



KIWANEWS

WISCONSIN-UPPER MICHIGAN KIWANIS DISTRICT

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2025



BURLINGTON CLUB HOSTS EGGS-TRAORDINARY OMELET FUNDRAISER

Submitted by Paul Holley, Division 1 Lt. Governor

The old saying "You can't make an omelet without breaking eggs" certainly held true for the Burlington Kiwanis Club at its 71st Pancake Breakfast event on Sunday, April 13. Members, families and friends served an estimated 300 made-to-order omelets, as well as nearly 1,000 pancakes with sausage, scrambled eggs,

fruit and potatoes. Proceeds from the club's pancake breakfast go toward a variety of youth programming including baseball, youth soccer, the Kiwanis art awards, Boy Scouts and Safety Town, a Kiwanis educational program that aims to teach safety awareness and emergency prevention procedures to children.

GOVERNOR DURNER ISSUES TWO-FOLD CLUB GROWTH CHALLENGE

Submitted by 2024-2025 Governor Kathy Durner



Kathy Durner

With spring finally in the air, we have renewed excitement to grow our Kiwanis clubs. We have much to accomplish before the end of the year. With two-thirds of our Kiwanis year behind us, we still have four months to build more clubs and increase our membership to make a significant

difference in our communities. How can this happen?

I sent out a two-fold challenge to our clubs. The first challenge is increasing our club membership in the months of May and June. Since May is membership month, I am challenging each club to bring in new members. The club with the greatest membership increase in May and June will receive \$100 and a trophy.

The second challenge involves club growth. The club with the greatest growth from October 1, 2024 through August 1, 2025 will receive \$100 and a trophy. Even

if you have already brought in new members, you have time to grow your club. Little changes can result in amazing growth, new ideas, increased energy and excitement within the club, and more children served.

An example of what happens when your club membership grows by even one or two members:

- All members show a little more excitement.
- People volunteer to serve in club leadership positions.
- Members meet other like-minded members to share their outside interests with.
- More people are available to review scholarships.
- More members bring in new ideas for projects, activities, and fundraisers.
- We laugh more.
- More children and communities are served.
- Kiwanis grows.

2024-2025 Governor Kathy Durner can be reached at 814-331-2240 or kathydurner1949@gmail.com.

GOVERNOR'S PROJECT TO SUPPORT WAWBEEK AND BAY CLIFF CAMPS

Submitted by 2024-2025 Governor Kathy Durner

The goal of my governor's Project is to raise funds for Camp Wawbeek and Bay Cliff Health Camp. Both camps serve children with special needs. Camp Wawbeek has requested new tables for the arts and crafts room while Bay Cliff Health Camp has requested financial support for general operating needs.

Camp Wawbeek

Participants at Camp Wawbeek are grouped according to disability and specific needs during a six-day session. Group activities are provided for all participants. To the camper, it may feel like a vacation with boat rides, bowling, adventures in the Dells area, arts and crafts, swimming, campfires, and dances. To the caregiver, it is a physical and mental health break to recuperate from a 24/7/365 commitment. The cost to attend ranges from

\$1,274 to \$1,751, depending on the type of session.

Camp Bay Cliff

As a reminder, it costs \$10,000 to support a child while at camp for seven weeks. All of the camper's needs are covered. The camp even has a clothes closet from which the camper chooses their wardrobe for the next week. An individualized program is developed to meet each camper's specific needs. All of this is accomplished in a family-like setting, including shared meals, a huge birthday party, small group activities, and individually-developed therapies. College students share their talents with the campers as part of the curriculum.

2024-2025 Governor Kathy Durner can be reached at 814-331-2240 or kathydurner1949@gmail.com.

KEY CLUB DISTRICT GOVERNOR OUTLINES IMPRESSIVE ANNUAL GOALS

Submitted by Carter Kuenzi, 2025-2026 WIUM Key Club District Governor



Carter Kuenzi

My name is Carter Kuenzi, and I am proud to be serving as the 2025-2026 Key Club District Governor. I am currently a junior at Beaver Dam High School, and this year marks my third term on the WIUM Key Club District Board.

In previous years, I served as Lieutenant Governor and most recently as Director of Committees. These experiences have prepared me to lead our district with a strong understanding of Key Club's structure and the needs of our members. I am excited to continue growing in service leadership and to work alongside the WI-UM Kiwanis District Board to strengthen our shared mission.

This service year, I have established four key goals for our district. First, we aim to increase membership by 10%. This will be achieved through targeted recruitment, enhanced retention strategies, and renewed outreach to schools without clubs. Second, we are working toward reaching 100 paid, active clubs. This includes reactivating suspended clubs, supporting struggling ones, and chartering new clubs across the district. Third, we plan to raise \$8,500 collectively for Key Club International's preferred charities and the governor's project.

We hope to reach 400 attendees at our 2026 district convention. This goal reflects our desire to create an

exciting, accessible, and inspiring event for all members, building community and celebrating service.

