CAPITAL DISTRICT KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL
Trustee Board Report

Region: Chesapeake Bay **Date:** March 2022

To be submitted to the District Secretary-Treasurer no later than 21 days before each quarterly District Board Meeting. For each division in your region, comment on the areas below.

1. MEMBERSHIP

Thus far in 2021-2022, we have seen net growth in Division 4 (+7) and in Division 5 (+5). In Division 4, four clubs have seen growth this year (+3: Capital Next Generation e-Club; +1: Crofton, +2: Commodore Mayo, +1: Severna Park) and one club remains stable (Ellicott City). In Division 5, four clubs have seen growth (+1: Accomack; +2: Chincoteague, +1: Greater Millsboro, +1: Seaford) and seven clubs remain stable (Bridgeville, Coastal Delaware, Delmar, Dover, Georgetown, Greater Ocean Pines, and Pocomoke City).

We will continue to elevate membership as a top priority in the region for 2021-2022. Both Krista Latchaw (Division 4) and Steve Cohen (Division 5) have continued to develop their plans for strengthening current clubs in this Kiwanis year. With several smaller clubs within each division, the overall focus is on strengthening our current Kiwanis clubs, with less of a focus on new club building. Steve has reached out to local Chambers of Commerce to stimulate young professional interest in Kiwanis. He is also committed to reviving the Coastal Delaware club and getting it above charter strength in this Kiwanis year. We are searching for a membership coordinator within each division to join the District Membership Committee. This search is on-going, and while it should have been completed before the start of the new Kiwanis year, it is my hope to conclude it soon.

2. PLANS FOR NEW KIWANIS OR SLP CLUBS

Club	Status
Kar-wanis (Division 5) Kar-wanis idea adding members to current clubs in addition to building one new club	Idea In Development; 2021-22
New Aktion Clubs (1 in Division 4 and 1 in Division 5)	Site Selection in Process in Division 4 (Howard County)
New Key Clubs: Crofton HS (Division 4B – Sponsor: Crofton) New Builders Club: Ellicott Mills MS (Division 4 – Sponsor: Ellicott City) New K-Kids Club: Bryant Woods ES (Division 4 – Sponsor: Ellicott City)	Chartering Under Consideration

3. CHALLENGES OR ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Sadly, despite a few productive meetings and some well-intentioned outreach efforts from leaders, the leadership pipeline for future Lt. Governors continues to be a concern in the Chesapeake Bay Region. We continue to search for a 2022-2023 Lt. Governor for Division 5 with little success or interest. Neither division has found a Lt. Governor-Elect to serve the Capital District in 2023-2024. We are growing the leadership pipeline in Division 4 with some new leaders stepping into club roles in the year ahead. Our Capital – Next Generation e-Club has several eager young leaders who want to fill roles at the district level. However, this is not a long-term or sustainable solution to the issues we are facing, nor does it address the concern in Division 5. Within Division 5, we are seeing many membership concerns from clubs, which makes it seem unlikely that many clubs will have candidates for the Lt. Governor role. This is a primary and urgent focus.

Clubs in Divisions 4 and 5 have weathered the recent spike in COVID cases due to the Omicron variant and have primarily returned to in-person meetings and service, despite many ongoing concerns over the health and safety of members. The winter season is not a strong time for many clubs, though several clubs have managed substantial service projects and community events. For example, Ellicott City led another successful iteration of its *Backpacks for Breaks* initiative in December. Bridgeville is gearing up for another year of BBQ chicken sales – an effort that spans almost half of the calendar year. Members continue to come out and experience Kiwanis to their level of comfort. The Next Generation e-Club is hitting a new stride in mixing virtual meetings with a spattering of in-person service and social events. This has resulted in a +3 membership gain for the club thus far in 2021-2022. The club continues to ask me how we will continue to integrate Zoom as a permanent fixture moving forward. They see that it is not an option at Mid-Year and that an online component will not be offered at District Convention. With members residing outside of the boundaries of the Capital District, there are concerns about limiting participation. This will be an important topic for the District Board to discuss.

The SLP clubs in Divisions 4 and 5 are emerging from the pandemic, but many still face challenging school restrictions. Most notably, many school districts in Maryland have placed prohibitions on out-of-state field trips, which will make attendance at District Convention this year nearly impossible. We are hoping for changes in local policy for 2022-2023 to allow a return to full participation. At this juncture, dues collection is the primary focus for many Key Clubs and CKI clubs, with a parallel focus on conducting service projects in their schools and communities. We have a good record of Key Club dues collection for clubs in Division 4. The clubs in Division 5 are a bit weaker with their payments this year, which should be a focus for sponsoring Kiwanis clubs. CKI in our region is struggling and support from sponsoring Kiwanis clubs is needed. At this time, of the four clubs in this region (Johns Hopkins, Towson, University of Delaware, and UMBC), only one club has paid dues (Johns Hopkins: 15 members).

I do not have any immediate questions. There is no need for immediate assistance.

4. OTHER COMMENTS

SIGNED: Joshua V Hiscock