



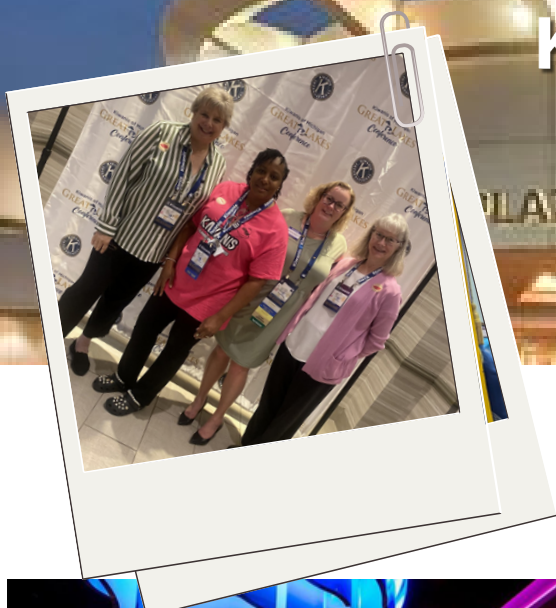
MICHIGAN DISTRICT OF KIWANIS

Serving the Children of the World

Kiwanis of Michigan GREAT LAKES Conference

August 14 - 17th, 2025

Radisson Hotel
Kalamazoo, MI



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this bi-monthly issue:*

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**REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN**



CALENDAR

JUNE

- 1 2025-26 Club Elections Due
- 8-13 Kiwanis/MSP Law Enforcement Career Academy
- 20 Deadline for Club Proposed Amendments & Resolutions to District Office
- 25-28 109th Kiwanis International Convention, Pittsburgh, PA
Circle K International Convention, Pittsburgh, PA
District Office Closed
- 30 2025-26 Club Presidents have Committee Chairs selected
Governor-Elect Candidate forms due to Kiwanis International

July

- 2-6 Key Club International Convention, Orlando, FL
- 3-4 **Independence Day - District Office Closed**
- 6 Club Committee chairs to set budgets for 2025-26

MICHIGAN BUILDER

MICHIGAN DISTRICT OF KIWANIS
INTERNATIONAL

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GOVERNOR-ELECT

CINDY GREENING

IMMEDIATE PAST GOVERNOR

RENEA CALLERY

INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BEN PROBERT

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY
MICHIGAN DISTRICT OF KIWANIS

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DESIGN AND LAYOUT
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Builder Publication Schedule

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.



Reflections by the Governor

STAN NELSON, GOVERNOR 2024-25

Dear Fellow Kiwanians:

As the warmth of summer approaches, we're reminded of the beauty that this season brings—not just in sunshine and relaxation, but in opportunities to grow, connect, and serve. For many of us, summer means vacations, family gatherings, and a well-earned break. Yet, while we recharge, the needs of our communities remain ever-present. Now more than ever, our calling as Kiwanians is to find the balance between personal time and purposeful service.

This year's motto, **"Listening with Purpose, Serving with Heart,"** encourages us to be intentional in both our actions and our awareness. Listening isn't passive—it's powerful. It means being open to new ideas, hearing the quiet voices, and recognizing fresh opportunities to serve. As we engage our communities this summer, let's do so with both our ears and hearts open. Perhaps there's a need that hasn't yet been met, a group of youth who feel unheard, or a project waiting to be discovered. Let's be the ones who listen deeply and act boldly.

Summer is also the perfect season to ignite excitement and expand our reach. Many people are looking for meaningful ways to give back, especially when they see joy, impact, and community in action. This is our chance to invite them into the Kiwanis family. When someone sees a group of passionate volunteers making a difference and having fun doing it, they'll want to know more. Share your story. Invite someone to your next service project. Ask them to join in. The simplest ask can be the first step toward lifelong service.

While our KiwanisONEs have concluded, the journey of learning and leadership continues. If you have the chance, consider attending the upcoming **Kiwanis International Convention in June** or the **Michigan District's Great Lakes Conference in August**. These events offer renewed inspiration, valuable education, and a powerful reminder that we are part of something bigger—an international network of caring individuals united by a shared mission.

Of course, as you plan your summer calendar, remember to budget your time. Just as we carefully allocate finances, we must also manage our hours with intention. Time with family and friends is vital; it recharges us so we can give our best to others. It's not about doing it all—it's about doing what matters, and doing it well. You've done an incredible job so far this year. Your efforts, your heart, and your commitment have made a real difference. Thank you. But let's not stop here. Keep the momentum going. Keep asking. Keep serving. Keep listening. Together, we can make this summer one of both personal fulfillment and profound impact.

"LISTENING WITH PURPOSE, SERVING WITH HEART"



We Rise By Lifting Others

CYNTHIA GREENING, GOVERNOR-ELECT 2024-25



This was quoted in the May issue of *Mount Clemens City Lifestyle*, a magazine published by one of our own – Kimberly Janowicz of the Mt. Clemens Kiwanis Club. We Rise By Lifting Others is a sign on the wall at a local dance studio.

