



MICHIGAN *Builder*

Serving the children of the world | Michigan District | **OCT/NOV 2022**

DESIGN THINKING WORKSHOP

**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 22, 2022
8 AM-2 PM**

EAST LANSING HANNAH COMMUNITY CENTER

SCHEDULE

**8-8:45 AM REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
9 AM-2 PM WORKSHOP INCLUDING LUNCH**

\$30 PER PERSON

>>CLICK TO REGISTER<<



Kiwanis
MICHIGAN DISTRICT

Design thinking is human-centered. Collaborative. Optimistic. Experimental. It is learning by doing. Design thinking is for anyone willing to change their mindset - not only about challenges and problem solving but also about creating something new. If we want to innovate, we must change. If we want lasting change, we must consistently reassess the effects change has on our culture, what we value and how change ahead will be sustainable.



**STOP BY
THE KIWANIS
STORE TO
REFRESH
YOUR
KIWANIS
SWAG!**





Michigan Builder

Michigan District of Kiwanis International
(USPS344-660)

Vol. LXXXVI

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Builder Publication Schedule

Issue	Deadline	Issue	Deadline
Feb/Mar	Jan. 5	Aug/Sept.	July 5
Apr/May	Mar. 5	Oct/Nov.	Sept.5
June/July	May 5	Dec/Jan	Nov. 5

Attention: Club Presidents, Secretaries & Bulletin Editors;
Lt. Governors and District Chairpersons. Submit all articles, photos and
video to districtoffice@mikiwanis.org. All photo and artwork must be sent
as either jpg or bmp files. Video must be sent as mpeg files.



October

- 10 Member Deletes due for 2022-23 billing
- 10-14 Youth Protection Week
- 15-16 Circle K Fall Rally - Mason
- 15 Kiwanis MI Foundation Board Meeting - Saginaw
- 19-23 Governor Elect Training Conference - Indianapolis
- 22 Design Thinking - East Lansing
- 22 Kiwanis One Day

November

- 5-9 District Secretaries Conference- Minneapolis
- 12 Key Club Fall Rally - St. Joseph
- 14-17 Club Opening - Romulus
- 23-26 Charity Poker - Roseville
- 24-25 THANKSGIVING- District Office Closed
- 30 Prior Year's monthly and annual reports due on dashboard



Vicki Okuniewski
2022-23 Governor
Michigan District
Governor@mikiwanis.org

Greetings Michigan Kiwanis Members!

I am honored and grateful to be your District Governor and to serve this next Kiwanis year! I was humbled to even be considered to run for Governor-elect last year. I am here to lead, but more importantly, to be your guide for this next year! I am so excited to have such talented Lt. Governors and Committee Chairs and SLP Leaders on our TEAM!

Do not hesitate to ask for help for your clubs or for your membership levels. We are here for you and we want you to succeed in every way in your club and Division and community!

Our Past Lt Governors and Past Governors are also available for assistance and questions. We will all be working together to make our Michigan District stronger, smarter and more communicative!

Four strategic areas that we will be focusing on this next year will be: District wide communication and engagement, membership expansion, Kiwanis education and community service!

We plan to build stronger communication and engagement among our District clubs and members. We will be encouraging clubs to use social media, news outlets, newsletters and emails to promote your club and its achievements and events. And you will hear from me often!

We will be encouraging you to share your projects and fundraisers with other clubs and invite them to visit or join in! Bring you clubs together with your SLP's to help them lead a service project!

I am looking for clubs to become more engaged with their members. Better participation in our quarterly Division meetings, Spring Divisionals, Fall Leadership Conferences and the District Convention is the key to sharing ideas and growing our clubs!

We have a large task to expand our Kiwanis family and grow each club's strength. We have been asked by International to open eight new clubs this 2022-2023 year. We are also going to open five new K-Kids Clubs as President Bert West has requested. We need members to become familiar with the Two for Two Membership program, and to use it in our clubs!

We will continue to educate our members and develop a pipeline for future leaders. We plan to keep the level of education that Sue Petrisin and KI has developed this year for club leadership and Lt. Governors. We will continue to mentor of our District leaders.

