

Buckeye Bulletin

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And the Keynote Speaker is.....

The Mid-Year Committee is proud to present our keynote speaker! If you have met him, you know the energy he exudes. If you have not, you are in for a treat! Spike will be speaking at our **Mid-Year Event on March 19th** at the Opening Ceremony regarding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. He will also have an afternoon session where he will be speaking about Special Interest Clubs - what they are, who they include, and how to form them.

Shawn "Spike" Smith is a third-generation Kiwanian from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Since joining the Kiwanis Club of Sheraden in 2015, he has served as Board Member, Public Relations Chair, awarded Kiwanian of the Year in 2016 and 2020. Spike has also worn several different hats for the Pennsylvania District, as Kiwanis Advisor to the PACK (PA Circle K) Board his very first year as a member (and thinking he would be working for a gas station...), later serving a short term as an officer of the Pennsylvania Kiwanis Foundation, and currently in his second year as Lieutenant Governor for Division 5 in PA. Spike was elected in December as Trustee for Region 2 in PA and is the Chair of the newly formed PA J.E.D.I. (Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) Committee and is extremely honored to be serving his first year on the Kiwanis International Committee for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion with thirteen HIGHLY Talented Kiwanians from all over the world.

In 2018, Spike created a brand-new workshop for Kiwanis called "LGBTQ and YOU" in response to a Circle K student being told they weren't allowed to join their local Kiwanis club because they were homosexual. Word spread about the presentation and the tall guy with a mohawk and has since presented for the PA, and New England and Bermuda District Mid-Year and DCON's, Circle K and Key Club DCONs, Rotary Clubs and at the 2019 Kiwanis International Convention in Walt Disney World where he proposed the amendment for the protection of all sexual orientations and gender identities, making Kiwanis International the first international service organization to do so in its non-discrimination policy. He was awarded a Heroes in Service award at the 2019 PA DCON.

When not working on Kiwanis, Spike works with his father's company, Smith Construction Management, LLC, and pretends he knows what he is doing on a day-to-day basis. Thankfully, his Musical Theater and Stage Management degree from Point Park University helps tremendously in that respect. Before working with plumbers, electricians, and owners, Spike, then called "Shawn", worked with actors, designers, and directors for 20 years in Pittsburgh and Chicago and has been seen on stage, on TV and on the big screen domestically and internationally. He also built sets that lasted no longer than a typical three-week run. Luckily, that skill did not follow him into the construction he does now. In 2019, Spike was a finalist for the Inspiring Success in Construction and Real Estate award at the Pittsburgh Junior Achievement's Young Professionals Luncheon and won the honor in 2020.



Governor

Craig Smith

Governor@ohiokiwanis.org



It's December, which means our thoughts are turning to family and friends, holiday celebrations and travel, and what to get the person that already has everything. We're making plans for dinners, sending out holiday greeting cards, and scheduling time to watch our 'must see' movies and shows. And making resolutions for the coming year.

As members of the Kiwanis Family our thoughts are turning to seasonal things as well. Bell ringing on behalf of the Salvation Army. Holiday food drives. Preparing meals for those in need. Breakfasts and dinners for the children in our communities featuring a visit from Santa. With all our holiday service events we give our greatest gifts - we give of ourselves, our time, and our concern for others well-being.

There is one gift we should all consider giving this holiday season - the gift of being a Kiwanian. Being a Kiwanian is truly a gift that keeps on giving. What better gift is there than the smile on a child's face when opening an unexpected present? Or joy expressed by a struggling family that didn't think a holiday meal would be possible this year? Or the tears of joy a young mother sheds when she takes her child to an all-access playground for the first time? As a Kiwanian we all know the feeling we get when a child benefits from our efforts.

The wonderful thing about this gift is that we don't have to give it on a specific day of the year, we can give it anytime of the year. All it takes is an ask. Which brings me to New Year's resolutions. I'd like to propose a New Year resolution for every Kiwanian: that we will all bring in at least one new member to Kiwanis next year. Or at least invite someone to join, attend a meeting, or participate in a service project with us. Remember that 100% of the people we don't ask to join Kiwanis don't join Kiwanis.

And, as we're at the end of the year, I'd be remiss if I didn't remind you that our District Foundation and the Kiwanis Children's fund play an important role in making the gift of Kiwanis possible. Without their ability to help fund our projects our jobs would be much harder. Please consider making a gift before the end of the year to the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation or the Kiwanis Children's Fund.

I wish all of you in our Kiwanis Family the Happiest of Holiday Seasons. Please enjoy this time of fellowship and goodwill, peace and giving.



From the Secretary's Desk

The end of the calendar year provides us with some time to reflect and plan for the future while celebrating holidays that may be held dear for either religious or other reasons. There is a general sense of giving and charity that comes with the holidays that can provide immense personal satisfaction through either delighting, surprising, or just showing care to another person.

District Secretary

Jim Janosik

ExecutiveDirector@ohiokiwanis.org



For me and my family, we celebrate Christmas. These days, Christmas is less about gifts and more about just being together. What I have always been mindful of in my K-Family experience is that our organization is a non-secular one, and that our dedicated volunteers have different faiths, or maybe even none at all. But that does not mean that we cannot celebrate the spirit of the holidays through fellowship, and above all else, service.

A few little housekeeping tips and ideas for your clubs as you come to the end of this calendar year and prepare for 2022:

All clubs must file an annual report with the Ohio Attorney General by February 15th reporting income. This is mandatory, yet very easy to do on their website [Home - CHARITABLE OHIO \(ohioago.gov\)](http://ohioago.gov)

- About 30% of all annual donations in America come in December. How is your club reaching out to share WHY donors should choose Kiwanis with their funds?
- A lot of people make New Year's Resolutions to be more engaged with and give back to their community. How is your club planning to let them know that Kiwanis should be the means to do that through?