In Kiwanis, isn't that what we do every day? Lift others? I'm sure all service organizations could say the same but, I confess, I'm a bit partial and I'm definitely proud – and you should be, too. All across Michigan, thousands (if not tens of thousands) of lives each year are made better, brighter, easier, because of what you do. The burdens of children, veterans, the infirm, and the elderly are eased by the hundreds of service projects and work hours provided by Michigan District Clubs – and we rise.

The current and incoming District leadership teams are focused on giving our clubs and members everything they need to be successful. The Lt. Governors and District Chairs are receiving updated training and are setting goals to ensure a strong foundation on which clubs can build up their strength and impact.

The very existence of Kiwanis for the present and into the future is almost entirely dependent upon **building new clubs**, and **fortifying current clubs**. Currently, about 36% of our clubs are below charter strength (less than 15 members). **This is absolutely restorable**. There are currently 10 million Michigan residents. With everything we have to offer, why in the world couldn't we raise our membership to the numbers we once enjoyed? We clearly can! We cannot afford 'business as usual.' We cannot afford to wait for 'someone else' to do it.

My challenge to every member is to go out into your communities and engage individuals and businesses to become part of something great. **Share your story** of why you are in Kiwanis. **Share the impact** your club is having in their community. **Share the need** and ask them to be part of the solution.

Rise up!

Cindy Greening





On the Road again

BEN PROBERT, INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On the Road again

Governor Stan Nelson and the Road Crew completed our Kiwanis ONE tour visiting all the Divisions in the great Michigan District. Marc Alexander presented 4 outstanding workshops in the morning, teaching us about ***Grant Writing Made Simple, Membership Magic, Social Media & Storytelling: Amplifying Your Online Impact, and Creating a Culture of Service and Fun in Your Club***. In the early afternoon Governor Stan, Governor-Elect Cindy and the announced candidate for Governor-Elect, Eric Stezowski, spoke. Our three Foundations made presentations plus Past Governor Renea presented awards for our previous administrative year, and the District Office made announcements. Over 300 dedicated Kiwanians participated in these events. Thank you for taking time away from family to join in the fun, fellowship and educational presentations!! So far, the feedback has been very positive, and we will be placing the presentations on the District Website soon.

ON TO our International Convention in Pittsburgh, PA., June 26th through June 28th. To date, over 65 Michigan District Kiwanians & Guests have registered! Martin Sheen will be the keynote speaker at our opening session! There are Educational opportunities galore including one led by our own Rocky Roland (Division 21). Club Officers, this is the perfect opportunity to prepare for your next administrative year with the best leaders in the world of Kiwanis. As usual, the Delegate Session will be addressing Amendments, Resolutions and electing our future Leadership. You might see a few other familiar faces on stage!!

NEXT it is ON TO our Great Lakes Conference in Kalamazoo, MI, August 14th – 17th. Registration is open as of June 1st. We are expecting at least 300 Kiwanians and Guests to attend this year. The Radisson Hotel has recently undergone extensive renovation! Our schedule includes fun, tours, auctions, educational workshops, free time, fellowship, more fun, Delegate Sessions, installation of 2025-2026 District Leadership, fun and the list goes on. New Officers – Club Leadership Education will be offered. Your attendance is a must! More information is contained in this edition of the Builder. Did I mention Fun?

Year of the Member! The Michigan District continues to add new members this year. Thank you for taking the time to share the gift of Service with others in your community!

Kiwanis of Michigan GREAT LAKES Conference

Education Sessions

- **Welcome Workshop - Start Strong at the Great Lakes Conference** for First Timers at GLC
- Kiwanis Engage and CLE
- Kiwanis Children's Fund
- Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation with Children's Hospitals
- 4-H
- Membership with Chris Martz
- ... *and more!*

Convention Speakers



Marc Alexander

Marc Alexander will open the conference as the keynote speaker on Friday Night.



Friday Night Special Event

Evening at Kalamazoo Valley Museum and Planetarium

Enjoy an evening at Kalamazoo Valley Museum for hors d'oeuvre, fellowship and a tour of the museum. Tickets are required.



Saturday Night Special Event

Xtreme Karaoke with Encore Productions

Encore Productions is back again this year to entertain after the Governor's Banquet. Bring your dancing shoes and your favorite karaoke songs to party the night away.

Hotel Information



Radisson Plaza Hotel & Suites Kalamazoo

100 W Michigan Ave,
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

<https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/G9606158>

Standard Guest Room
\$140 plus tax per night

Upgraded Guest Room
\$180 plus tax per night

Self Parking \$10/night
Valet Parking \$30/night

REGISTER NOW



We Hope to See You There!