Reassess your community involvement and your club health by using the Achieving Club Excellence Tools. We can develop new partnerships within our communities so that we can start new service projects that serve our children. Be a Kiwanis face in your community by holding a service project each month!

You can also make a difference in children's lives by increasing your gifts to the Children's Fund of Kiwanis International and our own Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation. We have videos and programs so that you can see how your gifts will benefit all of the children.

Your past experience and expertise are so important to our Michigan District to build Kiwanis for the next 100 years! I am looking for members to step up in any way they can.

I am asking for your time and your experience during this next year to expand and share Kiwanis with our communities to make Kiwanis the best that it can be. We can all work together, and together we can make this a very successful year!

Yours in Kiwanis Service,

Vicki Okuniewski

2022-23 Governor of the Michigan District of Kiwanis



Renea Callery

2022-23 Governor-Elect
Michigan District

Governor-Elect@mikiwanis.org

Be A Successful Leader

Thank You everyone for your vote of confidence in me, to represent you as Governor Elect for 2022-2023. I promise to work hard in representing what Kiwanis is all about.

As I begin this new journey, I reached into my file of leadership examples that helped me through the 30+ years I have been in leadership through another non-profit organization, called Executive Women International.

I want to share what I "borrowed" from the "Winning Edge" and have tried to follow in all my leadership opportunities.

**LEADERSHIP IS THE
ABILITY TO MOTIVATE
OTHER PEOPLE IN
COMPLETING A JOB
OR A PROJECT.**

Tips for Success

Always remember that your behavior as a leader influences how others will accept you. You will not succeed as a leader if you act like a know-it-all or get on an ego trip. For example, saying "I really need your help," wins more support than "Do this."

- **Find a role model.** Choose someone you believe has good leadership skills, whether from inside or outside the club. If you are in an officer position, or Lt. Governor opportunity, there are many significant role models to reach out to.
- **Volunteer for projects.** Working as a team member will help you observe how others lead. Consider how you like to be treated as a team member and remember that when you oversee a project or committee. Kiwanis has lots of opportunities for you to volunteer.
- **Be humble.** Just because you are the leader, does not mean you know all the answers. Reach out to past members of your club to help you.
- **Demonstrate Loyalty.** Do not try to outshine anyone. Avoid backstabbing and gossip. Your purpose as a leader is to ensure a smooth operation – not to make a name for yourself.
- **Be professional.** Follow proper guidelines in your dress, speech, and conduct. Remember first impressions cannot be taken back.
- **Think of every project as a learning opportunity.** When you assume a leadership role, go into it expecting to be successful. Our Kiwanians will help you be successful.
- **Be flexible.** Realize that situations may occur that you were not prepared for, but that you, as a leader, will have to manage. Flexibility will help you better manage unforeseen problems.
- **Listen.** Seek input from team members, and really listen to their suggestions and feedback. This encourages everyone to stay involved.
- **Delegate.** Leaders have the responsibility of dividing work into tasks that can be assigned to team members. Learn from your team what their strengths are and utilize them. Yes, sometimes it is easier to do it yourself... but we need to get others involved.
- **Read and observe.** The more in tune you are with what is happening in Kiwanis, the better prepared you are to lead people, and the more likely you will be chosen as a leader. Learn about what is going on at International also.
- **Show appreciation.** Thank your team members for work well done. Create certificates, send complimentary cards, or send them a Thank you via email.

Remember, leadership is not an invitation to put on a one-person show. Successful leaders have mastered the art of diplomacy. I look forward to working with ALL of you, as you are Volunteer Leaders, who know how to Lead.

Thank you!
Renea Callery

Governor Elect 2022-2023



Greg Smith

Executive Director
Michigan District

executivedirector@mikiwanis.org

New, Knew and Gnu

Ah, October 1. A touch of fall is in the air, the kids are back in school, the leaves are starting to turn colors and it's the start of a new Kiwanis year.

For many clubs it's new leadership, new budgets and some new members. It's also time to consider what is really new about your club.

