

March 2026



Kiwaniis[®]
OHIO DISTRICT

ohiokiwanis.org

THE BUCKEYE BULLETIN



*Communities
are lucky
to have the
Kiwaniis family
serving them!*

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CONTACT US

P.O. Box 588
Berea, OH 44017
614.848.5000



SUBMIT STORIES VIA:

<https://k20.site.kiwanis.org/article-content-submission/>



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Ohio District Membership Growth is Essential

By Marcia Copeland Hudson, Ohio Governor

As of February 2025, our membership has seen its numbers nearly halved since 2020.

Increasing our overall membership is paramount, no matter if members belong to new or existing clubs. Each member plays a crucial role in supporting children in our communities.

With Kiwanis does not present everywhere, there's ample opportunity to create new clubs in underserved areas. Lt. Governors have been tasked to identify potential club sites, which is vital for our planning and should focus on areas that need our services.



Membership Progress as of March 1, 2026

According to District Membership Chair Rick Fox and his team, here's the status of our membership initiatives:

| ACTIVITY | DETAILS |
|--------------------------|---|
| Successful Builds | January 29: Huber Heights (21), Conneaut (16) |
| Upcoming Builds | Wyoming club build started February 24, 2026 |
| Current Membership Stats | 191 clubs with 5,278 total members |
| Clubs Under Strength | 54 clubs |
| Future Plans | Investigating Voices Club possibilities; April build in Clyde |

The Wyoming build exhibits great potential for creating a new club in March. Additional efforts this month will explore opportunities for the Voices Clubs, ensuring we focus on students pursuing trades, college-bound students without local Circle K clubs, and other conditions that may facilitate new club formations, without conflicting with existing Circle K initiatives.

Club Strengthening Efforts

Plans for March include strengthening clubs in Willoughby and Sunbury Big Walnut. Willoughby has been proactive and is expected to invite us to discuss potential plans in March. Sunbury Big Walnut requires notification of our readiness to assist.

Future strengthening efforts for April target Fairview Park and Brunswick, pending approval and contact with necessary individuals from Lt. Governors.

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MidYear Schedule:

TENTATIVE
SCHEDULE
OHIO KIWANIS MIDYEAR EDUCATION DAY

- 7:30 AM - 8:00 AM** : EXHIBITOR SET-UP
DOORS OPEN FOR REGISTERED EXHIBITORS ONLY
- 8:00 AM** : DOORS OPEN FOR ATTENDEES
- 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM** : FREE TIME FOR REGISTRATION, FELLOWSHIP, COFFEE, & EXHIBIT HALL
- 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM** : WELCOME SESSION FEATURING INTERNATIONAL TRUSTEE SCOTT SIMS
- 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM** : WORKSHOP SESSION 1
SEE WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS BELOW
- 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM** : WORKSHOP SESSION 2
SEE WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS BELOW
- 12:00 PM - 1:35 PM** : LUNCH FEATURING:
 - KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY CHRISTINE VINEIS, FOUNDER OF UNITE FOR SAFE SOCIAL MEDIA
 - 2024-2025 AWARDS PRESENTATION BY IMMEDIATE PAST GOVERNOR KELLY BROWN
- 1:45 PM - 2:30 PM** : WORKSHOP SESSION 3
SEE WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS BELOW
- 2:45 PM - 3:30 PM** : WORKSHOP SESSION 4
SEE WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS BELOW
- 2:45 PM - 3:30 PM** : CLOSING SESSION FEATURING HALL OF FAME AWARDS PRESENTATION

TENTATIVE
WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
OHIO KIWANIS MIDYEAR EDUCATION DAY

- BLOCK 01**
10:00 AM - 10:45 AM
 - MAINTAINING HEALTH OF KIWANIS & EXTENDED FAMILY
 - TREASURER & SECRETARY EDUCATION
 - CHILD MALTREATMENT: WHAT TO KNOW & HOW TO RESPOND
 - AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE BASICS
- BLOCK 02**
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM
 - WELCOMING & RETAINING NEW MEMBERSHIP
 - STOP OVERPAYING FOR AI: HOW YOU CAN BUILD CUSTOM AI SOLUTIONS WHILE BOOSTING ENGAGEMENT & INNOVATION
 - PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT EDUCATION
 - RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES
- BLOCK 03**
1:45 PM - 2:30 PM
 - MEMBERSHIP TIPS FROM TRUSTEE SCOTT SIMS
 - OHIO DISTRICT KIWANIS FOUNDATION: WHAT WE CAN DO FOR YOUR CLUB
 - SPEAKING TO ALL AGES
 - NEWARK EARTHWORKS: MOUNDBUILDERS OHIO HISTORY
- BLOCK 04**
2:45 PM - 3:30 PM
 - USING SOCIAL MEDIA TO PROMOTE YOUR CLUB
 - OHIO DISTRICT KIWANIS FOUNDATION: CLUB ADVISED FUND (CAF) MEETING
 - KIWANIS VOICES
 - JUST BREATH-BREATHING & COPING SKILLS FOR TODAY'S CRAZY WORLD

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Call to Action

It's crucial to understand that countless families in our areas would miss out on Kiwanis services without our presence. Our focus on accountability concerning membership commitments is vital for district growth.