The Key Club district board recently participated in our annual new board training weekend, which serves as the foundation for our board's success. The weekend included comprehensive training on topics such as the Kiwanis Family, Key Club International resources, club building and chartering, officer responsibilities, committee structure, and district operations. We are also dedicating time to develop key initiatives that will be launched throughout the service year to increase

**KEY
CLUB®**

engagement, improve communication, and elevate the Key Club experience at the club level.

Additionally, I am currently working on creating a Key Club-Kiwanis counterpart list. This resource will allow for more direct and intentional collaboration between Key Club district board members and Kiwanis board members. I look forward to sharing this with you soon, as it will open the door for stronger relationships and mutual support between our organizations.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to youth leadership and for your continued partnership with Key Club. I look forward to a productive and impactful service year, and I am eager to work together to achieve our shared goals.

OFFICIAL CALL: 2025 WI-UM DISTRICT CONVENTION • ONEIDA HOTEL & CASINO • GREEN BAY • AUGUST 22-24

Article VI, Section 3 of the Bylaws of the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan District of Kiwanis International requires the Executive Director to notify each charter club an official call to the Annual Convention at least sixty days prior to the date of the same.

Your attention is invited to District Bylaw Article 13 Section 1 regarding bylaw amendments to be considered by the House of Delegates at the Annual Convention.

"Proposed amendments, which shall be submitted only by a club in good standing or by the District Board of Trustees, shall be received by the Executive Director at least sixty days prior to the date of the convention. The Executive Director shall send a copy of all proposed amendments to the secretary of each chartered club not less than thirty days prior to the date of the convention." Therefore, any proposed amendments must be post-marked to the district office by Monday, June 23, 2025.



REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE WI-UM KIWANIS DISTRICT CONVENTION

Submitted by Justin Hahn, WI-UM Kiwanis District Executive Director

The theme of this year's WI-UM district convention is "Mooo-ving Wisconsin Forward." The August 22nd-24th event will be held at the Oneida Casino Hotel, 2040 Airport Drive in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Plan to gather for an unforgettable weekend filled with Kiwanis fun, education, celebrations, fundraising and conducting district business.

Book your hotel reservations at the Oneida Casino Hotel by calling 920-494-7300, referencing group code 789 or book a room online at <https://book.rquest.com/wbe/group/2187/oneidacasino/auth> using the group code 739 and the password 63309133. The deadline to receive the \$139 group rate is July 31, 2025.

Fun Family Program

New this year, we are offering a family program at a cost of \$10 per person. Visit Lambeau Field on game day, the

Packers Pro Shop, Farmer's Market, Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary and Bay Beach Amusement Park. Note: Lunch and rides at Bay Beach are on your own. Tour departs the hotel at 8:30am and returns to the hotel by 3pm.

Friday Night Dinner Aboard the Train

Dinner aboard a train at the National Railroad Museum includes hotel shuttle and entrance ticket with a one-hour train ride along with a roast pork dinner. A non-pork menu is available if requested at registration.

Informative and fun workshops, team-building skills sessions, awards presentations, club leadership education, the CKI Miracle Minute, the KDF basket raffle, fabulous breakfast, lunch and dinner selections, camaraderie and laughs await you in Green Bay. **Register online** at k30.site.kiwanis.org/dcon no later than August 1, 2025. You'll be glad you did!

REBECCA MATTSON ANNOUNCES GOVERNOR-ELECT CANDIDACY

Submitted by Rebecca Mattson, Division 12 Lt. Governor



Becky Mattson

I am pleased and excited to submit my name for consideration as your 2025-2026 Wisconsin-Upper Michigan District Governor-elect.

I am passionate about Kiwanis and have dedicated my adult life to working with youth through my career and my volunteer efforts in the community. I currently serve as the WI-UM District K-Kids and Builders Club Administrator. I am a member of the District Executive Board, Division 12 Lt. Governor, and the Secretary of the Kiwanis Club of Eau Claire.

Before I became a Kiwanis member, I attended several district conventions as the spouse of a Kiwanian. I learned about Service Leadership Programs (SLPs) and longed for a club at the elementary level, since I taught at Robbins Elementary School. In 2000, I became a Kiwanis member and chartered the fourth K-Kids Club in our district, serving as the faculty advisor and later as the Kiwanis advisor for 20 years. I also chartered a new K-Kids Club at the Chippewa Valley Museum.

SLPs have played a significant role in my Kiwanis experience. I have advised and mentored adults and youth through K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, and Circle K. I am currently the K-Kids advisor at the museum and the Key Club advisor at Memorial High School. My club has sponsored SLPs at all levels, providing me with a strong foundation to help our district develop its young leadership potential.

Since my retirement from teaching in 2017, my Kiwanis club honored me with a faculty advisor service award, just before I assumed a leadership role in the club. I served as president-elect, president, and secretary. I was honored to receive my club's highest accolade – the 2022 Terry Sheridan Award – in recognition of exemplary service and commitment to the Kiwanis Club of Eau Claire. Additionally, I have received Distinguished

Service Awards from my club and Distinguished President, Secretary, and Lt. Governor Awards from the district. I have served as a club delegate at many district conventions and two international conventions.