Kiwanis of Michigan
GREAT LAKES
Conference

AUGUST 14-17, 2025
 RADISSON PLAZA & HOTEL
 KALAMAZOO, MI

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2025

- 2 - 6 pm | Registration & Credentials
- 3 pm | Exhibits, Foundation Silent Auction, District Store Set-Up
- 6:30 pm | \$\$ District Board Dinner *by invitation only*
- 8 pm | District Board Meeting



FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 2025

- 7 am - 5 pm | Registration & Credentials
- 8am -5pm | Check out the Exhibits, the District Store & the Foundation Auction
- 9:30 -10:30 am | 2024-25 Lt. Governor Meeting
- 10 - 11:30 am | Start Strong at the Great Lakes Conference - First Time Convention Participants
- 10:30 - 11:45 am | 2025-26 Lt. Governor Meeting
- 12 - 1:45 pm | \$\$ Lunch hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Kalamazoo
- 2 - 3:45 pm | Leadership Education Sessions
- 4 - 5:30 pm | Opening Session
- 6 - 8:30 pm | \$\$ An Evening at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum (horsd, refreshments)
- 6 pm - | Enjoy Downtown Kalamazoo / Dinner On Your Own

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2025

- 7 am - 2 pm | Registration & Credentials
- 8 - 11:45 am | Check out the Exhibits & the Foundation Auction
- 8 - 9 am | \$\$ Breakfast with Friends
- 9 - 11:45 am | Leadership Education Sessions
- 12 - 1:45 pm | \$\$ Honors Lunch hosted by our Service Leadership Family
- 2 - 4 pm | House of Delegates
- 6- 6:45 pm | Governor's Reception
- 7 - 11 pm | \$\$ Governor's Dinner hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Alpena

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 2025

- 8 - 9:30 am | \$\$ Celebration of Life Breakfast hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Brooklyn
- 9:45 - 11:30 am | Retirement and Installation of the Michigan District of Kiwanis Leadership

AUGUST 14-17TH, 2025 • RADISSON HOTEL, KALAMAZOO, MI

Convention Registration Form

ALL ATTENDEES MUST REGISTER AND RECEIVE A BADGE

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

MEMBER NAME: <hr/> BADGE NAME (IF DIFFERENT) <hr/> PHONE: <hr/> CLUB OFFICER POSITION '24-25: <hr/>	GUEST NAME: <hr/> SLP/UNDER 18 NAME & AGE: <hr/> EMAIL: <hr/> CLUB OFFICER POSITION '25-26: <hr/>
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CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

- ☐ FIRST TIMER
 ☐ LEGION OF HONOR
 ☐ 50 YR KIWANIAN
 ☐ KMF DISTINGUISHED KIWANIAN
 ☐ KMF AL DAILEY
☐ LIFE MEMBER - DISTRICT
 ☐ LIFE MEMBER - INTERNATIONAL
 ☐ KMF J.D. ALEXANDER
 ☐ FOUNDERS CIRCLE
☐ DISTRICT CHAIR
 ☐ PAST GOVERNOR
 ☐ LT. GOVERNOR '24-25
 ☐ LT. GOVERNOR '25-26
 ☐ HERITAGE SOCIETY
☐ MDK FOUNDATION
 ☐ KMF TRUSTEE
 ☐ HIXSON AWARD

REGISTRATION SELECTIONS:

REGISTRATION	EVENT	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
EARLY REGISTRATION	ONLINE ONLY JUNE 1 - JULY 18		\$50.00	
LATE REGISTRATION	ONLINE ONLY JULY 19 - AUGUST 1		\$65.00	
WALK - IN REGISTRATION	NO ONLINE REGISTRATIONS AFTER AUGUST 1		\$75.00	
SLP & UNDER 18	NAME _____ AGE ____ NAME _____ AGE ____		\$0.00	

REGISTRATION ADD ONS

FRIDAY NIGHT SPECIAL EVENT ADD ON	AN EVENING AT KALAMAZOO VALLEY MUSEUM		\$25.00	
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MEALS

DIETARY RESTRICTIONS:

- ☐ VEGETARIAN
 ☐ VEGAN
 ☐ PESCATARIAN
 ☐ OTHER _____

GREAT LAKES MEAL PACKAGE	INCLUDES ALL MEALS LISTED BELOW		\$224.00	
FRIDAY, AUG 15	BREAKFAST		\$28.00	
FRIDAY, AUG 15	KICK OFF LUNCHEON		\$34.00	
SATURDAY, AUG 16	BREAKFAST		\$33.00	
SATURDAY, AUG 16	HONORS LUNCHEON		\$37.00	
SATURDAY, AUG 16	GOVERNOR'S BANQUET		\$67.00	
SUNDAY, AUG 17	CELEBRATION OF LIFE BREAKFAST		\$35.00	

Registration Information

Do NOT mail or fax this form to the District Office after August 1st, 2025. Late Registration is handled at the **Walk-In Registration** at the Radisson Hotel in Kalamazoo.

Discounted Hotel Reservations end July 27th.

Dress code for the convention is casual except for the Delegate Session which is Business Casual and the Governor's Banquet which is Business Professional.