- Engage with Community Needs: Identify local needs and collaborate with peers on projects.
- Celebrate Successes: Recognize even the smallest achievements, as every effort counts.
- Support Leadership Efforts: Your contributions help foster the changes needed.

Let's remain committed to the mission of Kiwanis – to serve our children, families, and communities. Each act of kindness strengthens our unity as Kiwanians, reminding us that the children need our support.

--Governor Marcia Copeland Hudson

"Family Unity & District Growth"

Register now for MidYear Education Day

Registration is now open for one of the most exciting days on the Ohio District Kiwanis schedule – MidYear Education Day.

This is one of the few times when Kiwanians from across the mighty Ohio District get together for fellowship, education and inspiring presentations! This year’s event is scheduled for Saturday, March 28, at the beautiful Cherry Valley Lodge in centrally located Newark.

Register at: <https://k20.site.kiwanis.org/mid-year-education-day/>

Hosted by the Ohio District of Kiwanis International, this day is designed to energize clubs, engage members and equip leaders with practical tools they can put to use right away in their communities.

Support the 2025-26 First Family Project A centerpiece of the day is support for the 2025-26 First Family Project, benefiting Ronald McDonald House Charities across Ohio and Make-A-Wish. Members are encouraged to bring donation items and join fundraising efforts that help children and families facing medical challenges.

In-kind donations play a vital role in supporting the mission of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio by meeting the everyday needs of families during some of the most difficult moments of their lives. For families whose children are receiving medical care, daily routines are often disrupted, personal belongings are left behind, and emotional stress is constant. Items like snack packs and toiletry kits may seem simple, but they have a meaningful and immediate impact on the families who rely on the House for comfort and stability.

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio provides a home-away-from-home for families staying close to their hospitalized children. While financial donations help sustain the House’s operations, in kind donations directly support families in practical and compassionate ways. Families often arrive unexpectedly or stay longer than planned, sometimes without basic personal care items.

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How can you help?



Bring in items from the list below or pop tabs that will be picked up by the Columbus Ronald McDonald House to help the families of children hospitalized at Nationwide Children’s Hospital!


HAIR DRYER


CLEANER SPRAY


WHITE PILLOW CASE


DISINFECTANT WIPES


PRINTER PAPER

QR CODE TO ACCESS AMAZON WISHLIST



DROP-OFF LOCATION
MidYear Education day at Cherry Valley Hotel

WHEN
During the event, all items will be picked up at the end

ALL POP TABS COLLECTED ARE TURNED IN TO A LOCAL COMPANY TO PAY THE ELECTRIC BILL FOR THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE!



We are so grateful to the MidYear sponsors who have committed!

GOLD LEVEL:

- Kiwanis Club of Granville
- Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation
- Capital Area South & East Division
- Gov.-Elect Judy Raub and Bob Raub
- Past Gov. Ted Coons and Lynn Coons
- UMCF

SILVER LEVEL:

- Gov. Marcia Copeland Hudson and First Gentleman Larry Hudson
- Mortellaro McDonald's
- Alan Penn & Jeri Penn, Kiwanis International President and first lady, 2011-12
- Bill Flinta & Peggy Flinta, past governor and first lady, 2016-17
- John Coffield, past district treasurer

BRONZE LEVEL:

- Immediate Past Gov. Kelly Brown
- North Coast Division
- Kiwanis Club of East Fork Region
- Jeff & Jeanne Haas, Kiwanis Club of Berea
- Sally Schaadt & Brian Godfried, MidYear Co-Chairs
- Kathleen & Mike Moylan
- District Treasurer Bob Buescher
- Kiwanis Club of Findlay
- Past Gov. Dave Kuhn & Laurie Kuhn
- S&T Bank
- Past Lt. Gov. Matt Rawlings
- Steve & Linda Steinbrunner, past district treasurer and past LTG

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Access to toiletries such as shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, and soap helps families maintain a sense of normalcy and dignity while living away from home. These everyday essentials remove the burden of additional errands and expenses at a time when emotional and financial resources are already stretched thin. Having these items readily available allows families to focus their energy where it is needed most.