Literacy was a key focus in my 37-year teaching career and continues to be important to me. I had many different leadership opportunities in our local school district– serving on district curriculum committees, speaking at workshops/conventions, spearheading an action-research project for the State, and collaborating on a team through UW-Eau Claire to educate and guide teachers. In 2017, I received the Excellence in Education Innovation in Teaching Award from the Eau Claire Chamber of Commerce, and I was nominated twice for the Kohl Teacher of the Year award.

I developed a drama club at my school, managed the school store with K-Kids and worked with members to spearhead family nights attended by up to 500 people. I have been a Girl Scout leader, youth choir director, church choir member, and cantor. I volunteer with The Community Table, direct youth shows, teach drama classes and lead tours at the Chippewa Valley Museum/ Wisconsin Logging Museum.

My journey with Kiwanis has been deeply rewarding, filled with countless moments of joy and inspiration. I am blessed with support from my son, Josh, and my daughter Rachel. My mom and siblings are also of great encouragement. I am a native of Minnesota and have lived in Eau Claire since August 1981. I believe firmly in the Objects of Kiwanis and the Kiwanis Vision – that one day all children will wake up in communities that believe in them, nurture them, and provide the support they need to thrive.

I look forward to your support and welcome any questions or feedback you may have.

Rebecca Mattson can be reached at 715-497-8297 or beckymattson@wiumkiwanis.org.

PILOT PROJECT DESIGNED TO BOOST MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCED

Submitted by Justin Hahn, WI-UM Kiwanis District Executive Director



Justin Hahn

Your WI-UM Kiwanis District is embarking on an exciting new venture to help clubs grow throughout the district and potentially throughout all of Kiwanis International.

We are planning to launch a pilot project and are seeking ten clubs concerned about their membership and interested in growing with the help and support of both district and international personnel. The benefits to your club may be self-evident, but perhaps not so obvious are the benefits to Kiwanis and our district. Consider the following:

Benefits to your club

- Welcoming new members to share in your work, boost your service power, bring new ideas and enthusiasm, and rejuvenate your club.
- Members will learn how to make recruiting new members a natural and continuous process; individual members will gain in skill and confidence, each rising to his or her potential.
- Your club will determine what recruiting techniques and programs work well for you in your community taking into account your local culture, needs and concerns.
- Your members will make new friends, discover unmet needs within the community, and make a more significant difference in the local area.

Benefits to the district and Kiwanis International

- We will know what tactics work or don't work for certain regions, and types of communities.
- We will better understand what specific training, knowledge, and resources clubs and members need to focus on membership and successfully grow to a size they determine fits their needs.
- We expect to see future leaders of the district come out of these clubs.
- These clubs will be positioned to train other clubs/ demonstrate successful efforts to those in their division and the entire district.

- One year from the beginning of this effort, we will know which clubs have grown, what they learned, and what they still need to do.
- Clubs will be recognized in the *Kiwanews* and at our district convention, and may be asked to help share their experiences with other clubs at the convention and midyear conferences.
- Our successes and the things we learn will help Kiwanis International work more effectively with clubs throughout the organization.

The District will supply leadership and support to the clubs in the pilot project. The project is designed to help clubs that meet the following criteria.

1. Clubs under or near charter strength (15 members) or who have had negative growth over several years.
2. Clubs that genuinely desire to grow and are willing to meet with district and international personnel (weekly, monthly, in person, by zoom, or other schedule to accomplish their goals) to learn how to utilize member recruiting and retention tools effectively.
3. The majority of the club is willing to participate – willing to have the conversations, make things happen, do the work, ask the questions, participate in the trainings, etc. and is ready to approach membership with an open mind.
4. The club will follow up/report back on action items.
5. Clubs who need new officers.
6. Clubs who need to grow to be future sponsoring clubs of other Kiwanis clubs or service leadership programs.
7. Clubs who want to decrease the average age, add more diversity to their club, or more professionals, etc.
8. Those clubs who have a good membership experience – good member orientation, good calendar of events throughout the year, etc.

We anticipate this process will take a year and hope to recognize success and learn from our experiences by the

...Continued on page seven

STRIKING A BALANCE: THE COST OF DUES IS LINKED TO MEMBERSHIP

Submitted by Alan Arbuckle, WI-UM Kiwanis District Master Club Coach

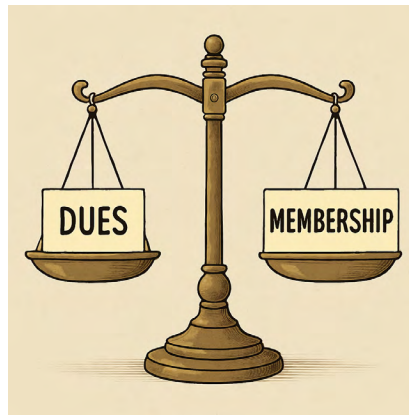


Alan Arbuckle

Dues are inextricably linked to the number of members in the district and Kiwanis International. The district has to replace the clubs that have shut down. Clubs need to have a stable membership. The result of not having a focus on adding members is having a genuine

need to raise dues. Dues matter.

