegregation movement;
- Richmond Triangle Players – a holiday play about Christmas and Hanukkah produced by an LGBTQ theater group;
- Black History Museum/Ebenezer Baptist Church – a walk through African-American history in Virginia and beyond plus lunch at the historic and early African-American church during Black History Month ;
- Dinner with Kiwanis friends at Southern, Afghan, and Lebanese restaurants;
- Upcoming trips – a walking tour of Jackson Ward in Richmond, known as “the Harlem of the South,” and a tour of the Virginia Holocaust Museum located in Richmond; and
- Study Group – Kiwanians read books and articles and discuss



racism, antisemitism, poverty, sexism, and other topics to broaden our understanding of diversity and inclusion, and have made these resources available to members on our Club website.

In 2021, our Wine Down Wednesday Club Satellite initiated a project that is putting Little Free Libraries in one of Richmond’s more disadvantaged areas, near schools that the club supports. Along with purchasing and installing the little libraries, we maintain and stock books for children, including books written by local authors and even one of our own members!

When books for older readers began to appear in our library for children, the club responded by purchasing and installing two little libraries for adult readers, which are stocked by people in the neighborhood. After less than a year, we now have two libraries for children and two for adults installed at George W. Carver Elementary School and the Richmond Alternative School, both underserved areas of Richmond. And we have plans for others in the future.

In August 2021, the club conducted what was intended to be a “modest” fundraiser to fund this project, and we were delighted to raise more than \$5,000 in just one month!

Earlier last year, one of our long-standing members, Jay Fox, passed away, and donations made to our Club Foundation in his honor were earmarked to support our Little Free Libraries as a lasting legacy in Jay’s memory. As we make plans to expand and sustain this new signature project, we are in the midst of a \$10,000 fundraiser, and we anticipate exceeding our goal.

Members created a video that describes our Little Free Library project and illustrates the fellowship, wide-spread support and partnerships with authors, patrons, and donors. For more information visit [our Facebook page](#).

# Eye on KI

News from Kiwanis International

## A VISION MAKES DATA MAKE SENSE

BY STAN SODERSTROM

Leaders are essentially judged by one question: Are things improving? Whether it's an organization, a company or a local club, the verdict on a group's leadership will ultimately be based on a sense of its overall direction.

But how precise is that "sense"? The answer to that question can often tell you whether a group is being guided by a general vision or bounced around by a chain-link of reactions.

Of course, it's easy to get wrapped up in the issue — or crisis — of the moment. That's only natural, and it's not necessarily wrong. Immediate situations do need to be addressed. But the circumstance of the moment can also be misleading if it's the only measure of how things are going. Whether you're having a good or bad day, week or month, current conditions can obscure the big picture.

For a leader, the key is to stop and assess. How often do you pause for a moment to see where you are, compared to where you want to be? And is your assessment like stopping to put a finger to the wind — or a specific measurement of relevant factors?

In other words: How often do you stop to look at data?

Data. I understand if the word makes you wince. So many things can be measured these days that it's easy to be skeptical of numbers. As a sports



fan, I often find myself looking at statistics during a game on television and wondering how many of them can help me understand what I'm watching — and how many are calculated simply because they can be.

But I do believe in data. The trick is to know what you're measuring it against.

More than 25 years ago, Stephen R. Covey published "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People." The second habit, he wrote, was to "begin with the end in mind." All these years later, I still find that a valuable habit to have.

If you've started down a road knowing where you want to arrive, you'll have a better idea of how well you're progressing along the way. That's especially true if you have a legitimately measurable goal. And the best way to measure that progress — and to communicate the state of

things both to fellow leaders and to those you're leading — is to stop and assess.

At Kiwanis International, our Achieving Club Excellence (ACE) program gives resources to local Kiwanis clubs for measuring key criteria. For example, there's a club scorecard, as well as an "Analyzing your impact" tool — among several others.

It's a way of making assessment part of the organization's culture. We want our club leaders to ask important questions: Are you accomplishing your goals? Should you continue toward them, or stop and establish new ones?

Good leaders welcome the answers, regardless of whether they're happy to hear them. But the best leaders have a vision to begin with — and goals that help them interpret those answers in ways that guide their subsequent steps.