Beyond their practical value, in-kind donations offer emotional reassurance. Receiving a thoughtfully assembled snack pack or toiletry kit reminds families that they are supported by a caring community. These donations serve as tangible expressions of kindness and compassion, reinforcing that families are not alone during their journey. For many, this sense of support can be just as meaningful as the items themselves.



In kind donations also strengthen the organization as a whole. By supplying essential goods through community generosity, Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio can stretch its resources further and direct more financial support toward programming, facility care, and services that benefit families. These contributions help ensure the House remains a welcoming, well supported environment.

--Submitted by Sarah Grace Smith, Communications Coordinator

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio

sarahgrace.smith@rmhc-centralohio.org

614-227-3768



Succession planning is a key to success

By Judy Raub, Governor-Elect

Success and succession, a great combination of letters, but you can have one without the other.

Our Kiwanis clubs should be thinking about their slate of club officers for the upcoming Kiwanis year. And you are saying to yourself – “it’s only March, there’s time yet.

Well, not really. Our Kiwanis club standard bylaws require our clubs’ annual meetings to take place between Jan. 1 and May 15, and that’s when our clubs should hold their elections of club officers. It’s a time for club presidents to review the club’s accomplishments since the club’s last annual meeting. It’s a time to celebrate the club’s achievements and to recognize those members who contributed to the success of the club.

We need not wait until the end of the year. It is time to celebrate the service projects done and those to be done, including the success of various fundraising projects that fuel your clubs. The most important part of the annual meeting needs to be the selection and election of those club members who will lead the club in the years ahead.

Planning for the future of the club is essential for its ability to sustain the valuable service the club provides in your community. Without a complete set of officers and directors, the future of your club could be at risk. While the current leaders are watching progress on the path of service, someone must be ready to assume responsibility for the future. Not planning for succession will result in failing to succeed, and your service will suffer.

Including a nominating committee is a step in the direction of succession planning and success. Your club should have a standing nominating committee in place to identify those members interested in assuming a different level of serving the club, that of an officer or director.

The committee should be established by the president-elect and ready to begin its work in October. By waiting, the committee is destined to be stressed and rushed, thus complicating the task of finding the right candidates. Standing committees are always at work throughout the Kiwanis year, making sure succession is planned and practiced.

But wait, there’s more. Succession planning does not start and end at the club level. Your clubs are just the beginning, as they not only serve the community, but they also serve the divisions and our district. Strong, sustained service clubs should strive to contribute to their division and district.

It extends into your division, where lieutenant governors are needed to represent and serve their clubs, but also serve the district as voting members of the district board. There are various positions to fill, such as division secretary and division treasurer. Succession planning is important to each lieutenant governor as well. At the district level, there are additional opportunities to serve your community by serving on a district committee and more as a district chair or district officer.

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Succession planning validates the importance of “the elects” club – president elect, lieutenant governor elect, and governor elect, who contribute in these important roles to prepare and participate in succession and the success of Kiwanis. It’s all done in the spirit of service to the children of the world.

The communities are a bit different, and the service will be different but essential, nonetheless.

Is there a position where you strive to serve? Does anyone know that you may be interested? Has someone seen something in you and your potential and asked you to think about it?

Please remember that your service as a leader is an important service and essential to the success of Kiwanis. Keep in mind that in order for us to have sustained service, Kiwanis needs strong succession. And when your elections are held, make sure that your club secretary posts that information into the Kiwanis Engage system.

Your involvement in this Bulletin succession is the seed for our successful future.
In Kiwanis Service,

Judy Raub, Governor-Elect
Jraub919@aol.com



PURSE BINGO FUNDRAISER

Join us for Tea, Desserts, and 10 Rounds of Bingo for Designer Purses!

MAY 9 | 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

COMMUNITY CABIN | 28114 Lorain Rd, North Olmsted

Chinese Raffles & 50/50

TICKETS \$45.00 | Available on Eventbrite: <https://NorthOlmstedKiwanisPurseBingo.eventbrite.com>
Questions? Call Amber 440-506-0317



Let An ODKF Club Advised Fund Work for Your Kiwanis Club

By Steve Vrooman, 2025-26 ODKF president

One of the unique services the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation offers to support Ohio Kiwanis Clubs is the Club Advised Fund program.



Funds raised by Ohio Kiwanis Clubs can go further to support kids, families, and communities if that money has a means for it to grow through an ODKF Club Advised Fund.