The District Office will be closed December 24 - January 2. Happy Holidays!

Dave Doney
Interclub & Fellowship
ddoney825@gmail.com



With 2022 on the horizon a good New Year's resolution for Kiwanis clubs across Ohio might be to attend another clubs meeting. Interclub is the easiest way for Kiwanians to meet, socialize and exchange ideas. Your club receives credit for an Interclub by joining another club's meeting in person or online, by attending Mid-Year Education, Ohio District Convention or the International Convention. Attending an SLP Club meeting like Key Club or Aktion Club is another great way to Interclub. If you can't make to a meeting or convention, you can always receive credit by attending another club's fundraiser.

Definition of Interclub, following the format established by the Ohio Kiwanis District:

Clubs with 20 members or less need 2 members to attend a meeting, to qualify for credit*

Clubs with 30 members or less need 3 members to attend for credit

Clubs with 40 members or more need 4 members to attend for credit

*** There must be a host club and there must be a business, education, service or social aspect to the meeting or event.**

Here is how interclub credit works. One point for each:

- "Round Robin" visit every club in your division
- Visit one division council meeting
- Attend Mid-Year Education
- Attend Ohio District Convention
- Attend International Convention
- Visit a club meeting outside your division
- Visit your club's SLP twice
- Visit a club outside your district



Patch Pride:

In addition to gaining knowledge for your club, you'll earn recognition:

Gold is 8 points; Silver is 6 points; Blue is 4 points; Certificates are 2 points.

No matter the manner, interclub equals fellowship and fellowship equals a strong Ohio Kiwanis District. Take some time to visit other clubs in your area you won't be disappointed!

Make Plans Now!!!

There are several different contests which each club can enter. We encourage each club to review the contest rules and to work toward excellence by meeting the contest criteria. By planning now and taking simple steps, your club could easily be able to enter multiple contests by September 30th. Each contest is designed to help your club excel in each area, such as social media engagement, club communications via newsletters, fellowship through interclubs, etc.

Contest information can be found in the 2021-2022 Ohio District Directory, and on the Ohio District Kiwanis website, under the [awards tab](#). **Remember, you can't win if you don't enter!**



Ohio District Kiwanis Mid-Year Education Day

March 19, 2022

Crown Plaza North

6500 Doubletree Plaza, Columbus



Club/Committee

Organization: _____

Contact: _____ **Day Phone:** _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Check all that Apply:

- Club or District Chair Request (no charge)
- Commercial Display (\$50/table)
- Charitable Organization (No Charge)
- Club vending/fundraising table (\$25/table)
- Need Electrical Outlet

*All display tables will be five feet long and assigned on a first come, first served basis to Kiwanians up to the deadline date of **February 23, 2022**. Requests received after that time will be on a first come, first served basis by date of receipt.*

Any club selling merchandise as a means of a fundraiser needs to pay \$25/table to offset the expense of the display space. Display units may be set up Saturday morning and should be in place by 8:30 a.m. They must be removed by 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 19. If additional information is required, contact the Ohio District Kiwanis Office at 614-848-5000.

Vendors must be registered as attendees at \$65 per person. Registration will include all refreshments and luncheon opportunities as well as event ID's.

We would like to purchase registrations for the following individuals:

1. _____ 2. _____

Mail Request Form with check to: **Ohio District Kiwanis, 941 Chatham Lane, Suite 326, Columbus, OH 43221**

* Club and District Chair requests may be emailed to Sarah@ohiokiwanis.org

Builders Club Co-Chair
Robert Day Jr.
cvohio2095@gmail.com



Recognizing Excellence in Student Leaders

Distinguished Club Officers

Per the Builders Club website "Have any of your club officers gone "above and beyond" to serve your club? With the help of your Kiwanis or faculty advisor, you can nominate any club officer, whether president, vice president, secretary or treasurer for a Distinguished Club Officers award!

Distinguished Club Officer award information

- There is no limit to which club officers can be selected per district. Any member, fellow club officer, club advisor or district administrator may nominate a club officer. (Club officers may not nominate themselves.)
- Names of award recipients are posted on the Builders Club website, announced in the May Builders Club monthly e-newsletter, and shared on the official Facebook and Twitter pages. Nominating is easy! Just complete this [online form](#) by May 1. Then stay tuned to hear the announcement of winners during the month of May.

Read the Distinguished Club Officers award rules before getting started to ensure your nomination is eligible for recognition.

Distinguished Club Officer award rules

- Any Builders Club officer in good standing in an active Builders Club is eligible to participate.
- Submissions must include content identified in the contest rules. Videos, photos and files about subjects other than what is posted in the rules are not eligible and will not be judged.
- Submissions must be completed through the Builders Club submission form on Formstack. Other methods of submission will not be considered.
- Users can each submit only ONE entry for consideration.
- The submission period for the Distinguished Club Officers contest will be from **9 a.m. PT on Tuesday, March 2, until midnight PT on Friday, May 1**. Submissions uploaded after that period will be disqualified.
- Distinguished Club Officer recipients will be posted on the website and announced via the official Builders Club monthly e-newsletter in May and on social media channels on or around May 15.
- By entering the Distinguished Club Officers contest, the winner and everyone involved agrees to the use of his or her name, voice, likeness and photo/video submission in any advertising or promotion without compensation.
- Kiwanis International employees, their licensees, associates, affiliates, subsidiaries, exhibitors or their immediate family member and/or those living in the same household are not eligible.

•
By participating in this promotion, entrants agree to be bound by the official rules.