Everyone (Kiwanians and non-Kiwanians) **MUST REGISTER** if you are attending any part of the convention. At a minimum, include your **FULL NAME** and **CLUB NAME**.

You may Pick UP your tickets during Registration Hours ONLY. They will be included in your Registration Materials. **All EVENTS are Pre-Order Only.** Additional meals can be purchased at Walk - In Registration based on availability. Only registered attendees may receive a meal ticket. *SLP's and children under 18 must have a purchased meal ticket for each meal attending.*

DELEGATE Registration

If you are a Delegate, make sure your Club Secretary has submitted the Certification Form to the District Office by August 1st to enable you to vote. Delegate forms **MUST** be signed by your club President and Secretary and can not be signed at GLC unless approved by Executive Director, Ben Probert.

ONLINE Registration

Online registration is available starting June 1st, 2025 at <https://k12.site.kiwanis.org/great-lakes-conference/>.

Contact Stacey Nill at the District Office at districtoffice@mikiwanis.org with any questions.

CANCELATIONS

Cancellation requests must be received in writing by the District Office by August 1, 2025. Send email requests to: districtoffice@mikiwanis.org.

See you soon!

Kiwanis of Michigan
GREAT LAKES
Conference



This delegate form must be signed by both the club president and secretary. Forms not signed by both officers will be returned for completion. It is not the option of the secretary to sign for the president or vice-versa. No forms will be available at the convention.

CERTIFICATION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

To the 108th Annual Michigan District Convention – August 16, 2025

This is to Certify the following active members of the

Kiwanis Club of _____ Division _____

Are the duly elected Delegates and Alternates of this club for the 108th Annual District Convention of the Michigan District of Kiwanis International, to be held at the Radisson Hotel in Kalamazoo, MI – August 16, 2025.

THIS IS NOT A REGISTRATION FORM. ALL PEOPLE ATTENDING THE CONVENTION MUST ALSO FILL OUT A REGISTRATION FORM.

CLUB DELEGATE INFORMATION (MEMBERS OF YOUR CLUB)

Delegate #1 Name: _____ Email: _____

Delegate #2 Name: _____ Email: _____

Delegate #3 Name: _____ Email: _____

CLUB ALTERNATE INFORMATION (MEMBERS OF YOUR CLUB)

Alternate #1 Name: _____ Email: _____

Alternate #2 Name: _____ Email: _____

Alternate #3 Name: _____ Email: _____

The below box when completed certifies the above listed Club will be represented by the Current Lt. Governor or a Past Lt. Governor in this Division, as one of our three (3) elected delegates.

LT. GOVERNOR OR PAST LT. GOVERNOR REPRESENTATIVE

CLUB MEMBERS SHOULD BE LISTED IN THE ABOVE AREAS ONLY.

This person should not be a member of your club (don't list a club member who is a past Lt. Governor in this area).

Name: _____ Email: _____

Year Served: _____ Division ____ Verified by Executive Director: _____

Signed: _____ Signed: _____

Club President 2024-25

Club Secretary 2024-25

ATTENTION CLUB SECRETARIES

Please complete this form immediately following the election of delegates and alternates.

Keep a copy for your files and forward the original, **no later than August 1, 2025** to:

Michigan District of Kiwanis, P.O. Box 231, Mason, MI 48854 Fax: (517) 676-6600

Email: districtoffice@mikiwanis.org Questions? Call: 517-676-3837

Only ONE form per club please.



CKI is Growing in Michigan: Meet Your New District Administrators and Governor

Circle K International (CKI) is growing across Michigan, and we're excited to share the momentum with you! With fresh leadership and renewed energy, the district is focused on connection, community, and growth — and we want you to be part of it!

As the new Michigan CKI District Administrators, we are excited for what is to come. Eric & Haley are both former SLP members and have a passion for working with Kiwanis youth. We are focused on building strong relationships between CKI and Kiwanis across the state. Our goal is to help high school leaders see CKI as the next step in their journey, staying involved in service throughout college and then into Kiwanis. The district currently has 7 clubs with approximately 118 members with the goal to open 6 new clubs during the service year.

At the helm of the student leadership team is MI CKI Governor Clara — a former Key Club Governor & International Key Club Vice President, who knows firsthand the power of student-led service. Clara has hit the ground running, bringing unmatched energy, creativity, and dedication to the role. Her deep understanding of both Key Club and CKI makes her the perfect leader to guide our district during this period of growth. Clara is not only setting ambitious goals, but she's also putting in the hard work to make them a reality. From launching new initiatives to strengthening club engagement, her leadership is inspiring a new generation of servant leaders. We're especially grateful to our dedicated district board members, who have been working tirelessly to help launch this year with strength and purpose. Their commitment to service and leadership has been instrumental in building the foundation for our growth. The board consists of board members and is expected to grow before the Kiwanis year is over. Together, Haley, Eric, and Clara are working to connect CKI clubs with local Kiwanians to foster mentorship and continuity. Whether you're looking to start a new CKI club, connect with your current club, or have one of us come speak to share more about CKI, we're here to help. Let's work together to grow Michigan CKI and create lasting impact through service and leadership. Michigan CKI is on the rise — and with your partnership, we can continue to build a stronger, more impactful service community for years to come. Let's make this a year of growth, connection, and incredible service!

Reach out to Haley, Eric, or Governor Clara anytime — we'd love to hear from you!

Eric Stezowski- administrator@midcki.org

Haley Thomsen- assistantadmin@midcki.org

Clara Berry- governor@midcki.org



Hello Michigan Kiwanians,

My name is Clara Berry, and I'm honored to serve as the newly elected Governor of the Michigan District of Circle K for the 2025–2026 service year. Our District Board has hit the ground running; we held our first in-person meeting in early April and set ambitious goals that will guide our work throughout the year.

These goals are outlined in our **2025–2026 Strategic Plan**, which I invite you to explore. It details the initiatives and focus areas we'll be pursuing and highlights ways Kiwanis members like you can support our efforts. One of our first big

projects is planning Michigan CKI's trip to the International Convention this June in Pittsburgh, PA. I'm excited that six students from our district are already registered to attend! We'll be traveling together in a Western Michigan University-issued Honors College van. The total van rental cost for our five-day trip is \$500. While we are initiating fundraising efforts to cover this cost, any support from the Kiwanis family would be incredibly appreciated.

If you're interested in helping sponsor our travel to the International Convention, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at governor@midcki.org or to our District Administrator, Eric Stezowski, at administrator@midcki.org. Thank you for your ongoing support of CKI– your mentorship, encouragement, and generosity help make everything we do possible. I'm excited for what we'll accomplish together this year.

Yours in Caring Service,



Clara Berry

2025–2026 Michigan District of Circle K Governor
Immediate Past Key Club International Vice President
Past Michigan District of Key Club Governor



SERVING with SOPHIA



DEAR MICHIGAN KIWANIANs,

My name is Sophia Liu and I serve as the Michigan Key Club Governor. I was elected at our Service Leadership Conference at the end of February this year, and it's surprising for me to say that the 1st quarter of my term has almost drawn to a close! In mid-March, District Board applications for committee chair and open lieutenant governor positions opened to our club members, which the executive board and I reviewed and approved. Our district board now comprises 7 executive board members, 16 lieutenant governors, and 8 committee chairs.

The district board held our first board meeting in Grass Lake, Michigan, in early April, where lieutenant governors and chairs received training for their new roles and the strategic direction for the 2025-2026 service year was established. One of the best parts of our board meeting was that it was held in conjunction with the Circle K district board, which meant that we were able to collaborate with them closely throughout the weekend.

Kiwanis family relations is one of the strong focuses of my term. Since Key Club was founded 100 years ago, we have thrived under Kiwanis sponsorship and support. Kiwanis's guidance has helped hundreds of thousands of students around the globe develop a heart for service and a passion for leadership, which we are incredibly grateful for.

In order to ease the transition from Key Club into the other branches of the Kiwanis family, Circle K Governor Clara and I are planning a joint Key Club and Circle K service project event near winter for the members of our respective branches to interact, learn from each other, and for Key Clubbers to realize the prospect of joining Michigan Circle K is closer than ever! The Key Club lieutenant governors are also encouraging graduating high school seniors to join Circle K by promoting Circle K during club visits and divisional events.

A PERSONAL THANK YOU

On behalf of the Michigan Key Club District, I want to express our deepest gratitude for everything Kiwanians do to support us. Your dedication to service and youth leadership helps shape not only our clubs but also the future leaders of tomorrow. I look forward to working closely with you all this year and strengthening the bond between our organizations.

If any Kiwanis clubs would like to connect with their sponsored Key Club or explore ways to get more involved, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at governor@mikeyclub.org or 517-730-7902. Let's make this a remarkable year of service together!



Yours in service,
Sophia Liu
Michigan Key Club Governor
May 2025



KIWANIS-KEY CLUB RELATIONS

Kiwanians play an important role in the success of a Key Club. When analyzing our most prolific and involved Key Clubs, we can spot a common thread: the strong support of their sponsoring Kiwanis club. What does this strong Kiwanis/Key Club connection look like? Having Key Club officers and/or members present at Kiwanis meetings does a great deal in pulling the bond closer between both clubs. It not only helps the Kiwanis club stay updated on what the Key Club is working on, but also benefits the Key Club to learn more about their sponsoring Kiwanis club! Sometimes, Key Club officers are not aware they can attend Kiwanis meetings, so it would be helpful to reach out after Key Club elections and invite them to come! If the Kiwanis club has any upcoming events or service projects, extending that invitation to the Key Club members would be a great way to get some extra volunteers for the event and draw that connection even closer. Key Clubbers may need extra support from the Kiwanis club as well. Whether this be related to service projects or financial aid, we appreciate any support the club may be able to provide for things like help setting up community events or funding to attend district and international conventions.





Convention Sponsorship

Aktion Club is the only service club for adults with disabilities. More than 6,433 adults with disabilities around the world are involved in this Kiwanis-family program, developing leadership skills while working with others to help those in need. Aktion Club empowers members to be themselves, work together with friends and implement plans through action.

There are 19 Aktion Clubs in Michigan, with over 230 members across the state. **The annual Michigan District Aktion Club Convention (AktionCON) is the highlight of the year.** Our members look forward to coming together each fall to share successes, discuss challenges, learn about leadership, work together on a service project and have fun staying overnight at a camp. Convention expenditures range from \$70-100 per attendee, but the full cost would be prohibitive for most members, especially those who need their caregivers with them. **AktionCON charges just \$35 per attendee, and rely on our generous sponsors to make it happen.** Individuals, businesses, clubs and foundations have supported our event by making their tax deductible donation to the Michigan District Kiwanis Foundation.

Michigan District AktionCON Sponsorship Form

Name of Sponsor: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____

☒ Sponsor one attendee: \$100 ☒ Sponsor five attendees: \$500

☒ T-shirt Sponsor: \$250 ☒ T-shirt Corporate Sponsor (includes logo on shirt): \$500

I want my donation to support: ☒ Awards ☒ Service Project ☒ Name tags

☒ I wish to contribute to a travel fund to support clubs attendance

Total Donation \$ _____ Date _____

Make Checks Payable to: MDK Foundation

Include this form and mail to:

Michigan District c/o Amy Urick
13843 Lincoln Street
Grand Haven, MI 49417

K-FAMILY SHOUT – OUTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



The Michigan District of Kiwanis would like to congratulate Caleb, the Treasurer from the Kraft Meadows Intermediate School Builders Club in Caledonia, MI for his **Builders Club Distinguished Officers Award** from the *Kiwanis International Builders Club Contests and Awards for 2024-2025*. The Builders Club members' last names were not released from KI. Caleb was one of 16 officers from around the Kiwanis world who were awarded this distinction for this Kiwanis year. Thank you to all of our Builders Clubs and their members, sponsors and advisors for participating in this year's various Builders Club awards and contests. We truly appreciate all you do to better your school, community and world.

EMU Circle K celebrates 40 years!

On October 29th, 2024, the Eastern Michigan University CKI Club celebrated turning 40 years old! They invited alumni to join in their celebrations. As part of their celebrations, they made tie blankets and collected items to donate to local homeless shelters.

Congratulations EMU Circle K on your anniversary!



New Club Brings Service to Campus

CKI club at Saginaw Valley State University kicks off with service and campus community building.

May 8, 2025

We're so excited to welcome Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) to the Circle K International family! Located in Saginaw County, Michigan, U.S., the club was officially chartered in early April — and they've hit the ground running with service, leadership and fellowship.

Co-President Marissa Babcock discovered her passion for service and leadership as the president of her high school's Key Club. Eager to continue her journey within the Kiwanis family, Marissa took the initiative to bring CKI to SVSU, helping create a space for like-minded students to connect, grow and serve.

Since chartering, SVSU CKI has held multiple service events, including a craft project with a local retirement community, decorating exam bags for SVSU students filled with essentials and stress relievers, and helping fellow students feel supported and encouraged during finals season.

In celebration of Earth Day on April 22, the club brought together a diverse coalition of school organizations — including the Biology Club, Geography Club, PRISM and the SVSU Support Staff Association—for a campus cleanup. When asked about advice for students looking to start a CKI club, members of the SVSU CKI executive board say that patience is key: *"Starting a club is a big deal, so it's important to work hard for your goals, but also to have faith that everything will work out. There are people out there willing to help, and everyone wants you to succeed, so don't be afraid to reach out when you need it."*

Of course, the support of sponsoring Kiwanis clubs was also crucial. We thank the Kiwanis Clubs of Saginaw, Saginaw Northwest, Saginaw Thomas Township and Kiassee for providing support, mentorship and partnership throughout the chartering process.

Kiwanis ENGAGE



Club Leaders, Members, SLP advisors

Coming Soon!

Many leaders have been asking when the new KiwanisOne (Kiwanis Connect) system would be rolling out to members and leaders.

GOOD NEWS! The roll out is **FINALLY** near! While the system is not quite ready, yet, training for Club Leaders, Club Members, and SLP advisors is now available! The new Kiwanis Engage is set to roll out in July of 2025!

Training is available at Kiwanis.org/Members/Engage. Please contact Stacey Nill at the District Office if you have any questions about the new program at districtoffice@mikwianis.org.





Building a School of Readers- Brick by Book

Here's how you can help:



1 Bring new or gently used children's books (ages birth to 12)



2 Drop them off at the conference "book house" in the lobby



3 Choose books with diverse characters and positive themes



Books collected will go directly to schools, libraries, and literacy programs in need in Michigan.



Together, we can build a generation of confident readers—one book at a time. Let's make a difference—Brick by Book!

For more information please contact:
Renea Callery
reneaewi@gmail.com

To make a monetary donation scan
QR code



Downriver West Kiwanis Sponsors 5th Annual Essay Contest for Charitable Giving



{May 7, 2025 - Brownstown Township, MI} – The Downriver West Kiwanis club held their annual Elementary School Essay Contest on Friday May 2nd, at the Brownstown Event Center.

This was the 5th year that the club has done this project. Elementary schools in the city of Flat Rock, Huron Township and Brownstown Township were invited to participate. The 4th grade teachers at Barnes Elementary, Miller Elementary, and Brown Elementary responded, and their students were asked to write an essay of 150 words or less to answer the question, "If I had \$100 to donate to a worthy cause, who would I donate it to, and why?"

The club received over 200 essays before the deadline, at which time members of the Downriver West Kiwanis Essay Committee reviewed them and after careful consideration, chose a 1st and 2nd place winner from each school.

The winners and their families, along with teachers and principals from each school were invited to the dinner, as well as representatives from each charity that the students had chosen. Each student then read their essay out loud, and the 1st place winners received a \$100 check from the club, to present to their charity of choice at the event.

"We were really excited this year because 2 of the 3 winning charities were local groups, so they were able to send representatives in person, along with a rep from Make-A-Wish, to accept the check directly from the kids who wrote the essays," club president Barbara Duran said. "It makes an impact on the kids when they can put a face to the organization that they wrote about and see that they are really helping groups who are making a difference right in their own communities."

The 1st and 2nd place winners from each school were:

Barnes Elementary:

First place: Alivia Gambino (Children with Hair Loss)

Second Place: Giselle Elemont (St. Jude's Children's Hospital)

Brown Elementary:

First place: Jase Footlander (Make A Wish Foundation)

Second place: Lucas Chamberlain (Ronald McDonald House)

Miller Elementary:

First place: Ava Cafego (Brownstown Animal Shelter)

Second place: Sophia Lee (St. Jude's Children's Hospital)



Every month, the club works on a different service project to assist the communities they serve in some way. All are welcome to come and participate. All the information on the club's meeting schedule, upcoming service projects and community events can be found on the club's Facebook page: facebook.com/downriverwestkiwanis info.

Woodhaven Kiwanis Shower for C. S. Mott Hospital raised over \$13,000

BY PAUL ELSEY, WOODHAVEN KIWANIS CLUB

Woodhaven Kiwanians held their 19th annual shower to benefit the Child and Family Department at C. S. Mott Children's Hospital. Nineteen years ago, First Lady Joan Van Arsdalen's "First Lady's Project encouraged Club to hold a shower to support on the the Kiwanis of Michigan's Hospitals. Shower Chairperson, Louisa Elsey, explained the Child and Family Life Department works to meet the social, educational, and emotional needs of hospitalized children. Activities such a pet therapy, art therapy, and play rooms make hospital stays more pleasant for children. Birthday parties, holiday parties, and special events are important and shouldn't be missed due to a hospital stay. Elsey also explained the Kiwanis Shower is held in memory of Woodhaven-Brownstown Student Maddie Pawelczyk who lost her battle with cancer at Mott's. Maddie participated in many Kiwanis events.

Children are responsible to learn and play. When children continue to learn and play, Mom, Dad, and child can relax as they work through the stress of hospital stays. A visit to the hospital can be a stressful experience for children and families. Fortunately, there are many things the Child and Family Life Department does to reduce anxiety and help parents and children feel more comfortable during their healthcare journey. Kiwanians from around the State have worked to support the C. S. Mott Children's hospital for over 100 years.

The shower included dinner prepared by Secret Recipes, beverages proved by Vreeland Market, and dessert baked by Cafe Sweets. Lindsay Herring, the Director of Child and Family Life, and her staff spoke after dinner. Activities included a huge basket raffle and storybook bingo. The Woodhaven High School Robotic Team brought their robot, recently back from the World Robotics Competition in Texas, to visit with guests.

Club President, Bob McCoy, said over the past 19 years the Club has raised about \$200,000 for the Child and Family Life Department. McCoy invites you to next year's shower on Wednesday, May 13, 2026.



Katerina Donlon, Barb Gallaway and Barb McCoy selling Basket Raffle Tickets



Pam Pawelczyk, Lindsay Herring (Director of Child and Family Life), JJ Bouchard (Child and Family Life Staff) Joel Pawelczyk



Our Shower Participants:



Summer Book Shopping for Kids

BY: KATHIE WILDER, PRESIDENT, KIWANIS CLUB OF ANN ARBOR

What do you get when 250 kids go shopping for summer books?

A school full of excited students, each taking home 3 books of their choice for fun summer reading.

Just last Thursday, Kiwanis Club of Ypsilanti and Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor teamed up to distribute 800 children's books to students at Holmes Elementary School in Ypsilanti. As each class filed into the school's media center, Ypsilanti Club President Joy Cichewicz, recently retired Head Librarian of Ypsilanti District Library, was invaluable in helping kids to choose excellent books in their interest and reading levels and instructed the kids to "go shopping" for books they found interesting to them - readers, picture books, non-fiction and chapter books. Books to take home and keep. The race was on! In less than 5 hours, 14 classes in grades 2-5 cleared out hundreds of books, to the delight of kids, teachers & administrators, and our Kiwanis clubs.



Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor supplied the books from donations they received from members of the area community to their Kiwanis Thrift Sale. Books were then fine sorted for excellent condition, quality subject material and topics kids are interested in. Eight very heavy banana boxes full of books appealing to kids, were delivered to Holmes School, and set out, awaiting the kids' book shopping.

Each book taken home touches students' families, who will also read the books, knowing Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti sponsored this service project. Truly this project made excellent use of our donated goods for the betterment of underserved children and families within our service community.

The ultimate goal was to take the books to kids to encourage reading comprehension and discover the joys of reading. This project can easily be replicated by many clubs, just takes the time to support a book drive, sort the books and coordinate time with school administration.



PHILIPPINES

Hilapnitan Elementary School Baybay City Division **FEEDING PROGRAM**

Nina McCaulley who is a member of Kiwanis Club of Cosmopolitan Detroit implemented the feeding program in the Philippines which is a by-product of KCCD raising funds for the Manila Street Children Project.

PHILIPPINES

Hilapnitan Elementary School Baybay City Division **FEEDING PROGRAM**

February 4, 2025

On behalf of the Principal of Hilapnitan Elementary School, Evelyn Sanico, we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Pat Torrica and Nina McCaulley who represent Philippine Nurses Association of Michigan and Kiwanis Club of Cosmopolitan Detroit respectively for their invaluable support and generous contributions to a Feeding Program at Hilapnitan Elementary School.

Your dedication to the well-being and nourishment of our pupils has made a significant impact, ensuring that our learners receive the proper nutrition they need to thrive both academically and physically. Your kindness and generosity inspire us all to continue fostering a caring and supportive environment for our children. The feeding program was able to feed over one hundred children.

Thank you for being a beacon of hope and for making a difference in the lives of our young learners. Your support truly means the world to us!

Abante Hilapnitan Elementary School
Padayon Hilapnitan Elementary School

This is exactly what right looks like. Congratulations to our 2x past President Nina McCaulley for fulfilling Kiwanis mission of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.





THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT OF KIWANIS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS TO THE KIWANIS FAMILY:

Adrian

Kathryn Szewezuk

Allen Park

Jason Babbage
Gary Schlack
Nancy Knick

Alpena

Vicki Rouleau
Lynn Olsen
Steve Mouser

Ann Arbor

Eric Macke
Jeffery 'Jeff' Miller
Stacey Walden

Brighton

Kevin Riley

Burton

Gregory 'Greg' Fenner
Gina Richards

Charlevoix

Mindy Moore
Jean Faivor

Cheboygan

Patricia 'Patty' Archambo
Jennifer 'Jen' Byrd

Coldwater

Julie Censke

Colonial Plymouth

Sandra 'Sandy' Groth
David 'Dave' Turnill
Connor Gordan
Ronald 'Ron' Bator

Delta Twp

Karen Mojica
Carrie Sanders
Keith Wright

Downriver West

Corianne Jager

East Lansing

Nicole Greiter
Megan Chumbley
City of East Lansing Police
Department

Hastings

David Edelman

Jackson

Max Rapplege

Kalamazoo

Amanda Stewart

Lapeer

Karen Strader

Mason

Daniel 'Dan' Schiffer

Midland

Joseph Lindsly
Mary Draves
Jamie La Cross

Saginaw Thomas Twp

Brent Boggess

Shorewood

Garry Smith
Ryan Nevedal
Erin Reynolds

South Oakland Cty

Lauren Cochran

Tri Cities - GH, SL

Kelly Gaspar

Troy

Lindsay Drouillard
Erika Rosenberg

SLP members

	Clubs	Paid Members
K Kids	6	--
Builders Club	20	--
Key Club	101	6103
Circle K	7	120
Aktion Club	18	234

In Memoriam

Felice A. Lalli
Allen Park

Ronald Lyness
St. Joseph – Benton Harbor
Secretary

Theron Unrath
Mt. Pleasant


Kenneth DeRemer
Tecumseh
Secretary

Richard L. Germond
Adrian

Scott J. Virgo
Ypsilanti



2024-2025 Governor's Membership Trophy



Shorewood.....	+12
Detroit #1	+9
Tri - Cities, GH-SL	+9
Kalamazoo	+7
East Lansing	+6
Charlevoix	+6
Indian River	+5
Blue Water, Port Huron	+5

Net gain is from 10-1-24 to 9-30-25 and includes clubs only with a least a net gain of +5 based on official membership numbers supplied by Kiwanis International.

AS WE GO TO PRESS

Active Clubs: 130
Beginning Membership: 3128
Reporting Members: 3219
Net Gain: +97