Clubs may invest their funds in the investment pool of the Foundation as a Club Advised Fund. A Club Advised Fund can receive tax-deductible donations under the 501(c)(3) IRS provisions of the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation. The Foundation also handles financial reporting to the club, the State of Ohio, and the Internal Revenue Service.

The minimum amount required to establish a Club Advised Fund is \$5,000. The club pays 1 percent annually for the administration of the fund under \$100,000 and 0.75 percent for a fund over \$100,000. The club also pays a minimal investment manager’s fee. The club may distribute funds for its projects at any time, subject to the approval of the Foundation’s Board. Distributions are made to qualified charitable tax-exempt organizations.

Mini-Club Advised Funds may be created and are intended to help Kiwanis Clubs that don’t have the \$5,000 necessary to start a CAF. Clubs can begin a mini CAF with an initial investment of \$2,500. The club has two years to bring the investment up to the \$5000 level. Once the club’s mini-CAF has reached the \$5,000 level, it is converted to a regular Club Advised Fund. If the club does not reach the \$5,000 regular CAF level within two years, the original amount of the investment will be returned to the club without the investment earnings.

Club Advised Fund resources have been used by clubs to support and fund: student scholarships, school band boosters activities, county 4H summer programs, Parent Teacher Organization/Association projects, student trips, school courtyard creation and refurbishing, book purchases and distributions, an addiction recovery center, projects during World Bee Day, city recreation department events, school easter egg hunts, Boys/Girls State scholarships, and school trip T-shirts.

The Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation website includes the following: Club Advised Fund Application, Frequently Asked Questions, How to Establish a Club Advised Fund, and ODKF Mini-CAF Procedure. Check out the website (odkf.org) for general information about CAFs.

Contact the ODKF Executive Director (director@odkf.org), Treasurer (treasurer@odkf.org), or the CAF Committee Chair (caf@odkf.org) for more details about establishing a Club Advised Fund for your Kiwanis Club. ODKF staff members are available to meet with your club and board members to answer all questions that you may have.

Let the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation help your Kiwanis Club.

Keep sharing your good news to help Kiwanis grow in your community!

We love seeing Kiwanis service and activity get the attention it deserves! People need to hear and see what we are doing before they can decide to join us in our fun and work!

Here are a few “public relations wins” we spotted during the past month or so:

[“Lima Kiwanis Club visits Apollo Career Center to learn about workforce development”](#)

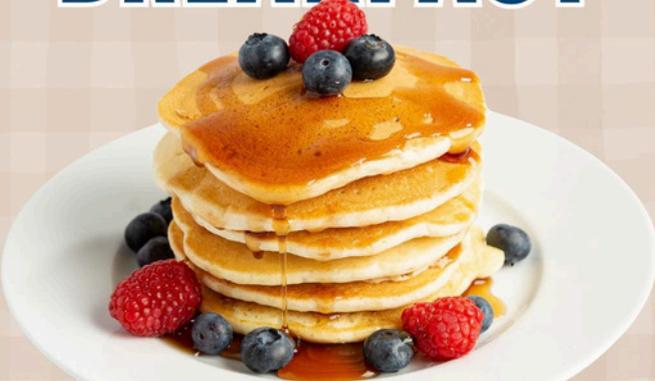


[“Bellefontaine Kiwanis welcome District Governor, induct new members”](#)

[“Kiwanis Club serves area children through programs”](#)

PRINCETON SHARONVILLE KIWANIS

PANCAKE BREAKFAST



SATURDAY, APRIL 11TH 8:00AM – NOON
SHARONVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Cost: \$8.00/person. Under 5 eat free.
Includes pancakes, sausage, fruit, & drink.



City of RICHMOND HEIGHTS
A Brighter Tomorrow

EASTER EGG HUNT & KIWANIS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Come Meet the Easter Bunny!
Saturday, March 28
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

FREE Egg Hunt starts promptly at 10:00 a.m.
Richmond Heights Community Center
27285 Highland Road
Richmond Heights

| | | |
|------------------------|--------|------------------|
| Seniors 60+ & Students | Adults | Children under 5 |
| \$6.00 | \$7.00 | Free |

Free breakfast for children ages 2-12 accompanied by an adult

Fun | Candy | Prizes





Support, celebrate your K-Kids throughout the year

Kiwanis K-Kids Week might have come and gone, but we can celebrate this great program throughout the year. Here are some creative and fun ways to celebrate and support K-Kids:



**** Show your pride:** Create posters, share an announcement, decorate a bulletin board, wear shirts or have a contest to design a new shirt, promote your club or a service project through your school; plan a school-wide service project (collect books, socks, soup, food) or support Ohio Kiwanis First Family Project with your Kiwanis Club (Ronald McDonald House and Make A Wish); create a K-Kids buddy bench or host a cereal box domino event for the end of school year, promote K-Kids with an article in the school newsletter or local newspaper, recognize your advisor (nominate your advisors, club and officers for distinguished awards) and invite to a Kiwanis meeting. There is a great article posted Feb. 5 on [KiwanisKids.org](https://www.kiwaniskids.org/news/5-steps-for-promoting-your-club/) about how to promote your club: [5 steps for promoting your club | Kiwanis Kids](https://www.kiwaniskids.org/news/5-steps-for-promoting-your-club/) or [kiwaniskids.org/news/5-steps-for-promoting-your-club/](https://www.kiwaniskids.org/news/5-steps-for-promoting-your-club/)

**** Thank the helpers:** Recognize outstanding K-Kids and officers, advisors, staff, volunteers, parents, Kiwanis; create an apron with handprints to give to volunteers at the end of the year, plant a tree or bulbs to dedicate, write thank you cards or drawings, encourage the students to say thank you at school for volunteer and staff appreciation (posters, notes, treats in mailbox).

**** Share with families:** Invite families to a Kiwanis meeting or service project (Pancake Day) with K-Kids, create special K-Kids free meal tickets, plan a service project for the home (help with trash, meal prep or planning, help serve breakfast or dinner at home, create a cookbook, shovel the sidewalk, care for a pet) as a K-Kid, help clean the car, pickup your room – whatever can help their family, read a book to a family member or help a sibling or neighbor, call a family member

**** Random Acts of Kindness:** Brain storm ideas a meeting and report at the next meeting; Open a door for someone, give a compliment, bring in a shopping cart from a parking lot, donate to a collection, collect pop tabs or cans for Ronald McDonald house, recycle, pick up trash safely, SMILE, Make a bulletin board with ideas, posters at school, have a contest between classrooms for a donut party. Have secret observers at school and recognize students with a sticker or lunch with the Principal or Kiwanis, help another person

**** Connect with Kiwanis Family:** Give your K-Kids tickets to attend your pancake day or a meeting. Let them participate in service. Kiwanis, Key Club, Circle K, Builders or Aktion Club provides or shares donuts, lunch or snacks with students; Attend a Kiwanis Club or Division Meeting with parents for a Showcase of Service (talk about your service and share ideas and thank volunteers), observe the meeting or help the officers run the meeting (Meeting Take-Over); present an award to outstanding K-Kids or Advisors, help in a Kiwanis service project with families (Pancake Day decorate placemats or signs, clear tables, bake sale, coloring table, host a donation drive), write letters to Veterans or Home-bound Seniors in Kiwanis; support a service project with Kiwanis (Midyear Education Day collection for Ronald McDonald House, info available on the Ohio District Kiwanis website or Feb. Buckeye Bulletin).

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· Apply for K-Kids Contests and Awards by April 1: Please enter the contests and nominate your club, advisors and officers for awards by April 1. The K-Kids photograph release (kiwaniskids.org) and photos of your projects as evidence will help you promote K-Kids and apply for these awards, which recognize outstanding service and support K-Kids.

Click here: Awards and Contests | Kiwanis Kids or <https://www.kiwaniskids.org/awards-and-recognition/>

Click here for what to include in a winning Annual Report (for Distinguished/Honor):

What to include in a winning annual report! | Kiwanis Kids

KiwanisKids.org has more ideas and contest information. Thank you for sharing your service through your Kiwanis club on the District Facebook page and Buckeye Bulletin. Advisors complete monthly reports, but they need to complete a separate Annual Achievement Report to receive a Distinguished Club Award by April 1.

Click the link to download the Annual Achievement Report (PDF) or copy/paste into your browser: [K-Kids-Annual-Achievement-Report.pdf](#) or <https://www.kiwaniskids.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2025/12/K-Kids-Annual-Achievement-Report.pdf>

Please take the time to nominate your club, advisor and officers for awards. It is a terrific way to recognize our volunteers, schools, students and helps promote K-Kids. Due April 1.

I hope to see you at Midyear Education Day at the Cherry Valley Hotel in Newark, Ohio on March 28, 2026. Thanks to the Newark Kiwanis K-Kids for their service and contribution. 😊

As always, Thank you K-Kids Advisors. You lead our K-Kids and inspire our Kiwanians. You celebrate K-Kids everyday!

Please let me know how you are celebrating K-Kids Week or any service projects. By sharing ideas, we help each other. You can always send me any feedback or questions.

Yours in Service,

Jennifer Lewis Ph.D.