One of the biggest stumbling blocks in building new clubs is the lack of clubs willing to sponsor a new club. Why is that? One reason: clubs are so focused on their own community that they fail to see the bigger picture of membership. The term "siloe" might be used to describe clubs that never Interclub with other clubs and never attend midyear conferences or district conventions.



Fewer than 25% of presidents-elect attend training. A healthy organization has trained leaders that lead clubs. Clubs need to understand the importance of interacting with the rest of the division and the district. There needs to be a culture of growth and cooperation within clubs, divisions and the district.

Does your club have a membership goal for the year? How will members reach that goal? Membership events, Two-for-Two, regularly inviting potential members?

Does your club have its own method that works for you? Who is going to be responsible for growing the club membership? If there is no Membership Chair, it falls on the President and Board of Directors to lead the effort. Please share your club's goal, method, and who is responsible with your Lt. Governor.

How can your club collect make dues more affordable? There are a lot of methods clubs use: 1) Separate dues from meals if your club still meets with a meal; 2) Collect smaller amounts during the year. Some clubs collect

a portion of the dues twice a year, quarterly, or even monthly. 3) Some clubs run a fundraiser specifically for the administrative account. Some restricts may apply, especially if the club has 501(c)3 foundation.

How does your club retain members? Do members feel safe to have a new idea or a different opinion? Do all members have a sense of belonging to

the group or do some feel excluded? Members should feel a desire or even an obligation to strengthen Kiwanis in order to do more service to communities and all children. How can we make Kiwanis more welcoming to more people?

I welcome your thoughts.

Master Club Coach Alan Arbuckle can be reached at 719-502-7853 or leadcoach@wiumkiwanis.org.

Pilot project designed to boost membership announced...continued from page six

2026 district convention or sooner if possible. The district has allocated some funding support to assist clubs with materials, event planning and other membership recruiting activities.

Consider becoming a part of the project and gain the agreement of your Board of Directors and members,

then reach out to District Executive Director Justin Hahn to express your interest. An intake form will be sent for your club to complete and you will be notified if you are accepted to become part of the pilot project.

Executive Director Justin Hahn can be reached at 414-510-1609 or justinhahn@wiumkiwanis.org.

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2025 MIDYEAR CONFERENCES

Photos by Kathy Strong Langolf and Rebecca Mattson

Midyear conferences, held in Brookfield and Wausau, offered a day of fun, education, and development. Together we celebrated the accomplishments of the 2023-2024 Kiwanis year, raised money for the Kiwanis District Foundation, and gathered ideas to help support our clubs, develop leadership skills, and make memories.

This photo gallery showcases events at both conferences. The next opportunity to attend a district event will be the "Moo-ving Kiwanis Forward" district convention, August 22-24, 2025, in Green Bay. Please make an investment in yourself and your club and attend. You'll be glad you did!



Kathy Strong Langolf led a workshop focused on club culture.



Groups assembled to collaborate on Kiwanis goals.



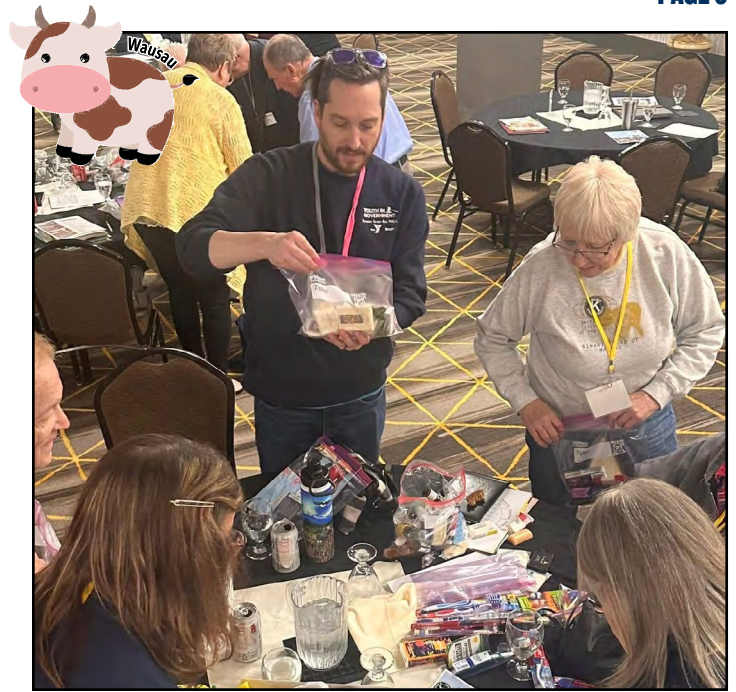
Beverly Burnap from Blue Hills Kiwanis Club and Executive Director Justin Hahn share a Kiwanis hug.



District service project participants created themed kits for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House.



Division 9 Lt. Governor Kathy Strong Langolf and Fond du Lac Noon Kiwanis member Brad Leonhard pose beneath the festive balloon arch.