- Are there new members?
- Are there new voices being heard about what your club can do?
- Are there new service projects or fundraisers being considered?
- Are new partnerships with other organizations or businesses being explored?
- Are new ways of marketing your club and creating awareness of it in your community being tested?
- Is there a new focus or re-focus for your club so everyone in your community knows what you are about?

Pursuing some, all of these or other areas can help your club have an outstanding and invigorating year. Who doesn't like to work on something new?

Did you know about the following areas where the Kiwanis district and Kiwanis International can help you?

- If you want to add members or sponsor a new Kiwanis club, the district membership team is there to help.
- If you want to promote new voices into leadership, the Leadership and Education committee has resources to help and has a Leadership conference planned for October 22.
- If you are looking for ideas about service projects and fundraisers, a new district committee is working on a list and description of them.
- If you are interested in exploring partnerships, our Partnership coordinator along with contacts for existing partners can help you.
- If you want to spice up your marketing efforts, there are District and International tools, materials, ideas and people to help you.
- If you want a greater focus for your club, we can talk with you about Signature projects or developing a strategic plan.

If you **knew** some of this already, great! It's now time to put it into action at the start of the new Kiwanis year. If your club has the ideas, desire and enthusiasm to try something new this year, ask for help.

In closing, this article had nothing to do with Gnus. However, if your club wants to do something **new**, it can arrange for a visit to a zoo to see a **gnu**. But you already **knew** that.

It has been an honor to be your governor this past year and I appreciate the trust and confidence that the clubs of the mighty Michigan district placed in me to guide them.

We've had so many great moments all year from participating in service projects helping out the kiddos, inviting more folks joined in the fun, starting new Service Leadership Programs, and having fun at DCON. I'm looking forward to compiling the report of the 2021/2022 accomplishments. Stay tuned for the results.

Thank you to:

- The clubs of the Michigan District. You are the stars in this story. It was so exciting to see all you did for the children in the community
- The 21/22 District Leadership team. Our Lt. Governors and Committee Chairs worked hard to make sure information and resources reached clubs leading to more kiddos being impacted!
- Lori, Audrey, Megan, and zone advisors for all their work with Circle K and Key Club
- Greg and Stacey-both of you put in many hours of hard work supporting the clubs, answering questions, and keeping the things running smoothly.
- Cindy, Kathie, and Julie for being the catalysts for the club boosts and club opening.
- Liz for planning a fun and wonderful district convention!!!
- The many folks that came together to put on the Aktion Club Convention by planning/executing or donating needed funds to sponsor members to attend.
- And those who stepped up to help, answered questions, proof-read, mentored, and more.

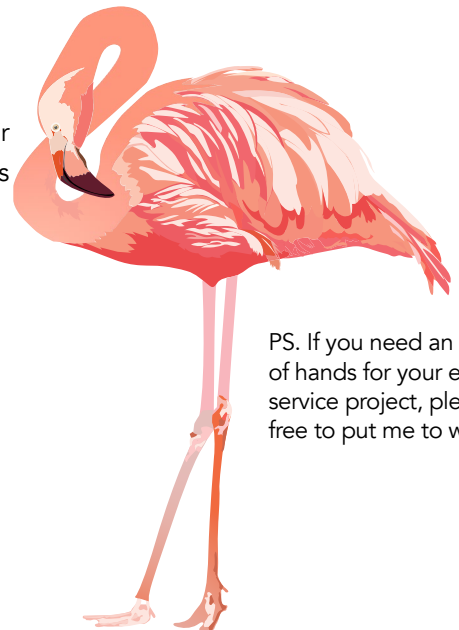
I appreciate each and every one of you!

While this may be my last Builder article, I'm not going away. I am honored to continue serving the clubs in 22/23 as your District Finance Chair and club strengthening lead. Please feel free to reach out with any questions with finances or for resources and support to strengthen your club.