The link to the Builders Club website is <https://www.buildersclub.org/club-and-member-recognition/>

Our goal as a district should be to nominate as many of our builders clubs officers as possible to be so recognized as Distinguished Club officers.



Bellevue Kiwanis Celebrated by Flat Rock Homes

On October 19, the Kiwanis Club of Bellevue was recognized by Flat Rock Homes. Originally formed in 1866 as an orphanage after the Civil War, they expanded in the 1970's to care for those with Developmental Delays. For 100 years the Kiwanis Club of Bellevue has provided Santa, gifts and a party to residents of Flat Rock homes. This may be the longest continual project within Kiwanis International.

In May 2015, Flat Rock Aktion Club was chartered, creating an opportunity for the residents and clients of Flat Rock Homes to engage with the community through service projects.

Karen Kilgo from Flat Rock Homes expressed her appreciation of the continual support of the Bellevue Kiwanis Club throughout the decades and provided an update to ongoing developments at their facility.

Kiwanis Club of the Eastfork Region Recognizes Veteran's Day

The much anticipated Fields of Honor have been installed! It was a group effort with several members helping to assemble flags, create dedication tags, measure fields, and install 400 American Flags. We want to thank all members who donated their time, and also employees from American Modern Insurance Group who volunteered. Community feedback has been amazing!

Understanding this was a fundraiser, we also had the awesome privilege of bringing a project to local communities that allowed Veteran's, Military, and First Responder's to be honored. We also extend a thank you to the Veteran's Service Commission for serving as event sponsor and leading the field dedication ceremonies. Also, thanks go to the four site sponsors: Ace Hardware in Bethel, American Modern Insurance, Huhtamaki, and Moore Family Funeral Homes.

To date, between individual sponsors and corporate sponsors there have been 180 flags dedicated. Flags will fly through November 28th. Huge appreciation to Bob Raub for being project manager! We look forward to this becoming an annual fundraiser to allow us to serve more children in the East Fork Region.



Kiwanis Children's Fund

Jim Janosik

ExecutiveDirector@ohiokiwanis.org



Since 1940, the Kiwanis Children's Fund has helped Kiwanians extend their impact — in their own hometowns and around the world. We do this by developing resources that transform the goodwill and vision of Kiwanians into programs that serve the children of the world. One of the ways we make it happen is the Club Grant program.

For the Children's Fund, a grant does more than fill a funding gap. It's a collaboration. Grant funding helps address an unmet need of children through a project that provides long-term benefits sustained by a club. Clubs interested in applying for a grant should review the program material carefully to learn about the Kiwanis Children's Fund as a potential funding partner.

The Guide to Club Grants

Successfully applying for a club grant requires thoughtful preparation and thorough attention to the program's criteria. The keys to preparing a successful grant application can be found in our [Guide to Club Grants](#). This document walks you through each step of the grant process — providing instructions, detailed background information, important dates, helpful tips and links to additional resources.

Eligibility and requirements

Grant-funded projects must have a strong Kiwanis identity — and the Kiwanis club's significant hands-on involvement. Projects must also support activities addressing at least one of the following Children's Fund cause areas: health, education and youth leadership development. Complete eligibility requirements are outlined in the [Guide to Club Grants](#). Take our [eligibility quiz](#) to see if your club's project meets the minimum funding requirements.

Important dates

For June 1 funding decisions:

- Submit Letter of Inquiry any time before February 1
- If approved, submit full application by April 1

For October 1 funding decisions:

- Submit Letter of Inquiry any time before June 1
- If approved, submit full application by August 1

For January 1 funding decisions:

- Submit Letter of Inquiry any time before September 1
- If approved, submit full application by November 1

<https://www.kiwanis.org/childrens-fund/grants/club-grant-program>



2022 MidYear Education Day Give a Little Bit Sponsorship Form

There are three levels of event sponsorship available this year: Please select the option which best suits your needs.

Happy Level Benefits

- Promotion of Sponsorship on Facebook, website, and in the program.

Heart Level Benefits

- Happy Level Benefits, plus...
- Half page ad in event program

Time Level Benefits

- Happy Level Benefits, plus...
- Full page ad in event program
- Option to place item in event 'Swag Bag'
- Recognition at all three general sessions
- 1 Registration for 2022 MidYear



Please select choice:

- _____ Happy Level Sponsor \$100
- _____ Heart Level Sponsor \$250
- _____ Time Level Sponsor \$500
- _____ Other* (Please note only those donating at one of the three levels above will receive the associated perks. Also, online payment can only be received for the three designated levels. 'Other' amounts must be made by check.)

Please return this form by February 26, 2022. On-line sponsorship and payment by credit card options are available at: www.ohiokiwanis.org under "MidYear."

Please make checks payable to: "Ohio District Kiwanis"

Mail to: Ohio District Kiwanis,
941 Chatham Lane, Suite 326
Columbus, Ohio 43221

Have Questions? email midyear@ohiokiwanis.org or call
614-848-5000

Sponsors Name: (Club, Division, Individual, Company, Organization, etc) as you would like it to appear in promotional items:

Contact Information: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____



The Ohio District of Kiwanis is the largest single-state district in North America. We are excited to welcome new members to the Ohio District. We encourage each member to participate in inter-clubs, division council meetings, MidYear Education Day, District and International Conventions. We encourage all members to sign up to receive the [Buckeye Bulletin](#), it takes just a few moments to help them keep informed of all the news in our district. Again, *welcome to the wonderful world and work of KIWANIS!*