## LEGACY OF PLAY H2O CONTEST WINNER

Congratulations to the Kiwanis Club of Chisholm! The Minnesota club is the winner of the [Legacy of Play H2O Contest](#) with Landscape Structures and will be awarded an Aquatix splash pad package, valued at up to US\$50,000, for their community.



## KIWANIS MAGAZINE CAN HELP YOU GET MEMBERS

The April/May 2022 issue of Kiwanis magazine just might be your club's greatest recruitment tool. Filled with success stories and examples of great projects, this issue is meant to be shared. Tear off the cover and pass it on!

## REGISTER NOW FOR INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

From ideas for service to innovations in fundraising, you'll find it all at the 2022 Kiwanis International Convention. The best leaders are learners. Attend in person or virtually from anywhere in the world. Increase your club's impact in the community. Attend the 2022 Kiwanis International Convention June 8-11. [Register today.](#)

## KEEP CLUB MEMBERS ENGAGED

Strong, healthy clubs have members who are engaged, excited and happy to share their experience with others. Help your fellow club members be those kinds of Kiwanians, whether they're new to Kiwanis or longstanding members.

Kiwanis clubs often lose members who don't feel engaged in club activities and just drift away. Is this happening in your club? Make an effort to find out why and to re-engage them.

- Review the club roster to identify members who have become inactive.
- Assign club members to contact "missing" members.
- Contact members by phone or with a personal visit to tell them what's happening and invite them to the next event.
- Conduct a fun meeting to celebrate the club's members and accomplishments.



## KIWANIS, LITTLE FREE LIBRARY PARTNER TO INCREASE BOOK ACCESS

Everyone has the right to read. That's why Kiwanis International and the [Little Free Library®](#) (LFL) nonprofit organization are teaming up to expand book access in communities around the world.

The partnership provides another path for Kiwanis family clubs to offer reading materials to children, giving young readers an easy way to select a book and begin reading. Access partnership activities and discounts [here](#).

"Kiwanis clubs support children. We say kids need Kiwanis to help them thrive, prosper and grow," said Pam Norman, chief philanthropy officer for Kiwanis International. "The partnership with Little Free Library supports our education and literacy cause and helps get a book to every child, because reading opens a world of imagination and opportunity for them."



## GLOBAL LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE PROGRAM AVAILABLE FOR KEY CLUB, CKI MEMBERS

Key Club and Circle K International members have an exciting opportunity to grow as leaders and prepare themselves for college or careers. The [Global Leadership Certificate](#) program includes 39 online courses that will give members the skills they need now and in the future. Encourage clubs that sponsor Key Club and CKI clubs to take advantage of this important program.

## CANDIDATES FOR KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL BOARD ELECTION UPDATED

A revised [list](#) of announced candidates for election to the Kiwanis International Board at the 2022 Kiwanis convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, is now available. This list is based upon information received from the candidates and their districts. Please inform [Denise Parker](#) immediately if your district has a candidate not yet included on this listing. If candidates declare (or remove) themselves, a new listing will be issued.

[Click here](#) to review the list and learn who the candidates are and why they're running for office.

## BUILD BUZZ FOR YOUR KIWANIS CLUB WITH MEDIA RELATIONS

To spread the word about Kiwanis and to build buzz in your community, consider sharing your club's news with the local media outlets. Traditional media such as television, radio and newspapers are still powerful ways to communicate. But you need to know where to begin — and with whom. The best way to start is by building a media list. [Follow these tips](#) to get your story in print or on the air.

## ONLINE TOOLKIT HELPS CLUBS TAP INTO THE POWER OF SPONSORSHIP

Fundraising events help support everything from Kiwanis community activities to scholarship programs and participation in global campaigns. But have you also considered sponsorships? A sponsorship can increase club resources, raise your community profile and create access to a pool of potential members all at the same time.

A well-run sponsorship program is a classic win/win. Your club gets more funds, and your sponsors enjoy the benefits of associating with a local organization respected for its impact in the community. [This online toolkit](#) will help all Kiwanis family clubs tap into the power of sponsorship.

## KIWANIS BROCHURES AVAILABLE TO ORDER OR PRINT WITH TEMPLATE

Looking to create a buzz about your Kiwanis club? Use brochures to share information about Kiwanis, invite potential members and build relationships with community supporters. [Learn more.](#)

## KIDSGARDENING

Youth gardens give young people a way to improve their communities and feel more connected to the world around them. For Kiwanis International, a partnership with KidsGardening helps provide access to those benefits — while supporting the Kiwanis cause of health and nutrition.