Yours in service,

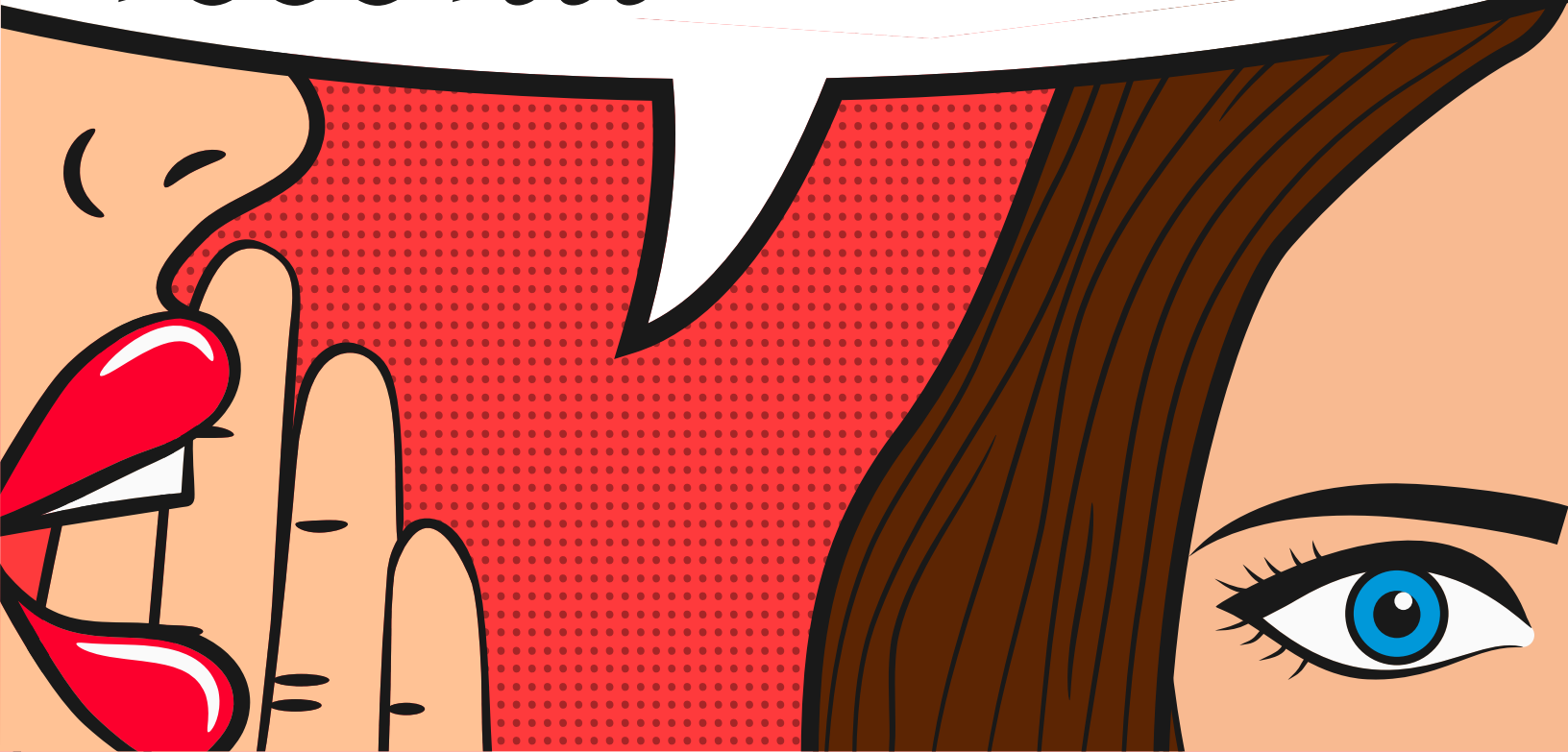


Rosemary



PS. If you need an extra pair of hands for your event or service project, please feel free to put me to work!

PSSST!!! IS YOUR CLUB THE BEST KEPT SECRET IN TOWN?



Is your club out in the community doing service projects and fundraisers, but no one seems to know who you are?

Do you mention "Kiwanis" to friends, family or neighbors but they just tip their head and look at you with a blank stare or say, 'What's That'?

Do you see other organizations advertised around town or on social media and wonder, "How can we get OUR Kiwanis club that same type of exposure?"