Care packages for Ronald McDonald House Charities were assembled, in support of Circle K Governor Liana Opitz's district service project.



The district's iPads for Autism Signature Project was launched in 2012.



Attendees chose from many donated baskets during the KDF raffle.



One of the presentations at the midyear conference in Wausau addressed the decline in club membership.



Division 10 Lt. Governor Becky Mattson and District Governor Kathy Durner enjoyed the midyear conference held in Wausau.

DISTRICT AWARDS NOMINATIONS DEADLINE EXTENDED TO JUNE 15TH

Submitted by Justin Hahn, WI-UM Kiwanis District Executive Director

The district has one final opportunity for clubs and members to be recognized for the 2023-2024 Kiwanis year. Submissions for the Bill Solberg Distinguished Service Medal and the Outstanding Club Fundraiser Award must be sent to the district office, postmarked by June 15th, 2025.

The Hilmar L. "Bill" Solberg Distinguished Service Medal is presented on behalf of WI-UM Past District Governors and honors an individual with the following criteria:

- ✓ Actively served in Kiwanis for a period of not less than ten years
- ✓ Have served as a lieutenant governor or district chairperson
- ✓ Actively participated outside of Kiwanis in other community or civic endeavors

Nominations for this award must be made by a club's Board of Directors. Evidential material must be submitted in support of the nominee. Nominees may be living or deceased. The Past Governors selection committee, at

its discretion, may honor more than one individual each year, but is not bound to select any nominee.

The Outstanding Club Fundraiser Award recognizes a Kiwanis club's dedication and effort in having produced the most outstanding fundraiser during the year. An outstanding fundraiser must have made an impact in the amount of funds raised, the time spent on the project, and the number of club members, Kiwanis family members and guests involved.

Submission forms for both awards – which can be found on the district website: <https://k30.site.kiwanis.org/awards> – must be postmarked no later than June 15th. Awards will be presented at this year's District Convention taking place in Green Bay, Wisconsin, August 22-24. If your club submits an award nomination, please ensure that your club – as well as individuals nominated – makes an effort to attend the convention.

Our members do so much and should be recognized for it, so consider applying for one or both awards.

KDF AWARDS \$32,750 IN CLUB GRANTS & MATCHING SCHOLARSHIPS

Submitted by Mark Finger, WI-UM Kiwanis District Foundation Secretary/Treasurer

The WI-UM Kiwanis District Foundation approved the following grants at the October and April Board of Directors meetings:

General Grants (\$22,500 total)

- Alger County: \$2,250 – Munising Hockey Open Skate.
- Barron: \$3,000 – Kiwanis Soccer Field.
- Berlin: \$3,000 – Farmer's Market Bathroom Facility.
- Burlington: \$2,000 – Soccer Program Goals.
- Eau Claire: \$2,000 – Fore the Kids Golf Event.
- Eau Claire Clear Water – \$2,000 – Doll & Pet Parade.
- Marshfield: \$3,000 – Griese Park Playground.
- New Holstein: \$3,000 – Kiwanis Park Concession Stand.
- Sheboygan Falls: \$750 – Bike Helmets.
- Wisconsin Dells: \$1,500 – Holiday Service Project.

Matching Scholarships (\$10,250 total)

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| • Alger County | • Manitowoc Golden K |
| • Ashwaubenon | • Mineral Point |
| • Cambria | • New Holstein |
| • Chilton | • New Richmond |
| • Darboy | • Port Washington |
| • Elm Grove Golden K | • Portage |
| • Fabulous Fond du Lac | • Ripon |
| • Fond du Lac | • Sheboygan Falls |
| • Fond du Lac Lakeside | • Waukesha |
| • Madison West | • Wild Rose |
| • Manitowoc | • Wisconsin Dells |



**WISCONSIN-UPPER MICHIGAN
KIWANIS DISTRICT FOUNDATION**

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD KIWANIS TO JOIN CLUB-BUILDING TEAMS

Submitted by Paul Shrode, 2024-2025 Governor-elect



Paul Shrode

The district is planning to build some new clubs this summer and throughout next year, and we are looking for a few enthusiastic and experienced members and clubs to help. Virtually every club was sponsored by another club in the beginning. The growth of Kiwanis makes it possible to increase our

impact on the communities we serve and accomplish our mission. It also broadens our circle of friends and benefits both the sponsoring club and the new club in the process. Please consider the following ways you and your club can participate in this process.

Club Building Teams

To assist with building new clubs, we are taking a regional approach. Lieutenant governors will join with club members to help with club building efforts. The process includes identifying community needs, listing local contacts, and meeting with key people from the new community. Team members may set up appointments by phone, do research on area needs and local stakeholders, or visit with prospects prior to an informational open house. Others may set up open house events, service projects or other activities where Kiwanis can be introduced to the community. Training and support are provided for each step in the process.

Coaching Roles

Kiwanis provides special training for coaches who assist with the club-building process. International staff are also available to help with doing community research, facilitating the process, using social media tools, and providing materials and supplies. Club coaches work with a new club during its first year of operation and also receive specialized training. Ideally, a new club coach is a member of the sponsoring Kiwanis club.