Administrator Kiwanis Kids (K-Kids), Ohio District Kiwanis; SLP Advisor, Past President and Lt. Governor and Key Club Alumnae

Cell: 740-485-2040

Ohiokkids@gmail.com



Kiwanis®



ICON goes international for 2026 convention

You don't want to miss this once-in-a-lifetime convention experience, June 24-27, in Manila, the capital city of the Philippines. Registration closes April 13 so don't wait!

During those days, Manila will be overrun by Kiwanians visiting the special attractions Manila has to offer:

- Discover the City of Makati, the heart of the Philippines' financial center Forbes Park and the
- American Cemetery and War Memorial Learn about the Spanish colonial period on a walk
- through the Intramuros district to Fort Santiago Explore Baroque architectural designs of UNESCO World Heritage-listed San Agustin Church



Be a part of the "bigger picture" ... not only of the city highlights but the main Convention highlights as well. Join Governor Marcia Copeland Hudson as she represents the Buckeye State and voices our opinions and concerns for a bright Kiwanis future. Make it known that Ohio has become a major player in the Kiwanis world.

ICON is the largest annual gathering of Kiwanian members from all over the world. It's an exciting event where members come together to celebrate the past year's accomplishments, engage in leadership training, and participate in various educational workshops.

The convention also features the election of the new International Board, including the International President and Vice Presidents. Attendees can meet and network with other Kiwanians, exchange ideas, and be inspired by keynote speakers and service-related activities.

Experience the different Learning Sessions available at the Convention itself. Short and yet filled with high impact, these presentations will send you home with ideas and inspirations for the homefront. Shop, snap photos, snag swag and more. At the marketplace, you'll find exhibitors and Kiwanis partners who can inspire fresh ideas on impactful service projects and fundraisers. You can browse Kiwanis-branded merchandise, including special 2026 convention items.

The keynote speaker this year is Lei Wang, the first Asian woman to complete the Explorer's Grand Slam: climbing the highest peak on each continent and skiing to the North and South Poles.

To register, click [here!](#)





Diageo wins Coldwater's Kooolest Dog contest

The results are in! Diageo, a German Shepherd Pointer from Celina, garnered the most votes and is the Coldwater Kiwanis Club's 2026 Kooolest Dog. Diageo will have a limited-edition, craft beer brewed and named in his honor.

His photo, along with those of the other top five dogs, will also appear on the beer can label.

Diageo jumped off to an early lead in the contest and held off numerous challengers throughout the month-long voting.

According to the winning pup's bio, "My name means spreading happiness to everyone everywhere.

"I love to run, chase squirrels and swim. I also like to snuggle with my family. I am also known as a wiggle butt and piranha puppy."

Sam (a Golden Retriever from New Bremen), Nacho (a Pit Mix from Columbus), and Rusty (a Standard Poodle from Coldwater) battled for second place all month, exchanging positions quite often.

At the deadline, Sam vaulted into second, followed by Nacho in third, and Rusty in fourth. Fifth place was also hotly contested, with Lana (a Golden Retriever from New Bremen) edging out Boomer, Milo, Bean, Bruce, and Winnie by a slim margin.

The Kiwanis Club of Coldwater sends out a big THANK YOU to all those who entered their dogs in the contest and all who voted for their favorites.

It was an enjoyable and suspense-filled mid-winter activity. We also express our sincere appreciation to the generous co-sponsors who stepped up to assist our club with this new adventure.

They were Coldwater K9 Clubhouse, Superior Credit Union, People's Bank Co. and Moeller Brew Barn.

--Submitted by Barbara Kremer



Follow our Governor's Travels

Governor Marcia and her First Gentleman Larry been on the road , visiting clubs and supporting the Kiwanis family throughout the Mighty Ohio District.

Click here at: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61579035076996> and follow her to keep tabs on where she visits!



PEAKDFOHIO.COM
Bellefontaine Kiwanis welcome District Governor, induct new members - Peak of Ohio

Following our Family on Facebook

We have scoured the posts of **Facebook** to see what Ohio Kiwanis clubs have been up to this past month.

Follow the **Ohio District Kiwanis Page**, and join the **Ohio District Kiwanis Group**, to see more posts and add your club's activities! We can learn from each other and better serve the youth in our communities.