If you answered YES to any or all of the above questions, then I am here to help you with the public relations aspect of your club, so that your club is no longer "The Best Kept Secret in Town."

I am the Public Relations Chair for the Michigan District of Kiwanis and my role is to help clubs increase its exposure in your communities, make the club attractive to potential members, and share the mission and objectives of Kiwanis with everyone you meet.

The definition of "Public Relations" is: The practice of managing and disseminating information from an individual or an organization to the public in order to affect their public perception.

So what perceptions does the public have about what your club does, who the members are and what you do for your community? Are those perceptions true or false?

My goal this coming year is to provide you with some "tips and tricks" to help you with the perception that your community has about your Kiwanis club. A few of the areas I will provide some direction in will be:

- Press Releases – how to format and write one, what to include and where to send it once you have it done.
- Social Media – how to share your pages and sites with members of your club, and the community, and how to help your members navigate each platform so they can share it with their circle of influence.
- Branding – how to stand out as a Kiwanis club at your fundraisers and service projects to ensure that everyone knows that Kiwanis is serving their community!
- Partnerships – how to connect with online and offline groups, organizations and other entities to attract potential members and work towards a common goal.

In the meantime, if you have any ideas that your club has used to get more exposure out in the community or in the media, OR you have some specific questions about public relations that you need answered, please send an email to me at: barbduranmikiwanis@gmail.com.



I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOUR CLUB IN THE COMING YEAR?

Barb Duran

Public Relations Chair

313-300-1710

barbduranmikiwanis@gmail.com

Hello... I'm Peter Mancuso

It will be my pleasure to serve as the trustee-counselor for the Michigan district this year, so I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to those of you who do not already know me.

I am from North Bellmore, New York, which is on Long Island. I just completed my term as 2021-22 international president, and I continue on the international board of trustees as immediate past president this year. I was first elected to the board in 2016.

I have been a member of the Kiwanis Club of East Meadow, NY for 35 years. I am a past president of the Kiwanis Children's Fund, which was then known as the Kiwanis International Foundation, having served in that position in 2012-13. I served as distinguished governor of the New York District in the 2003-04 administrative year, distinguished lieutenant governor from 1996-97, and as a distinguished president of my club. I have also served as a director of my district foundation and chaired numerous club, district and international committees.

I was previously employed for nearly 35 years as a Nassau County, NY assistant district attorney, assigned to the investigation and prosecution of financial crimes. I retired in order to prepare to assume my duties as international president.

I am a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Cornell University Law School. I met my wife Karen, who is an elder law attorney, in law school. We have two adult children, Stephen and Cathy, and three grandchildren, Sam, Henry, and Evelyn. Our daughter Cathy was a two-term Key Club high school president.



My brother Jim just completed his term as governor of the New York district, and our wives, Karen and Susie, are members of our club, so I think it's safe to say that we are a Kiwanis family.

In my free time, which has been sparing of late, I like to exercise, read, watch movies and sports and listen to old time radio.

I hope to visit your district this year to support your activities there, and I look forward to getting to know many of you.





For Final
Winners for the
Foundation/District
Raffle

>>Click Here<<





This past weekend I was able to attend the Michigan District Kiwanis Convention and it was absolutely AMAZING!! Congratulations to Rosemary Anne for an Awesome year as District Governor it was such a pleasure working under your leadership. Congratulations to Vicki Virgo Okuniewski for becoming the next District Governor. I look forward to a fun and productive year. Renea Anastasia was elected the Governor-elect for 2023-2024 year. Wow look at these 3 leading our District.



DCON Survey Results

Average rating on a scale of 1-5

where 1 is poor / 5 is excellent

> 4.4

Net Promoter Score:

69/100

likelihood that someone would recommend attendance at the district convention



What did you enjoy most about the convention?