Name	Club
Thomas Walsh	Mariemont
Siddhesh Raje	Mariemont
Chris Azeez	Anderson Hills
James Chronister	New Madison
Martin Gaska	Medina
James Chronister	New Madison
Jeremy Hall	Columbus
Thomas Gilmore	Mariemont
Eva Matraw	Celina
Brian Votaw	Morrow County
William Humphrey	Bellefontaine
Katherine Young	East Fork Region
Staci Vincent	Lander Circle
Elizabeth Betemps	East Fork Region
Matthew Leddy	Findlay
Korena Pow	Alliance
Vallery Swartz-Hoy	I-Next
Jason Wolfe	Lancaster
David Mortimer	Bowling Green
Diane Smith	Northern Columbus
Lucinda Knepp	Alliance
Kate Sedgner	Steubenville
Carrie Jo Cottrell	Galion
Dwayne Castle	Galion
Timothy Hammel	Lima
Bryan Carroll	Bay Village
Brian Bauman	Findlay
Brian Stuckey	West Toledo
Diana Huffman	Wilmington
Avril Nolte	Westerville
Tawnya Dunn	Mason
Elaine Zielinski	Greater Euclid
Amy Boyd	Mount Vernon
Krista Neiman	Kettering-Centerville
Richard Cordonnier	Celina
Deborah Wasch	Magic City- Barberton
Janet Hohenberger	East Toledo-Oregon
Lance Huffman	Wilmington

Welcome Tipp City!

Congratulations and welcome to the newly organized Kiwanis Club of Tipp City! Located in Division 3 and co-sponsored by the Kiwanis Clubs of Piqua and Troy, the club organized on November 18, 2021 with 18 members

The club will meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at noon at the Tipp Center, 855 N. Third Street.

Their charter completion is dependent upon additional governing documents submission to Kiwanis International. This is the first club organized for 2021-2022 administrative year.

And the winner is.....

The winner of the October drawing for new member sponsors is: **Kim Hiatt from Wilmington!** Kim sponsored Jacalyn Walker as a new member in October, automatically entering her into a drawing for a free MidYear Education Day registration. Each month, a new drawing will be take place selecting a winner among the sponsors of new members from the previous month. Awards are non-transferrable. Congratulations!

Wilmington Club Serves Slices to Special Olympians



On November 8, members of the Kiwanis Club of Wilmington showed their support of the Clinton County Special Olympics bowling participants by serving up slices of pizza and dessert. Bowlers had been practicing weekly for two months prior to this celebration. Bowlers and their families were appreciate of this show of support from their local Kiwanis Club.

Young Children Priority One
Sarah Roush
Sarah@ohiokiwanis.org



Empathy, Education and Endurance

When my husband and I were actively engaged in the foster parent program, we had to take ongoing education, which were often on heartbreaking topics. *Dealing with grief. Brain development of sexually abused children. Creating safe zones. Trauma of food insecurity.* The list went on and on. We would often leave feeling shellshocked and heartsick for the pain so many children

had gone through. It wasn't until I sat in a workshop whose topic veered into the discrimination many of the children endure that I was skeptical. It wasn't until more than a year later when we were taking care of a five-year old in an emergency placement situation when I saw firsthand such terrible perceptions – and it came from a child development expert.

The boy was being expelled from kindergarten and I had gone to the school to pick him up. He was huddled in the corner and everything about him screamed misery and grief. I inquired what had happened and the principal explained he had exhibited violent behavior and had endangered people. I was surprised, he was a sweet boy. I pressed for additional details. The principal said he threw a heavy stapler and nearly hit her. I pressed further, *why?* Eventually, it came out that this woman had informed him that he was never going to go back to his home, see what he knew to be his family, and would be going to a new school. I can't imagine why she felt it was her place to deliver such devastating news in such a cruel manner to a little boy already struggling in a difficult situation. I would have also had a meltdown if told that at the age of 50 – let alone 5. What was even more shocking, was her dismissal of the incident with the comment of "well, you know how those kids are like." She received a very pointed and heated response from me with some comments about her shocking lack of compassion considering her chosen field.

The next incident was when our church had an "angel tree" for kids in the foster system. One of the younger parents was making the comment that she could not believe the items being requested by children. I asked her why not, those same children probably went to school with hers and wanted the same things her children took for granted. Name brand shoes, clothes, toys, and electronics helped them fit in and feel equal to their peers. She was shocked when I suggested that a seven-year-old would think Santa didn't like her because he only left underwear, and a coloring book when compared to her other classmate's bounty. Perceptions mean a lot of children too.

Change comes from empathy, education and endurance. We need to educate ourselves on issues from ethical and responsible sources, recognize how ongoing stressors impact our children, and frankly we have to be somewhat relentless in the pursuit of addressing their basic needs. Shelter, food, support, education, a sense of security, value, and equality should be the birthrights of all children, not just the "lucky" ones.

One way to learn more about early childhood development is through webinars supported by **The Wil and Rachel Blechman Fund** affiliated with the **Florida Kiwanis Foundation**. This recently produced series of excellent Webinars for Young Children Priority One are thought provoking with excellent materials for anyone wishing to understand the science, need and impact for early childhood development education and support. For all children.

The first is "**Why Early Childhood Development?**" This webinar focuses on the significance of ages 0-5 in the development of individuals and their consequent impact on society. Rebecca Parlakian, Senior Director at ZERO to THREE and Dr. Peter Gorski, pediatrician and Professor at Florida International University share their experience and expertise. https://youtu.be/9iMdK99Ec_8

The second is "**Why are Early Childhood Educators So Important?**" This webinar examines quality early childhood education with guest speakers Rachel Giannini, childhood specialist and early childhood advocate (and KeyNote speaker at the 2021 Kiwanis International ELC) and Dr. Phyllis Kalifeh, president and CEO of the Children's Forum. <https://youtu.be/oAKLLUpKlzo>.

Next month, I will share information on additional webinars.