Fremont, Ohio Kiwanis · Follow
February 28 at 11:50 AM · 🌐

J. Stephen Schult, Past President, presented a power point about Flag City Honor Flight (FCHF) at the Feb. 26th Fremont Kiwanis luncheon. Schult explained the organization's purpose: "We believe that WWII, Korean, and Vietnam War era veterans should have the opportunity to visit the memorials in Washington DC that honor their military service and the sacrifices they made for America's freedom." He shared that FCHF is a 100% volunteer-run non-profit organization which takes approximately 80 veterans per flight. Schult reviewed the history of FCHF as well



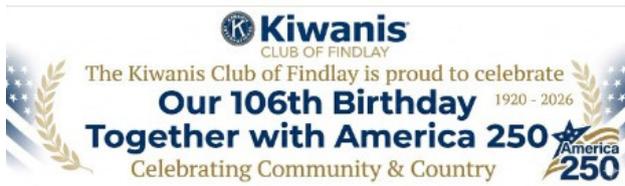
Kiwanis Club of Findlay
· March 2 at 5:25 AM · 🌐

Today, the Kiwanis Club of Findlay is blowing out 106 candles! Since 1920, our members have been dedicated to changing the world, one child and one community at a time, right here in Flag City, USA.

But the celebration doesn't stop with us. As we look back on over a century of service, we are also looking forward to America 250!

Just as our nation has spent nearly 250 years striving for a more perfect union, our club has spent the last 106 years striving to make Findlay a better place for our youth to grow, learn, and thrive.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our mission over the last century. Here's to the next 100 years of service, community, and patriotism!



Kiwanis Club will make a donation in the name of the team to Make A Wish.

Marla Marsh
· February 27 at 6:19 AM · 🌐



Kiwanis Club of Middletown, Ohio is with Downtown Middletown, Inc. and 3 others · Follow
February 27 at 5:58 AM · 🌐

On February 26, 2026, the Kiwanis Club of Middletown, Ohio, welcomed Travis Robinson to our meeting. On his 45th day as Executive Director of the Middletown Community F... See more

KIWANIS DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR!

Standing dates:

5th of the month- Circle K and Key Club Monthly reports due

10th of the month - Kiwanis Monthly reports due

20th of the month - Buckeye Bulletin deadline for submissions

March 2026

March 17 – Happy St. Patrick’s Day

March 21 – ODKF Meeting

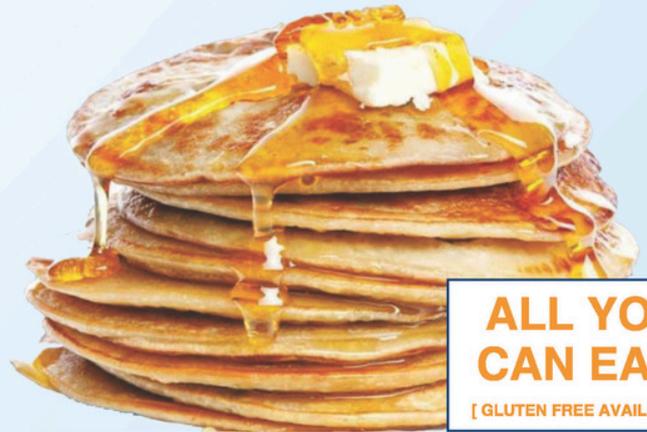
March 27-28 – MidYear Education Day at Cherry Valley Lodge,
Newark

March 31 – ODKF Grant Deadline



KIWANIS

*Pancake
Breakfast*



**ALL YOU
CAN EAT!**

[GLUTEN FREE AVAILABLE]

BAKE SALE & RAFFLE

Sponsored by the Kettering-Centerville Kiwanis Club as a fundraiser, with 100% of the proceeds going to help youth in our community.

\$7 per person*

(Children under 3 free)

\$8 at the door

*Tickets available in advance from a Kettering-Centerville Kiwanis member

PURCHASE HERE



Saturday

April 25, 2026

8 am – 12 pm

»» Christ United Methodist Church ... 3440 Shroyer Road, Kettering, OH 45429 ««



RAFFLE at the PANCAKE BREAKFAST!

\$5 ticket gives you a chance to win

ACTIVITIES ... DINNERS ... ITEMS



Donate New Kids Shoes for “Shoes for the Shoeless”

If you are interested in getting involved in helping others in Kiwanis, call: Bill Pees — 937-361-8694

Efforts continue to preserve Ohio Kiwanis history

By Cindy Champer, Historical Preservation Committee

If you are coming to MidYear Education Day on March 28, that is great because you might be able to help in preserving your club and historical records.

At MidYear, we will be doing two things - at our booth and to this end.

1. Bring your gently used Kiwanis apparel, tote bags and other stuff. We are selling these cheap because gently used items still provide great Kiwanis looks.



We are cash and carry only! All proceeds will go toward the Governors Project.