1. The training and networking with other Kiwanis Clubs
2. Fellowship, fun, learning x 4
3. Activities, service, workshops, Bay City, DoubleTree Hotel
4. Fellowship with other Kiwanians
5. Meeting "old" and "new" friends. Hearing about what works well in other clubs.
6. The cruise, the venue
7. The free time and events during the evenings
8. Workshops, fellowship, Friday's speaker from the Historical Society
9. Networking, workshops, community projects, and boat cruise

Bay City was so much fun. The 2 hour trolley peddle bike, to the boat ride, meeting Rick Springfield, the laughs and most of all serving the kids in Bay City. Packaging 10,152 meals absolutely incredible. Thank you Michigan District of Kiwanis for allowing me to be part of such an incredible organization.



Believe
IN THE
Magic
OF CHRISTMAS



Please purchase your Thomas Oliver Holiday Greeting as part of your Kiwanis Holiday Tradition. It is a great way to support your **KIWANIS OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION**

You can purchase your Thomas Oliver Holiday Greeting on line at www.kiwanisgiving.org



See your Division's Michigan Foundation Trustee for more information. **Our deadline is Wednesday, November 16th.**

- Cash Contribution, Amount \$ _____
- Check made payable to Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation, Amount \$ _____
- Charge my contribution of \$ _____ .00 to my:
- VISA MASTER CARD

Account Number Expiration Date _____

Name as it appears on your credit card _____ Zip Code Back of Charge Card

Signature _____

Please complete this information for your Thomas Oliver Greeting to appear in the Builder. Your name and title as you would like it to appear in the Builder (Please Print)

Name _____ Kiwanis Title (If desired) _____

Your Kiwanis Club _____ Your Division _____

Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation, P. O. Box 231, Mason, Michigan 48854-0231

100 Years

and still going strong

As we noted in the last edition of the Builder, 100 years ago, in 1922, the Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor teamed up with the University of Michigan Hospital to create what is now Child and Family Life Services at hospitals around the country! Through the Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation, Michigan Kiwanians have supported these programs in four Michigan hospitals, Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit, C.S. Mott Hospital in Ann Arbor, McLaren Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey and Mary Free Bed Hospital in Kalamazoo. With the addition of the Earl O'Brien Fishing Tournament, we have also been able to add a donation to the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital in Grand Rapids.

We had a birthday party at convention, complete with cake and cupcakes... and kazoos! To help the Foundation continue this partnership for the next 100 years, we asked for donations of \$100 to the Foundation's Endowment Fund to celebrate the 100 years of service to sick and hospitalized children. This campaign will continue through the end of 2022.

We recognized early donors in the last Builder and will continue to do so through the end of December. Individual donors will receive a lapel pin and clubs will receive a banner patch at 2023 Spring Divisionals.

The Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation would like to thank these recent contributors to this campaign...

Denise Browning
Larry French
Pat Korloch
Ann Mattison
James Mattison
Vicky Okuniewski
Ben Probert
Margie Schleicher
Sally Springer

Charles Walker
Kiwanis Club of Addison
Kiwanis Club of Downriver West
Kiwanis Club of Hudson
Kiwanis Club of Saline
Kiwanis Club of South Haven
Kiwanis Club of South Lansing
Kiwanis Club of Wyandotte 1000

Make your donation online at www.kiwanisgiving.org OR mail to the MI District Office at PO Box 231, Mason MI 48854. Checks should be made payable to Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation... and THANK YOU from all of the children we serve.





Earl O'Brian Memorial Fishing Derby

Earl O'Brien spent his life creating opportunities for kids to enjoy sports and life, even if disadvantaged, disabled, or suffering from catastrophic disease. In 2005 Earl launched an offshore fishing tournament benefiting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Over the years, in honor of Earl, we keep fishing for kids – all proceeds support Child Life programs in Michigan hospitals.

Sponsors are assigned to professional charter boats for a morning of exciting salmon fishing on Lake Michigan. Each boat holds up to six participants, and sponsors can invite family, friends, employees, or customers to fish on their boat. Or, sponsors can choose to donate their boat to young "Patient VIP" from our beneficiary hospitals. Grand prizes are awarded for the largest fish in Sponsor and Patient VIP categories. Additional prizes are awarded by drawing, and a fun prize is awarded to the smallest fish of the day.