I hope you will enjoy these webinars and think about the children in our communities. Especially the ones who are marginalized through no fault of their own. All children deserve to feel safe, secure, cared for and supported. We as Kiwanians can help make that happen. Happy holidays.



Ottawa Kiwanis in Putnam County celebrated their 100th- anniversary on November 10 at Sycamore Lake Wine Company. The club was founded on November 14, 1921. Ohio Kiwanis Governor Craig Smith was present to read a proclamation for the century-old service organization. He commended the club for all they have done.



The main program at the celebration was a PowerPoint of historical pictures with Kiwanis members and past members Tom Gustwiller, Ed Smidebush, and Don Heringhaus sharing their memories of past activities of the Ottawa Kiwanis. The club's history has included hosting a tonsil clinic, sponsoring Ottawa Boy Scouts, hosting dental clinics, and more recently holding a health fair/blood draw twice a year. This event has had attendance of over 1,500.



In 1990 Ottawa Kiwanis members painted a home for an indigent citizen

Ottawa Kiwanis also developed a housing project for elderly and continues to provide financial support for several non-profits in the county.

During the 100th celebration a \$50,000 check by Ottawa Kiwanis was presented to Ottawa to partner with the village in building a splash pad next to the swimming pool.

Ottawa Kiwanis has hosted an annual health fair/blood draw since 1987. The event now draws over 1,000 people to each event.



In 2018 Ottawa Kiwanis purchased a full size nativity that is displayed annually in Our Lord's Park in Ottawa.



The Kettering-Centerville Kiwanis club brought an early measure of holiday-season cheer to residents of a supportive housing community run by St. Vincent De Paul in Kettering, Ohio. The day before Thanksgiving, Kiwanian Jim Hagan and his wife Jackie delivered a barbeque chicken lunch (including ten pounds of mac and cheese, eight pounds of green bean casserole and 14 large pumpkin pies) to 31 residents at the Kettering Commons tenants meeting.



A resident of Kettering Commons prepares to enjoy the meal supplied by Kettering-Centerville Kiwanis Club.

The lunch was part of a continuing Kiwanis project benefiting families at this apartment complex. The club plans to provide Christmas stockings to children at the complex during December. Kettering Commons houses families that have previously stayed at St. Vincent's homeless shelters in Dayton.

Social Media Resources

Were you aware that Kiwanis International has resources to learn how to utilize social media platforms to engage club members, share your Kiwanis story, attract new members and promote fundraisers? Kiwanis.org has a wealth of information available at your fingertips.

[Social Media](#) : Learn how to use different social media platforms to engage your members.

[Facebook for Clubs](#): Learn how to use Facebook to engage your members.

[Instagram](#): Using Instagram to engage members.

[Twitter](#): Share your story in short bursts of information.

[YOUTUBE for Clubs](#): How can you promote events, provide education to members and encourage new membership through video content.



Kiwanis Kids

Jennifer Lewis

Lewis.792@osu.edu



HELP KIDS BRING UP GRADES

Empower kids to succeed in school, start a Bring Up Grades, or BUG, program today. BUG is a program that recognizes elementary students who raise their grades or maintain good grades from one grading period to the next. Students are motivated to excel because they set their own goals — and they participate in peer mentoring, which involves their classmates in their success. When they reach their goals, the entire class celebrates.

Bring Up Grades is a Kiwanis-branded program for elementary-age students designed to provide recognition to students who raise their grades into an acceptable range and maintain or continue to raise them from one grading period to the next. Students are empowered to participate in their own academic success, which **builds self-confidence, perseverance and character**. It is a wonderful academic incentive/reward program and service to the school and community. Recognition includes being placed on the school's BUG Honor Roll; a pizza, ice cream or other food-themed party; and presentation of certificates and buttons.

The sponsoring Kiwanis club can financially support the program by providing the materials to start a BUG Program (see kit info below). The Kiwanis club and other SLPs can help provide creative and fun incentives and rewards including a luncheon with local celebrities or idols, for example, members of the high school athletic team.

Kiwanis Clubs can also sponsor a **Kiwanis K-Kids** and **Terrific Kids** program. K-Kids is a service leadership club akin to Builders' club and Key Club, but for elementary school. Terrific Kids is a student-recognition program that promotes character development, self-esteem and perseverance. "Terrific" is an acronym for Thoughtful, Enthusiastic, Respectful, Responsible, Inclusive, Friendly, Inquisitive and Capable. Students work with their classroom teacher to establish goals to improve behavior, peer relationships, attendance or school work. All students who achieve their goals after a specified time are recognized as Terrific Kids. Recognition includes being pinned as a Terrific Kid; a pizza, ice cream or other food-themed party; and presentation of certificates and other giveaways. To Learn more go to kiwaniskids.org.

To Start a BUG Program - The new Bring Up Grades (BUG) Program Kit (item KI 16217) is available to purchase for \$115 from Kiwanis International through the online store (store.kiwanis.org). The new all-inclusive program kit provides everything needed to start the Bring Up Grades program at a school or community center. The Kit includes a Student/parent pack, teacher/faciliator guides, sponsor guide, buttons, sticker rolls, certificates, folders, and bumper stickers. The Kits include enough materials for 30 students. Many of these items can be purchased separately also from Kiwanis Stores. Other resources and guides to start a club are on the Bring Up Grades website (kiwaniskids.org/bring-up-grades/).



Lima Hosts Kiwanis Family Day

On November 9 the Kiwanis Club of Lima hosted its 11th annual Kiwanis Family Day in recognition of Kiwanis Family month.

The featured speaker was District Governor Craig Smith who discussed the importance of our Service Leadership Programs.

Pictured are officers of the Aktion Club of Allen County and K-Kids clubs of Independence.