Research shows that young people who engage with garden programs increase their skills across a diverse range of critical growth areas, including personal well-being, environmental stewardship, and nutritional awareness and attitudes. Youth gardens also excite kids about eating fresh local produce. They're a perfect way to deepen the connection to local food systems — and help youth grow, thrive and prosper through interaction with nature.

Thanks to Kiwanis International's partnership with KidsGardening, Kiwanis family clubs have access to 40 years' worth of rich educational content, along with a tailored toolkit for supporting new and existing youth garden programs. [Learn more.](#)



# Beyond the Call

BERTRAM DONALD AARON, KIWANIS CLUB OF WILLIAMSBURG

BY GREGORY DAVY, KIWANIS CLUB OF WILLIAMSBURG



## The Daily Press's editorial board had just decided to name Bert' Aaron its 2018 Citizen of the Year.

The award is given each year to a Peninsula resident who makes the Peninsula a better place to live. A Daily Press representative called Bert' up to tell him the news. "Why me?" was Bert's first question.

Thus, in two words, Bertram Donald Aaron encapsulated a life of selfless service. "Bert' is so unassuming," then-president Missy Zimmerman told the Daily Press. "He's this great guy, the salt of the earth, but he's just not impressed with himself."

Bert' passed away the morning of New Year's Eve, just a few days shy of hitting the century mark, one he had hoped to achieve.

Bert' was born Jan. 10, 1922, in Newport News. He earned a degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Tech in 1943. Soon thereafter he joined the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics as an aeronautical research scientist at Langley Air Force Base, where he worked until 1950. In 1948, he formed Aaron Investors Inc., which he headed for 50 years until 1998. At age 15 he became an amateur radio operator, which would turn out to be a lifelong interest.

Bert' joined Williamsburg Kiwanis in 1994 and spent 27 years as a faithful member. But we were just one of many organizations he passionately contributed to over the years. To list just a few: he was director of development for the Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation in 1993; he was organizer and chairman of the Primary Care Perspectives Symposium in 1995; and perhaps most notably, he was founder and chairman of the Williamsburg Virginia Symphony Society from 1998-2003, and served on its board of directors since 1998.

For our club, he was the key organizer of the Williamsburg Colonial Polo Cup fundraiser. "In its brief history, the Polo Cup showed our community what a great service club can accomplish," says Gary Ripple. "Thousands of people were drawn to a polo match at a plantation 30 miles away that generated several thousand fundraising dollars."

"He was equally passionate about the Virginia Symphony Orchestra and worked hard to raise financial support for it," says longtime friend Bob Petterson. "He encouraged the Symphony to play in Williamsburg more often."

"It is his passion for music and for sharing that music with others that is the foundation for this award," the Daily Press editorial board wrote. "He has worked tirelessly to make certain the Virginia Symphony can share its beauty with audiences of all backgrounds and ages. At a time when the world could use a little less noise and a little more music, it seemed fitting to thank Bert' for reminding us that there is beauty in the world, if we just take a moment to listen." Jo Ann Falletta, the Virginia Symphony's music director from 1991 to 2020, understood Bert's influence from the beginning, telling the Daily Press, "By any measure, [Bert' is] the hero of the Virginia Symphony."

"We have lost a man who inspired every one he met with a spirit of caring and courage," Ripple says.

"His brilliant mind was always working in overdrive and he was never satisfied with the status quo. He was recognized by the Daily Press for his community work, but he also excelled in ways that would never make the papers. Many of us were the beneficiaries of his wisdom and patient counseling as we worked to emulate this giant of philanthropy and true love for humanity."

Ripple invites all to join in adding to Bert's legacy with a gift to our Foundation in his honor. He was a special man to the children whose lives will be enriched because Bert' Aaron shared his considerable talents with everyone.



Bert and his wife Gladys celebrated his 90th birthday in 2012 at a gathering of family and friends at Kingsmill.

# READY TO LEARN. READY TO LEAD.

JUNE 8-11  
2022

**Kiwanis**<sup>®</sup>  
CONVENTION 2022  
INDIANAPOLIS

REGISTER MARCH 15-MAY 1  
at [kiwanis.org/convention](https://kiwanis.org/convention)