Become a Sponsoring Club

Experience shows that the most successful new club builds have the support of nearby clubs. A sponsoring

club agrees to support and nurture a new Kiwanis club for at least its first year of operation. The sponsoring club assists with the club opener and core team members during the week that visits are paid to potential members, culminating in a club opening meeting. Visiting the new club by inter-clubbing with them during organizational meetings and their first few months helps to build relationships and puts experienced members in the position to answer questions and help new members understand Kiwanis. A sponsoring club may also help plan the first few service projects, provide/or support the new club coach, and assist the lieutenant governor in working with the club. The sponsoring club should monitor the new club for at least one year and help them to grow or at least maintain a minimum of 15 members. Successful sponsoring clubs must be in good standing with Kiwanis International and should be above charter strength, preferably with 20–25 members. It is possible for clubs to co-sponsor a new club.

Sponsoring a new club can be a really good way to energize your own club. Members will learn strategies for nurturing a club and engaging members, something that can help build your own membership. Sharing service ideas and projects, fellowship opportunities and fundraisers with a new club can prove rewarding, and reaching out to regional media to call attention to a new club can also highlight your club and its contributions to community. Helping a new club assess local needs also helps your club rethink its own community needs and learn strategies for identifying those needs.

We are looking for a few good members and a few good clubs willing to help spread the word, welcome neighboring communities into the Kiwanis family, and make a difference regionally. If you or your club has questions or may be interested, reach out to your lieutenant governor or district leadership. Kids need Kiwanis, and Kiwanis needs you!

2024-2025 Governor-elect Paul Shrode can be reached at 920-809-2872 or psshrode@aol.com.

AKTION CLUB PRESENTS 13TH IPAD TO A CHILD ON THE SPECTRUM

Submitted by Charles Zarnoth, WI-UM Aktion Club Co-administrator

On March 10th, Aktion Club President Chris Woelfel and Tim Propp, members of the We Care Aktion Club in Chilton, presented the club's 13th iPad. The recipient, Connor, is a student in the Hilbert School District. Very soon the club will present their 14th iPad.

On May 3rd, the Beacons of Hope Aktion Club, The Arc of Fond du Lac Aktion Club, and the We Care Aktion Club joined together for the annual "Aktion Clubs Bowl for the WI-UM Kiwanis iPad Project". Members accepted pledges to raise money to purchase more iPads which will be presented to children on the autism spectrum. Many more children will have iPads because of the Aktion Club members' efforts.

Aktion Club is the only service club for adults with disabilities, with more than 6,430 members worldwide. Club members become competent, capable, caring leaders through the vehicle of service.



We care Aktion Club members presented an iPad to Connor in March.

SUPPORT THE DISTRICT FOUNDATION WITH A CASE VAN KLEEF AWARD

By Tonya Alling, Kiwanews Editor



The Case Van KleeF Fellowship award is the WI-UM Kiwanis District's highest honor. Named for former District Governor and International Past President Case Van KleeF, the award is given to an individual in whose name a donation of \$1,000 is given to the WI-UM Kiwanis District Foundation (KDF).

Proceeds from Van KleeF awards support the KDF endowment fund, which generates funds for future grants and scholarships. Can you think of a club member or friend who is deserving of a Van KleeF Fellowship? If so, please contact KDF Secretary Mark Finger at 920-361-9954 or markfingerkdf@wiumkiwanis.org.

UPCOMING KIWANIS EVENTS

June 25-28, 2025	Kiwanis International Convention, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
August 22-24, 2025	WI-UM Kiwanis District Convention, Green Bay, Wisconsin
September 12-14, 2025	Key Leader, Camp Wawbeek, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin

MARKESAN KIWANIS CLUB PRESENTS 75TH ANNUAL VARIETY SHOW

Submitted by Randall Durner, WI-UM Kiwanis District First Spouse

Do you like musicals, comedy and variety? If so, then hopefully you attended the Markesan Kiwanis Club's 75th variety show held on May 5 and 6, 2025. If not, then you missed an outstanding program which club members have been putting on since 1949!

Held at Markesan Middle School, both District Governor Kathleen and First Spouse/Division 6 Lt. Governor Randall Durner attended the show on Tuesday, May 6. The show was entitled, "Diamonds are Forever", celebrating the Markesan club's 75th show.

The men's 32-member chorus, sharply dressed in dark pants, white shirts and black bow ties were downright excellent in their singing. Several talented members of the choral group performed individual songs for the audience, including such hits as "Sounds of Silence", "Song Sung Blue", "This Diamond Ring", "The Wedding Song", "She's Every Woman", and "Annie's Song". K-Kids from the club's sponsored leadership program also sang for the audience as did one of the Kiwanian's adult daughter who was a hit!

Woven into the musical content were several local men who conducted hilarious skits like "Who's On First" with Rick "Winder" Grahn and Jim "Heinder" Hein, as well as others who entertained the audience with rollicking jokes and personal tributes.