K-Kids members of Heritage, Unity, and Freedom Elementary Schools and embers of the Builders Clubs of West Middle School and Liberty Arts Magnet also attended.





District Service Chair
Steve Vrooman
Vrooman@mac.com

Sharing the Caring

Now's the time for your club to start planning to make Valentine's Day a bright spot during a time that can be gloomy and depressing for people who aren't able to get out and about. Residents of retirement homes, patients in hospitals and rehab facilities, and individuals and families in emergency shelters and warming centers often struggle during this time of year. During the holiday season, families and friends visit, support to lonely individuals peaks, and entertainment is plentiful. Those supports drop off

after the first of the year.

Non-family-member-visitor access varies from situation to situation so, check well in advance of a planned activity to make sure you can carry out your plans. Kiwanis clubs, on their own or with the help of SLPs, can make a difference to those who have limited interactions with others. The following list includes some ideas your Kiwanis club may want to consider. All of these ideas require careful coordination with the facility or sponsoring entity. These activities are adaptable to most situations – group homes, retirement communities, rehabilitation centers, Veterans' Administration facilities, emergency shelters, warming centers, and even neighbors who live near you.

- Create Blessing Bags – what would you want if you were in the same situation? Include those items in a Valentine's Day gift bag and distribute the bags on or around Valentine's Day.
- Spend some time with those who have limited opportunities to see others. Sitting and talking with a resident or patient will be a welcome, pleasant break, for them, and for you, in what may be a dreary time.
- Arrange a movie night for a group.....with refreshments. Bring your own video equipment or use the facility's equipment – provide refreshments (Valentine's Day theme). Great classic romantic movies include Casablanca, An American in Paris, and Roman Holiday. Be creative!
- Create a festive environment – brighten the day when it's needed.
- Create dining table decorations with a Valentine's Day theme. Suggestion – red carnations floating in clear bowls.
- Make chains of red and pink construction paper loops to decorate rooms and hallways.
- Visit a retirement community and host a Bingo night.
- Create and facilitate a Valentine's Day themed trivia game.
- Arrange a Valentine cookie decorating event – prebake sugar cookies and bring in small, individual containers of icing and decorations. Each individual or family can decorate his/her/their own/family's cookies.
- Kids and many adults enjoy coloring – create Valentine's Day-themed coloring pages and spend some time coloring with a new friend.
- Record and share videos of interesting Kiwanis club programs or activities. Most group residential facilities have DVD/electronic file "broadcast" ability.
- Create/locate Valentine's Day themed puzzles (word search, crossword).
- Take a Meals on Wheels route and spend some time talking with the clients.
- Select a home, center, or facility and organize a Valentine's Day card shower to send cards to all residents and/or patients in that facility.

Other Kiwanis club-lead Valentine's Day activities to support communities:

- Work at a soup kitchen but add a Valentine's Day twist – this is a familiar activity for many Kiwanis clubs and Service Leadership Programs but make it special with handmade cards or special treats to give to the diners. Make a meal a fun and memorable event.
- Organize a blood drive.
- Deliver a meal, cookies, pies to police and fire divisions, and health care professionals.

Valentine's Day is an ideal time to let others know you care about them and want them to be happy.



Marcia Copeland Hudson
Governor's Project
GovernorProject@odkf.org

Learn to serve when disaster strikes

In the midst of all the season's holiday cheer, Christmas past always has a way of gently edging into our thoughts. Think of all those old photos of your family and friends in happy celebration. The joy and sadness of holidays gone by.

Now think of all those precious photos scattered to the ground amid the splinters and debris of a powerful tornado.

No matter when disaster strikes, the heartbreaking destruction is difficult for survivors to bear.

Northeastern Ohio was reminded of the danger recently when eight tornadoes struck the region and adjoining Western Pennsylvania. The October 21, 2021 twisters focus attention on the danger severe weather can pose – and highlight the importance of Ohio District Kiwanis Governor Craig Smith's special Governor's Project for 2021-2022.

People whose lives are disrupted by storms – like the tornadoes that hit the Cleveland, Akron and Youngstown region – often need our assistance. The Governor's Project is aimed at helping Kiwanis clubs around Ohio provide it. Through a combination of volunteer action and support for the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation's Disaster Relief Fund, Kiwanians can truly make a difference.

Many Ohio Kiwanis clubs participate in community projects such as collections for the Salvation Army, gifts for the needy, food for various food pantries and more. Think about extending your club's service – by learning how to support victims of fires, tornadoes and other emergencies. Get in touch with the emergency management agency in your area and the American Red Cross. Invite representatives to speak with your club on ways you can team up and contribute.

Have your club consider a contribution to the Ohio Kiwanis Foundation's Disaster Relief Fund. It can really help. I can tell you the Foundation made a real difference to victims of nearly 20 tornadoes that ripped through the Dayton region on Memorial Day in 2019. The Foundation can help victims in your area, too.

Contact me to arrange a presentation on the Governor's Project at your district council meeting. Learn how the clubs in your division can support the Governor's Project and be ready to lend a hand when your communities are in need. I look forward to talking with you soon!

Introducing Your North American Area 1 Club Excellence Team



Matt Wise
Specializing in:
Goal setting
Self-assessment
Service opportunities



Brenda Leigh Johnson
Specializing in:
Leadership Development
Strategic Plans
Using ACE tools



Delores Lewis
Specializing in:
Membership Recruitment
Membership Retention
Mentoring



Lori Stillwell
Specializing in:
Fundraising
Leadership Development
Membership Recruitment



Jason Miller
Specializing in:
Community Service
Leadership Development
Mentoring



"Please reach out to your District Membership Coordinator to be connected with one of these all-star coaches who will remotely assist your club in the area that help is needed."