2. Consider making an effort to meet with your club and review past records. Are all the secretarial records and financial reports still necessary in written form? Perhaps you can digitize the necessary items, keeping such important records as your club charter, etc. Then perhaps your local library or historical society can help preserve them further.

The point to all this is that for those who are club secretaries, you probably have boxes and boxes in your garage, basement, etc. What happens if you have a flood? What records might be ruined? If you move, where will you store the records?

Be proactive! Think as some would say, outside the box, and look at this area carefully and with circumspect eyes.

If you have questions, please stop by our booth and chat with me and Fred Franklin of the Ohio District's Historical Preservation Committee.

Foundation seeks applications for spring grants!

ATTENTION CLUB LEADERS: Do you have a project that needs a boost?

The Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation exists to help fund your "Safe and Healthy Kids" initiatives. Whether it's an inclusive playground, a literacy program, or a community safety project, we want to hear from you!

Deadline: The Spring Grant application window is open until March 31.

Don't wait – Start your application today by visiting [here](#) and let us help you make a bigger impact in your hometown.

From the desk of our District Secretary

Here are several updates from Ohio Kiwanis Secretary Robin Gagnow that might help clubs collaborate with your officers and members.



– New Kiwanis Members, you have the option of adding them to the Ohio Kiwanis Buckeye Bulletin. As new members they would appreciate getting the monthly newsletter. You can access the site under the Resource tab, on the Ohio District Kiwanis website (Note: we are updating section each week). Website: <https://k20.site.kiwanis.org/>

– Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation Mini-Grants due March 31, June 30, December 31 (Grants up to \$3,000). Link: <https://odkf.org/>

·Ohio District Key Club will be hosting its annual Ohio District Convention in Dublin, March 13-15.

·The 2026 Midyear Leadership Education Day will be Saturday, March 28, starting at 9 a.m. at the Cherry Valley Hotel, Newark, Ohio. Registration is now open. The conference committee has been hard at work selecting presentations and activities that will benefit new and returning members.

·Mark your calendar for 2026 Ohio District Convention, August 14-16, at the Renaissance, Columbus Westerville, Hotel, Westerville.

I look forward to meeting you at Midyear or at DCON conference in August. As always if I can be of assistance, please contact me at secretary@ohiokiwanis.org.

Robin Gagnow, Ohio District Secretary

2025-26 Ohio District Kiwanis Directory Available

If you would like a copy of the 2025-26 Ohio District Kiwanis Directory, you will need to access the Ohio District Kiwanis website.

Under the menu item “About,” you will see the District Newsletter heading. Please fill out the request form with your information.

Once that is completed, you will receive a copy by email within 24-30 hours. At the beginning of each month the Directory is updated as current information is submitted.

Robin Gagnow, District Secretary





District has new leader to pursue Possibility Project commitments

Mark Haake joined Kiwanis in November of 2009 and has been an active member of the Kiwanis Club of Mason ever since.

Shortly after joining, Mark took on the role of Youth Services Chairman. This role was responsible for ensuring sponsored organizations were contacted and grants were distributed in a timely manner.

In the 2015-16 year, Mark was elected as Vice President, then progressed to President-Elect (2016-17) and finally club President for the 2017-18 year. Mark has continued to serve on the Board of Directors for the past several years.



Mark has also served twice as Lt Gov for the Ohio 5th Division, having been recognized as the Distinguished Lt Gov, as well as Outstanding Lt Gov of the Year for the Ohio District.

Additionally, he was selected by the Ohio Division governor to serve on the board of directors for the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation during his most recent year as Lt Gov (2024-25).

In his professional life Mark has served many roles. Notably, he is a 20-year Air Force veteran, having served in numerous leadership roles including leading a 30-member team deployed to Turkey during Operation Desert Storm. Mark also served as CIO for a \$30 million distribution company, followed by owning and operating a successful Information Technology outsourcing company for 16 years.

Mark has a strong history of being actively involved in the mission of Kiwanis by consistently volunteering for community service programs aimed at helping children throughout the Mason community.

He is also very active in the veteran community. He currently serves as the Finance Officer for the local American Legion, as well as a volunteer mentor for the Warren County Veterans Honor Court – a program dedicated to helping veterans succeed following convictions.

Mark is honored to have been selected as the Ohio District Chairman for the Kiwanis Children's Fund Possibility Project. In this role he will work closely with volunteers throughout the Ohio District to help increase the impact on children throughout the world.

The Possibility Project passed an important milestone last month, surpassing \$10.5 million raised and committed. It received a big boost during the Day of Giving Feb. 25, when donations tallied nearly \$157,000 – well above the \$125,000 goal. The money will enable Kiwanis to reach nearly 70,000 children worldwide.