Both the Governor and her husband hailed the program as professionally conducted, complete with videotaping, musician support, and excellent lighting and sound systems. Hats off and congratulations to Chairperson Tim Zacharias and President Skip Walker for putting together a terrific show as well as the cast and show committees for their hard work.

The show could not go on without local community business and individual donations to the program, which has been essential for its success. The club also highlighted club projects and supported causes in the event program, as well as an invitation to the audience



Markesan Kiwanis Club President Skip Walker, far right, takes a break in the action for a quick photo with First Spouse Randall Durner and District Governor Kathy Durner.

on how to become involved with the Markesan Kiwanis Club, a great recruiting tool. Said Governor Kathy, "This was my second visit to [the club's] annual program and it was superb!" Overall, the Governor extended a Bravo! to the Markesan Kiwanis Club and their outstanding entertainment legacy.

DISTRICT ANNOUNCES AUGUST CALENDAR RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

August 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Ready for some summer fun? WI-UM District is holding a calendar raffle during the month of August. Raffle tickets will be on sale online and drawings will be held

every day in August. Board members are donating the prizes, which so far include a six pack of wine, leather briefcases and purses, and gift cards. One of the best prizes: your 2026 convention registration and hotel stay paid for! What would you like to win? Let your Lt. Governor know! Watch for more details in your inbox soon!

KDF OFFICERS & DIVISION REPS

President

Jim Burmeister 608-429-2905
burmji@gmail.com Portage

Vice President

Roger Krogstad 715-207-2720
krog4kiwanis@gmail.com Marshfield

Secretary/Treasurer

Mark Finger 920-229-2571
markfingerkdf@wiumkiwanis.org Berlin

Immediate Past President

Jan Williams 920-279-2736
jan@jwains.com Berlin

Division 1/Term: 2024-2027

Melissa Loebach 224-730-1558
mbondy1024@gmail.com Kenosha

Division 2/Term: 2024-2027

Jim Buskel 262-391-8494
jbuskel38@gmail.com Elm Grove Golden K

Division 3/Term: 2024-2027

Larry Koziol 262-338-1996
larrykoziol@gmail.com West Bend, Early Risers

Division 4/Term: 2023-2026

..... Open

Division 5/Term: 2023-2026

Todd Liebergen 920-393-0300
tmliebergen@gmail.com Appleton

Division 6/Term: 2022-2025

Randall Durner 608-356-2915
radforester08@gmail.com Wisconsin Dells

Division 7/Term: 2024-2027

Glenda Lee 608-615-0066
glendalee01@centurytel.net La Crosse

Division 8/Term: 2024-2027

Ken Irwin 920-827-2109
irwins@tcei.com New Holstein

Division 9/Term: 2022-2025

Louise Gudex 920-923-6870
lgudex@fdlpha.org Fond du Lac

Division 10/Term: 2023-2026

Mary Ann Wepfer 920-725-6004
dwepfer@new.rr.com Appleton-Fox Cities

Division 11/Term: 2022-2025

Lori Bents 715-389-1570
lbentsdc@tznet.com Marshfield

Division 12/Term: 2022-2025

LaVone Sneen 715-797-3556
sneenl@uwec.edu Eau Claire-Clear Water

Division 13/Term: 2022-2025

..... Vacant

Division 14/Term: 2023-2026

Cathy Weisinger 906-202-1297
cathyweisinger@yahoo.com Alger County

Past Foundation President Representative

..... Open

2024-2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Governor

Kathy Durner 814-331-2240
kathydurner1949@gmail.com Wisconsin Dells

Governor-elect

Paul Shrode 920-809-2872
psshrode@aol.com Appleton-Fox Cities

Executive Director

Justin Hahn 414-510-1609
justinhahn@wiumkiwanis.org Waterford Area

Immediate Past Governor

Tim Lubinsky 920-450-3951
tlubinsky19@hotmail.com Ripon

Lt. Governor Division 1/Term: 2023-2025

Paul Holley 262-637-9093
paulh_wi@yahoo.com West Racine

Lt. Governor Division 2/Term: 2024-2026

William (Bill) Martens 414-254-5480
wemartw@gmail.com Elm Grove Golden K

Lt. Governor Division 3/Term: 2023-2025

Wally Smith 414-943-0892
wally.smith@scouting.org Milwaukee

Lt. Governor Division 4/Term: 2023-2025

..... Open

Lt. Governor Division 5/Term: 2024-2026

Shirley Eells 608-214-9828
soeells@yahoo.com Monroe Kiwanis

Lt. Governor Division 6/Term: 2024-2026

Lori Bents 715-389-1570
lbentsdc@tznet.com Marshfield

Lt. Governor Division 7/Term: 2024-2026

Glenda Lee 608-615-0066
glendalee01@centurytel.net La Crosse

Lt. Governor Division 8/Term: 2024-2026

Michael "Fitz" Fitzpatrick 262-777-0038
fitzforkiwanis@gmail.com New Holstein

Lt. Governor Division 9/Term: 2023-2025

Kathy Strong Langolf 920-948-5056
kathystronglangolf@wiumkiwanis.org Fond du Lac Noon