Earl was supported by the Tri-Cities Kiwanis club for 12 years. When Tri-Cities were no longer able to sponsor the event the Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation was asked to continue the event with the help of the dedicated volunteers that had organized and carried out the event. With the help of these volunteers and Earl's family, two events were held in 2022, May and July. A total of 9 charter boats fished the 2 days with great smiles, excitement for 15 VIP patients, and a great number of salmon.

For further information,
sponsorship, donation options,
and more photos of events

Visit EOB-FISH.org.

Gary Surratt,

President Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation



Christmas Wreaths from Lynch Creek Farms

Once again, the Kiwanis Club of Westside Kalamazoo is having a fundraiser selling Christmas Wreaths from Lynch Creek Farms in Washington State. These handcrafted stunning, fresh evergreen wreaths and centerpieces make memorable holiday gifts. 15% of all sales is returned to the project account of the Westside's club for its many projects – Loaves and Fishes, Lending Hands, YWCA domestic assault, Kiwanis Children's Fund, Boys and Girls Club, and many more. Go to the above link to place your order and your fresh evergreen products will be shipped directly to your home or business. Shipping of all products will begin October 31st. It's that easy. Or, if you wish you may make a monetary donation too.

Please share this with your families and friends and the Westside Kiwanis club thanks you for your support.

[>>>Click Here to Order<<](#)

Our final winners for the Foundation/District Raffle

[<< Back <<](#)

- GRAND PRIZE \$5,000** – Rick & Linda Bertges (members of Lac Ste. Claire, Div 1)
- 2ND PRIZE \$500** – Fred Roskopp (member of Mount Clemens, Div 3)
- 3RD PRIZE \$100** – Reed Weisenberger (sold by member of Chesaning, Div 18)
- 4TH PRIZE \$100** – Glenn Pascoe (member of Jackson, Div 11)
- 5TH PRIZE \$100** – David Briggs (sold by member of Addison, Div 11)
- 6TH PRIZE \$100** – Steve Breithaupt (member of Cadillac, Div 20)
- 7TH PRIZE \$100** - John Brown (sold by member of Charlevoix, Div 20)

**VICTORIA "VICKI" OKUNIEWSKI
CANDIDATE FOR DISTRICT GOVERNOR**



Goals for 2022-2023

- Build stronger communication and engagement among our District Clubs and Members.**
- Continue to educate our Members and develop a pipeline for future leaders.**
- Expand our Kiwanis Family with new Clubs and new SLP's and grow our club strength.**

VICKI IS DEDICATED TO SERVING OUR MICHIGAN DISTRICT IN 2022-23 AS THE NEXT GOVERNOR!



"Enhancing our Kiwanis reach to serve Children!"



**2021-22
GOVERNOR'S
MEMBERSHIP TROPHY**

Bay Area	+15
Ann Arbor	+10
Kalamazoo	+10
Clinton Township	+10
Macomb	+10
Tecumseh	+9
Coldwater	+8
Mount Clemens	+8
Battle Creek	+8
Belleville	+7
Cheboygan	+7
Delta Township	+6
Clinton Valley	+6
Lac St. Claire	+5
Shorewood	+5
Tri Cities, G.H.-S.L.	5

Net gain is from 10-1-21 thru 9-1-22 and includes clubs only with at least a net gain of +5 based on official membership numbers supplied by Kiwanis International.

In Memoriam

John G. Pappas
Ypsilanti

Thomas J. Madden
Midland

Gene T. Miller
Chelsea

Thomas J. Parnell
Livonia Early Risers

Leslie H. Williams
Jackson

Richard (Dick) Luther
Indian River
Div 21 Lt. Gov., 2019-20, 20-21
KMF Trustee 2012-2022

as we go to **PRESS**

Active Clubs **137**

District Beginning Membership **3451**

Reporting Members September 1, 2022 **3553**

Net Gain +102 members

SLP MEMBERS

	CLUBS	PAID MEMBERS
K-Kids	7	-
Builders Club	32	-
Key Club	87	4094
Circle K	8	224
Aktion Club	11	178