-Jim Janosik, 2021-22 Northeast Club Excellence Area Coordinator

Richard Brulotte
Aktion Club
Rbrulotte.odki@gmail.com



Good Job Ohio District Aktion Clubs

A well-deserved "pat on the back" is always welcome. Kiwanis International announced the 2020-21 Aktion Club Award & Recognition winners in time to be included in last month's Buckeye Bulletin.

Criteria for the 2020-21 Awards & Recognition program were not released until late May. With curtailed or virtual meetings for most of the year, many of our Ohio Aktion Clubs had little opportunity to prepare

submissions. Due to the pandemic, KI required Aktion Club submissions to be submitted in digital form for judging at the District Level. In all, submissions for judging came in from seven Aktion Clubs.

Congratulations to ALL Aktion Clubs submitting entries because it was a hard job to determine top winners for Ohio. Once local judging was finished, each District Administrator had to submit the top three entries for each category to KI for international judging. Reviewing our list of winners listed in the November Buckeye Bulletin, it is obvious that our Ohio District Kiwanis Aktion Clubs were doing outstanding things despite the pandemic last year.

Additionally, KI recognized four Ohio Aktion Clubs as being Distinguished or Honor Clubs for the 2020-21 year based on their submitted Annual Reports. Congratulations to ALL Ohio Aktion Clubs who submitted an Annual Report to KI. If you missed the November list of awards and recognitions, please go to <http://www.aktionclub.org/awards-and-recognition/>.

In addition to the KI Awards & Recognitions, we were able to award the Tom E. Crawford Service Award which is sponsored annually by The All Ohio e-Medina Kiwanis Club along with the Crawford Family. This is awarded annually for the "**Best overall service project**" by an Ohio Aktion Club during the current Aktion Club year. The 2020-21 winner was the Seneca County Opportunity Aktion Club, sponsored by the Tiffin Kiwanis Club. Look for more information on this Ohio District Award and other awards to be presented at our planned Aktion Club Leadership & Education Day Event to be held on Saturday, July 23, 2022.

The 2021-22 Award & Recognition packet and this year's themes should be coming out sometime in December, but it is not too early to begin planning for your entries for this year. Be sure to take plenty of pictures at your meetings, service projects, fundraisers, and any Kiwanis Family events you participate in. Pictures will be needed for your scrapbook, but also for single service project posters as well. Begin now to start putting together your Club's scrapbook (criteria for sections to be included can be found at the KI website listed above). Ohio Aktion Clubs will receive the 2021-22 Awards & Recognition Packet as soon as they are released along with helpful hints on how to put together winning entries. As we are already into the third month of this administrative year, it is not too late to start planning for your year of excellence!



Have news to share?

The Buckeye Bulletin is always looking to share good news about the terrific service that our clubs are doing. To share your club's story in the Buckeye Bulletin, please submit an attached photo of your club members in action. A brief description of the project and who will be benefitting from the activity should be included. If this is a signature project or a new project, that information should be included as well.

You never know, your project could inspire another club in the district to do something similar in their community. We are also interested in your Service Leadership Program clubs' activities since they often do amazing projects with minimal resources available to them.

Jason Miller

Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation

President2021@odkf.org



Greetings Ohio Kiwanis Members!

Your Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation has been hard at work the last two months trying to make ODKF an even bigger resource for Ohio Kiwanis!

We continue to work through our strategic planning process. The most recent strategic plan for ODKF was implemented almost a decade ago. So far, we have held several meetings in which committee members worked on a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis, reviewed information from surveys distributed at District Convention and online and worked to really figure out what areas the Foundation needs to work on to continue making an impact for years to come. After the first of the year, the committee will begin drafting goals and objectives with the intent to unveil a completed plan at the Wooster Convention in 2022. If you have ideas on what can help the foundation plan for the future, please drop an email to ODKFPLAN@odkf.org.

At our most recent board meeting, the grants committee, chaired by **Mark Wion**, discussed ways to strengthen the grants program. For the cycle that ended on October 31st, there was only ONE club to submit an application. That is not a typo. The next cycle ends on March 31st, and we would love to hear from as many clubs as possible. The grant application can be found on the website, www.odkf.org. ODKF will consider funding service projects and your club could be awarded up to \$5,000 for your project. The application is available as a fillable .pdf which can be completed and emailed to grants@odkf.org.

The Safe and Healthy Kids Committee, chaired by **George McCarthy**, discussed the current Safe and Healthy Kids areas of focus and decided to make a change to direct more attention towards Kids Nutrition. The Safe and Healthy Kids programs encourages clubs to focus on Bike Safety, Water Safety, Fire Safety and now food insecurity as part of each quarterly focus. Clubs are encouraged to develop projects around each of the four areas. Take a look at the ODKF website for a resource listing, ways to purchase bike helmets or swim shirts or other ideas on how to bring this focus to life in your community.

Finally, the ODKF board also agreed to support Governor Craig's project of supporting Disaster Relief funding, by allowing the purchase of any Past International President (PIP) recognition award (which normally is a donation of \$500 to ODKF), to be split with \$250 going to ODKF and the remaining \$250 going toward the Governor's Project. What a great way to support Governor Craig and also recognize one of your club members.

ODKF has many great plans for next year, including focusing on Planned Giving efforts, marketing of ODKF through Social Media and surging ahead with our strategic plan. If your club or Division would like to have a member of the Foundation speak at your club meeting, or other event, please reach out to me at president2021@odkf.org and I will be sure to have someone there. Thanks for all that you do to make Kiwanis great, just be giving a little bit!

Club and Division Announcements

If your club or division is having an event which is open to other members, and you would like us to share the information in the Buckeye Bulletin, please complete this [informational form](#), so we can share a brief description with members seeking information.

Pancakes with Santa! Sponsored by the **Kiwanis Club of Lexington**, December 4, 8:00 AM at Lexington High School Cafeteria, 103 Clever Lane, Lexington. Come enjoy all you can eat pancakes, sausage and a hot chocolate and coffee bar! (Free kids activities, free pictures with Santa and a free photo booth). Contact [Steve Risser](#) for additional details.

Reverse Raffle with Lexington Kiwanis Club on February 19, 2022 at the Mid-Ohio Conference Center Come join us for a night out! For \$40.00 per person, you have a chance to win \$1,000, open bar, photo booth, dance floor with a live DJ, dinner and appetizers. Not included in the ticket price is a silent auction and the infamous "mouse game" if you choose to participate. Contact [Katie Getz](#) for additional information.

Zoom Santa, starting December 4, 2021, via Zoom. An opportunity for children to visit with Santa from the comfort of their own homes. Option to purchase video to share with family members. www.zoomsantamillcreek.org For additional information contact [Kathleen Moylan](#).

Save the dates for upcoming new club charter parties! (Information to come)

January 22, 2022: South Metro February 5, 2022: Tipp City Area March 5, 2022: East Liverpool

Past International President's Awards to Support the Governor's Project

Do you or your club have a club member you would like to recognize for their service? Someone you'd like to see thanked for being an integral part of your club or one of your club's projects? Recognize a community member for their service? The Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation (ODKF) **has several ways to recognize these individuals. These include the** Past International Presidents' Award. The Past international President's Award is available for presentation with a gift of \$500 to ODKF.

This year the ODKF Board has agreed that for the remainder of the Kiwanis year, one half (\$250) of gifts made toward a Past International Presidents' Award can be designated to support the Governor's Project: support for ODKF's Disaster Relief Fund. For more information you can contact any member of the board, the list is available at <https://odkf.org/who-we-are/staff.html>, or email President Jason Miller: president2021@odkf.org, or Executive Director Alan Penn at director@odkf.org.

Candidates for District Office – Important Information

Candidates for District Offices and the Finance and Structure Committee should observe the following protocols:

Declarations of Candidacy forms are available from the District Secretary. Completed forms should be on file at the District Office no later than March 1. The candidate must secure endorsement of their home Kiwanis club and their home division. The candidate may also secure no more than three (3) additional divisional endorsements.

Brochures, postcards, letters of support, emails with candidate information, websites in support of a candidate, twitter, Facebook, or other electronic media may be mailed or posted after January 1 of the election year.

Election information in any form of media written or otherwise may not be distributed, posted, or otherwise disseminated at any District function except at Division Council meetings and the District Convention.

For more information, please see Article VII of the Ohio District Bylaws and Article VI, Part B, Section 2 of the Ohio District of Kiwanis International Policy Manual. Please address any questions to Governor Craig at Governor@OhioKiwanis.org.



Public Relations

James Minter

PR@Ohiokiwanis.org

FIVE TIPS For Creating A More Engaging Kiwanis Club Newsletter

Our perspective members are inundated with hundreds of messages every day. From radio, TV, billboard, internet, and mobile devices. The general consumer turns off or deletes a majority of their daily messages. This is why it is even more important that Kiwanis clubs provide solid, engaging content on their weekly social media platforms and certainly within their monthly newsletters.

Here are FIVE things to keep in mind when generating your monthly Kiwanis club newsletter:

- 1) Strive to connect in unique ways with community leaders, highlighting events, ceremonies, and special programs that your club and members of the community support each month. Perhaps with links to select events with "back-links" to your newsletter or club website.
- 2) Content should always be entertaining, educational, and engaging. Encourage members and local businesses to contribute content that you share, even if it isn't Kiwanis related. Consider a monthly article from someone outside of your club, they will likely share it with friends
- 3) Create "benchmark features" like a community spotlight, members showcase, featured student or business of the week to demonstrate how involved your club is within the community. This is another great way to get additional exposure through the local community newspaper as well.
- 4) Draw attention to your weekly or monthly social media postings. Remind viewers about your website and calendar updates regarding socials and events. Provide hyperlinks within your newsletter articles to other social media channels for additional Kiwanis information
- 5) Fill your newsletter with pictures of activities including service projects throughout the year, perhaps neighborhood lights contest, projects involving a family shelter or food pantry. Anything that shows action and engagement between your club and the community. Encourage anyone within your select pictures to share your newsletter with friends and on social media.





Registration open
from December 1-
February 25.

BUILD YOUR LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Improve your career, your community and your Kiwanis club.

Become the leader your workplace, community and club need. Dive into eight leadership topics with experts in the field. Explore the interactive online modules at your own pace. Then interact with other participants to turn lessons into reality. Become the kind of leader people want to follow.

Participants will:

- Explore the value of servant leadership.
- Discover their personal strengths so they can lead confidently and successfully.
- Strengthen the ability to lead others in a strategic manner.
- Build and manage a strategic plan that works.
- Learn from experts as well as from peers from across the globe.
- Earn a certification of completion.

Participants will take a deep dive into eight leadership topics:

1. The qualities of a good leader.
2. Methods of communication.
3. Planning engaging events.
4. Promoting diversity, equality and inclusion throughout a team.
5. Working with others.
6. Sharing a message.
7. Planning for the future.
8. Staying focused.

The participation fee is US\$200. Individuals may enroll themselves for Kiwanis Amplify — or a club, division or district may sponsor participants. The participation fee is considered an educational expense, so clubs have the option of paying it from their service accounts.

To learn more or register, visit kiwanis.org/amplify.

Kiwanis' Amplify