Lt. Governor Division 10/Term: 2023-2025

Peter Carman 920-460-6748
peter@petercarman.lawyer Grand Chute

Lt. Governor Division 11/Term: 2023-2025

Miki Bix 715-748-3237
mikibix@hotmail.com Medford

Lt. Governor Division 12/Term: 2023-2025

Becky Mattson 218-461-0220
rmattson711@gmail.com Eau Claire

Lt. Governor Division 13/Term: 2024-2026

..... Open

Lt. Governor Division 14/Term: 2024-2026

Steve Halsey 906-362-0298
trh_sph1987@yahoo.com Marquette

2024-2025 APPOINTED POSITIONS

aKtion Club Co-administrators

Charles Zarnoth 920-849-2658
cjzarnothapc@gmail.com Chilton

Jean Long Manteufel 920-585-7769
jean@longmoving.com Appleton-Fox Cities

Builders Club Administrator

Becky Mattson 218-461-0220
rmattson711@gmail.com Eau Claire

Circle K Administrator

Lena Scheibengraber 414-418-9779
administrator@wumcki.org Metropolitan Milwaukee Nights

District Convention

Ben Gunderson 612-720-2215
ben.gunderson@greenbayymca.org Green Bay

District Foundation President

Jim Burmeister 608-429-2905
burmji@gmail.com Portage

District Foundation Secretary/Treasurer

Mark Finger 920-229-2571
markfingerkdf@wiumkiwanis.org Berlin

K-Kids Administrator

Becky Mattson 218-461-0220
rmattson711@gmail.com Eau Claire

Key Club Administrator

Sara Gelden 262-909-9683
nolans24@gmail.com Westosha, Salem

Key Leader Coordinator

Anna Bruhn 608-393-6811
info@wiumkeyleader.org Sauk Prairie, Prairie du Sac

Kiwanews Editor

Tonya Alling 920-229-5531
tonyaalling@wiumkiwanis.org Ripon Early Birds

Kiwanis Children's Fund

Michael "Fitz" Fitzpatrick 262-777-0038
fitzforkiwanis@gmail.com New Holstein

Kiwanis Partnership Coordinator Open

Master Club Coach

Alan Arbuckle 719-502-7853
ajarbuckle@yahoo.com Whitewater Breakfast

Parliamentarian

Paul Shrode 920-809-2872
psshrode@aol.com Appleton-Fox Cities

Public Relations Coordinator

Ron Horner 847-337-2777
rhorer@hornerconsulting.com Western Kenosha

Risk Management & Youth Protection

John Collins 262-914-2721
coljrcollins@gmail.com Western Kenosha

#KIDSNEEDKIWANIS

2024-2025 DISTRICT CHAIRS

Bylaws and Policies

Jim Burmeister 608-429-2905
burmji@gmail.com Portage

District Signature Project – iPads for Autism

Lynn Messer 920-946-0652
lmmsr001@gmail.com Sheboygan Falls

District Signature Project – Kiwanis 'n Cops 'n Kids

Jean Long Manteufel 920-585-7769
jean@longmoving.com Appleton-Fox Cities

Finance

Bruce Hoehne 608-358-1344
b.hoehne@yahoo.com Madison West

Human and Spiritual Values

Jim Kieso 262-442-1749
mrkieso@gmail.com Elm Grove Golden K

Leadership Development Coordinator/Master Instructor

Jean Long Manteufel 920-585-7769
jean@longmoving.com Appleton-Fox Cities

Membership and Engagement

Joanne Horner 847-337-2778
teamhorner@mindspring.com Western Kenosha

Past Governor Trustee

Roger Krogstad 715-207-2720
krog4kiwanis@gmail.com Marshfield

Past Lt. Governor Representative

Paul Shrode 920-809-2872
psshrode@aol.com Appleton-Fox Cities

Service

Ann Pilot 262-939-1614
annmarie.pilot@gmail.com Metro Milwaukee Nights

KIWANEWS SCHEDULE

October/November November 15 Deadline
 December/January January 15 Deadline
 February/March March 15 Deadline
 April/May May 15 Deadline
 June/July July 15 Deadline
 August/September September 15 Deadline



KIWANEWS Volume 101, No. 4

Kiwanews is published six times each year in November, January, March, May, July and September by the WI-UM District of Kiwanis International, 1641 Fox River Parkway, Waukesha, WI 53189.



FORGE *the* FUTURE

Kiwanis®
CONVENTION 2025
PITTSBURGH

JUNE
25-28



Key Leader provides an opportunity for teens to learn about themselves.

Make a difference in someone's life!
Send a student! Or two!

Registration is open through Sept. 14.

Questions? Please contact us!
info@wiumkeyleader.org
www.wiumkeyleader.org
www.facebook.com/wiumkeyleader

KIWANIS
KEY LEADER

PROGRAM

KEY LEADER IS A LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE FOR TEENAGERS (14-19)

A weekend leadership experience that prepares teens for life. Friday, September 12 through Sunday, September 14, 2025. Camp Wawbeek, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin.