

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DISTRICT

Kiwanis builder

A quarterly resource to help build clubs and communities

A Season of Service



**“ICON:
A Thrill-a in
Manila!”
See Page 6**



Winter 2026

**International Convention
June 25-27, 2026
Manila, Philippines**



WHAT TO PLAN FOR IN 2026



**Mid-Winter & CKI DCON
February 6-7, 2026
Hood River, Oregon**

**District Convention
September 9-12, 2026
Ferndale, Washington**

The **KiwanisBuilder** magazine is produced quarterly by the Pacific Northwest District of Kiwanis International.

Submissions Guide and the Consent & Release Form can be found online at:
<https://k22.site.kiwanis.org/builder-magazine/>

Schedule - (Submission by...)

| | | |
|--------|-----------|-------------|
| Winter | January 1 | (by Dec 1) |
| Spring | April 1 | (by Mar 1) |
| Summer | July | (by June 1) |
| Fall | October 1 | (by Sept 1) |

www.pnwkiwanis.org

KiwanisBuilder magazine

John Flaherty
 Governor
 2025-2026

Pacific Northwest District
 of Kiwanis International

Submissions to the Editor
publications@pnwkiwanis.org

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VOLUME 98, NO. 1

100th Anniversary

The Saint Helens Kiwanis Club will mark its centennial year in 2026 through concelebrating its 100th year with "America 250" at its annual parade, amassing hundreds of service hours each month, and presenting the history of its hundred years of service to the community.

The 100th celebration will culminate in a gala dinner on November 7th with a "Roaring Twenties" theme.

All Kiwanians and supporters are invited to join them in the festivities!

For more information contact...

Margaret Trenchard-Smith, President of the Saint Helens Kiwanis Club at: drmtrinchardsmith@gmail.com

*"It feels good to help people.
 So, get out there and feel good!"*

– Simon Sinek

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Winter is a season that invites reflection, on the year behind us, the people who inspire us, and the work still ahead.

This year, I'm especially excited to invite you to our Mid-Winter Conference in Hood River and to share that we will be welcoming very special guests from Kiwanis International, including International President Michael Mulhaul and Vice President Cathy Szymanski.

Their presence is a meaningful honor for the Pacific Northwest District and a great opportunity for Kiwanians to connect, learn, and be inspired. If you have not yet registered, I encourage you to join us, it promises to be a terrific weekend of fellowship, leadership, and renewed energy for service.

We hope you enjoy this Winter issue of The Builder, and that it leaves you feeling informed, encouraged, and inspired. As always, please continue to send your club updates, service stories, and photos, we love sharing the great work you're doing throughout the district and highlighting the many ways Kiwanis is making a difference.

David Pearson

Builder Magazine Editor 2025-2026 - dsec@pnwkiwanis.org

A message from 2025-2026 Governor John Flaherty

Happy New Year!



I hope everyone enjoyed a joyful and safe Christmas and New Year.

I want to thank you for the many projects you carried out and the meaningful service you provided to families and individuals in your communities throughout the holiday season. Your commitment truly makes a difference.

As we move into the new year, remember that community needs extend well beyond the holidays. Many clubs find great success by partnering with their Service Leadership Programs (SLPs) and other community nonprofit organizations. These collaborations strengthen our impact and help ensure that Kiwanis service is felt year-round. Please keep up your outstanding work.

On another important note, it is never too early to begin planning for succession, both at the club level and with Division Lieutenant Governors. Thoughtful leadership planning is essential to the continued strength and success of our organization.

I hope to see many of you at Mid-Winter on February 6–7. It will be a wonderful opportunity to connect, learn, and celebrate our shared commitment to service.

In Service and Friendship,
John Flaherty, Governor 2025-2026
johnwflaherty@gmail.com



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SILVER REEF

CASINO RESORT

Kiwanis

Pacific Northwest

John Flaherty, Governor 2025-2026

"Growing Together Into The Future"



Pacific Northwest District of Kiwanis 2025-2026 Goals

"Growing Together Into The Future"

Kiwanis Family-Centered

- Promote an understanding of the relationships among the various groups of the Kiwanis Family.
- Develop/foster effective means of communication between the family entities.
- Utilize the strengths of each group to support the needs/projects of K-Family Members.
- Foster an environment, (between the family members), of trust and cooperation to insure the best possible outcomes with community service project endeavors.

Service-Driven

- Perform annual reviews of current club projects to evaluate their effectiveness.
- Perform "Community Surveys – Needs Assessments, to stay current with the problem area(s) of your specific community.
- Work Collaboratively with schools, non-profits, other service organizations and government social service agencies to enhance the effectiveness of your projects.
- Investigate and Evaluate (annually) the prospect of carrying out joint projects with the other clubs in your Division/District/KI.
- Promote the "Kiwanis Children's Fund" with your club members.

Membership-Focused

- The focus of club leadership needs to center on supporting the activities of your current club members.
- Every club needs to have an active "Membership Team" that supports the proposition that "more members means more service".
- Club members and leaders will find support for increasing their club membership and effectiveness through their utilization of the Membership Team and materials that are offered from the PNW District and Kiwanis International.
- Perform annual club surveys of current and former club members to recognize and understand what can be done to better support our members.
- Be conscious of promoting Kiwanis through the wearing of Kiwanis-branded clothing or Kiwanis pins.

Leadership Education-Oriented

- Promote Kiwanis education at the club level, (history/goals/objects).
- Promote CLE (Club Leadership Education) courses to your club and Division leaders
- Promote/Sponsor a Kiwanian that has a desire to advance thru the ranks at the Club, Division, or District level.
- Ensure that all club members, associated with our SLP programs, are current with their requirements including background checks.



ON TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Join fellow Kiwanians for the Kiwanis International convention in Manila, Philippines! Mark your calendar — and make a note to register by February 2 to get the best price.

- Member registration (December 1, 2025–February 2, 2026): US\$409
- Late member registration (February 3–April 13, 2026): US\$509
- Non-member guest: US\$199/US\$299
- Under 18 years of age: US\$109

Registration gives you access to sessions, events and activities for each day of the convention: Wednesday, June 24, through Saturday, June 27. Lunch on Thursday and Friday will be included with your registration.

Please note: A one-day registration option will not be available. Also, onsite registration will not be offered.)

To attend the 2026 Kiwanis International Convention, you must register by April 13.

SPECIAL EVENTS

During the convention, you'll have opportunities to enhance your experience with connection, education and fellowship:

Kiwanis Amplify Capstone Experience - June 24

Past and present Kiwanis Amplify participants are welcome to attend this culmination of the Kiwanis Amplify program. Start applying what you've learned, discover more about your personal strengths and leadership style, and see how to combine all that knowledge so that you're a part of the next generation of leaders that Kiwanis needs. A separate registration is required for this event. To get the link to the registration form, fill out the Kiwanis Amplify interest form. For more information about Kiwanis Amplify, go to the program's webpage.

First-Timers Gathering - June 24

New to the Kiwanis International convention? The First-Timers Gathering will help you connect with fellow first-time attendees and learn how to navigate the schedule, sessions and special events. Even if it's your second convention — or the first one in a long time — it's a good place to ask questions and expand your knowledge!

The Best of Kiwanis Asia Pacific Cultural Showcase - June 24-26

Districts from the Asia Pacific Region will exhibit their projects, culture, art and more. Merchandise will also be available to purchase. Note: Judging for the exhibit's booth contest will be 10:30 a.m. to noon on Friday, June 26.

Kiwanis International/Kiwanis Asia Pacific Opening Session - June 25

Enjoy the official start of the 2026 Kiwanis International/Kiwanis Asia Pacific Convention. Start your experience with the pageantry appropriate to this unique joint event.

TICKETED EVENTS

Don't forget exciting events that are exclusively available to attendees who purchase tickets. Seating is limited for these events. Please purchase your tickets early.

Kiwanis Children's Fund Luncheon - June 25, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Learn how the Kiwanis Children's Fund transforms the goodwill and vision of Kiwanians into programs that serve the children of the world. Enjoy a delicious meal while hearing how your donations directly support Kiwanis clubs' local service projects. This special event will feature a keynote speaker and opportunities to connect with others who share your passion for giving every child the chance to thrive. **US\$40**

The Colors of ASPAC: A Night of Unity and Recognition - June 25, 7–9 p.m.

Members from all regions are welcome to join the celebration of each ASPAC nation in a joyful, multicultural atmosphere. The 2025-26 ASPAC leadership team will be recognized, and awards will be presented. Dinner is included. **US\$80**

Kiwanis Service Leadership Programs Luncheon - June 26, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Join us as we celebrate our Service Leadership Programs: K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club International, Circle K International and Aktion Club. Find out how you and your club can support these dedicated Kiwanis family members who are serving their communities and making a global impact. **US\$40**

Kiwanis International/Kiwanis Asia Pacific Gala: The Culture of Asia Pacific - June 27, 7–10 p.m.

End the convention by honoring our global leadership and enjoying festive performances from clubs, districts and nations from around the world. Enjoy a delicious meal and fellowship with friends new and old! **US\$80**

2026 KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL & ASIA PACIFIC

Convention schedule*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24 Fellowship & Culture Day

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| MORNING & LUNCHTIME | Explore Manila on your own! (No meals are provided on Wednesday.) |
| AFTERNOON | The Best of Asia Pacific Showcase Booths & Retail |
| | Kiwanis Amplify Capstone |
| | First-Timers Gathering |

THURSDAY, JUNE 25 Convention Kickoff Day

| | |
|------------------|---|
| MORNING | The Best of Asia Pacific Showcase Booths & Retail (<i>continues all day</i>) |
| | 2026 Kiwanis International/Kiwanis Asia Pacific Opening Session |
| LUNCHTIME | Fellowship Lunch for all registered attendees |
| | Kiwanis Children's Fund Luncheon (<i>ticketed event</i>) |
| AFTERNOON | Kiwanis Asia Pacific Convention Business Session and House of Delegates |
| | Educational sessions |
| EVENING | The Colors of Asia Pacific — A Night of Unity and Recognition (<i>ticketed event</i>) |

FRIDAY, JUNE 26 Learning & Engagement Day

| | |
|------------------|--|
| MORNING | The Best of Asia Pacific Showcase Booths & Retail (<i>continues all day</i>) |
| | Educational sessions |
| | District caucuses |
| LUNCHTIME | Fellowship Lunch for all registered attendees |
| | Celebrate Kiwanis Service Leadership Programs Luncheon (<i>ticketed event</i>) |
| AFTERNOON | Educational sessions |
| EVENING | District dinners (<i>on your own</i>) |

SATURDAY, JUNE 27 Annual Meeting Day & Closing Gala

| | |
|------------------|--|
| MORNING | Kiwanis Annual Meeting |
| LUNCHTIME | On your own! (<i>Lunch is not provided on Saturday.</i>) |
| AFTERNOON | Explore Manila |
| EVENING | Kiwanis International/Kiwanis Asia Pacific Gala: The Culture of Asia Pacific (<i>ticketed event</i>) |



*Schedule is subject to change.

Kiwanis®
CONVENTION 2026
MANILA

CLUB SERVICE SHOWCASE

Kiwanis Club of Bend: A Lifeline for Central Oregon's Youth

When you think about what makes a community truly vibrant, the answer often lies in how we care for our youngest members. Enter the Kiwanis Club of Bend, a dedicated group of volunteers with a mission as noble as it is vital: improving the world, one child and one community at a time. This local chapter, part of the global Kiwanis organization, is back and stronger than ever, ready to make a significant difference in the lives of the youth of Central Oregon.

A Rich History with a Bright Future

Founded in 1924, the original Kiwanis Club of Bend has witnessed nearly a century of change. After a challenging pause due to COVID-19 and declining membership that led to the club relinquishing its charter in 2020, hope flickered anew with its re-chartering on August 29, 2024. With the community rallying behind this initiative, the club is now experiencing remarkable growth, bringing fresh energy and renewed commitment to its mission of supporting local youth.

Located in Bend, OR, the club is easily accessible for anyone wanting to lend a hand or learn more about their initiatives.

Leadership You Can Trust

At the helm of this inspiring organization is President Barbara Jackson, whose leadership is matched by an enthusiastic team. Vice President Kristi Douglas, Secretary Cristi Moore, and Treasurer Jill Armstrong work alongside board members Yvonne Ward, Ginny Schider, Barbara Hart, and Linda Fisher-Berlanga. Together, they form a passionate team that drives the club's vision forward, embodying the commitment to uplift young lives in Central Oregon.

A Focus on Youth Empowerment

What truly sets the Kiwanis Club of Bend apart is its singular focus on youth. The club is dedicated to raising funds and resources to assist local organizations that serve children. By forging partnerships and lending credibility to various programs, the club plays an integral role in ensuring that every child in the community has access to safe and supportive environments to thrive.

Among their numerous collaborations, the Kiwanis Club of Bend proudly supports: Ronald McDonald House, Every Child Central Oregon, The Giving Plate, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), and Salvation Army Bend Corps

Additionally, they nurture the next generation by sponsoring two Key Clubs, youth-driven Kiwanis clubs at Caldera High School and Trinity Lutheran School. These clubs empower students with leadership skills, community involvement, and a sense of belonging.

Looking Ahead: Future Plans

As the Kiwanis Club of Bend continues to expand, its future plans are just as ambitious and heartfelt. The current focus is on assisting Central Oregon Baby Resources, an organization committed to providing essential items to families with young children in need. By supporting children aged 0-5 from diverse backgrounds—many of whom may be in foster care, experiencing homelessness, or facing tough circumstances—the Kiwanis Club is directly impacting the foundation of future generations.

Get Involved: Be a Part of the Change

As the Kiwanis Club of Bend works tirelessly to uplift their community, they invite others to join them in this rewarding journey. Whether you're interested in volunteering your time, making a monetary donation, or simply spreading the word about their initiatives, every little bit helps in their mission to support the youth of Central Oregon. The heart of this community beats stronger when we work together, and the Kiwanis Club offers a welcoming space for anyone willing to lend their talents and passions.

In a world where challenges seem ever-present, the Kiwanis Club of Bend stands as a shining example of resilience, service, and hope. They remind us that when we unite for a common cause—especially the welfare of our children—our efforts can create ripples of positive change that resonate throughout our community. Let's embrace this opportunity to support our youth, foster their dreams, and ensure that every child has a chance to shine. Together, we can build a brighter tomorrow, one child at a time. <https://www.centraloregonlocalbuzz.com/p/your-monday-buzz-local-cause-spotlight-kiwanis-club-of-bend>

~ courtesy of Central Oregon Local Buzz
<https://www.centraloregonlocalbuzz.com>

UNLOCK THE ADVENTURE

Explore the excitement of a career in law enforcement!



Kiwanis Youth Law Enforcement Career Camp

July 19–25, 2026

Start your journey into a world of law enforcement at the PNW Kiwanis Youth Law Enforcement Career Camp, co-hosted by Kiwanis clubs of the PNW District and the Washington State Patrol at the Washington State Patrol Academy in Shelton, Washington. This program is designed for high school juniors and seniors, male and female, who have a strong interest in criminal justice, whether it be in the FBI, ATF, Military, County or City levels. The intense camp will be an experience of a lifetime and give students a chance to experience these professions.

Applications are due by May 25, 2026. The website with more information and application forms is: www.kiwanislawenforcementcamp.com

Or call Derek Valley, Olympia Kiwanis and KYLEC Board President at (360) 951-9151.

Clubs – remember when a student or the camp contact you to sponsor a youth who wants to attend the camp to give generously. Cost to each student is \$50. Cost for them to attend the camp is \$700 each! Can your club provide a full or partial scholarship to cover the \$700 camp cost?

We have a roughly 70% record of camp students progressing into public safety and military careers. Who do you know who might want to attend this camp?

Participating Local, State and Federal Agencies





Looking Back on 2025 and Looking Forward on 2026 with the Kiwanis Doernbecher Children's Cancer Program.

The KDCCP is coming off a great 2025 year because of Kiwanis in Oregon and SW Washington. In 2025, the KDCCP achieved the milestone of raising a total of 5 million dollars for Doernbecher Children's Cancer Program. Thanks to the Kiwanis Clubs, Individuals, and Businesses throughout the years.

Here are some of the highlights from 2025.

The KDCCP supported the SW Washington Kiwanis Charity Golf Tournament held at the Club Green Meadows in Vancouver. Benefiting the Doernbecher Children's Cancer Program. The SW Washington Kiwanis are simply amazing. They raised \$18,000 for the KDCCP in 2025. Thank you, SW Washington Kiwanis.

The Florence Kiwanis Golf Tournament presented the KDCCP with a check for \$5,000.00 at DCON in 2025. Plus a check for \$520.00 from KDCCP collection cans in local merchants in Florence.

Many Kiwanis members are KDCCP Sustainable contributors. We can never thank them enough for the wonderful continued support.

Thanks to all the Kiwanis Clubs that have added the KDCCP to their annual budgets. The Kiwanis Club impact on our fundraising efforts makes all the difference.

In 2025, the KDCCP held a raffle for a custom-made golf putter. The professional putter was made and donated by the Bradley Putter Company in Grants Pass, Oregon. The winner of the putter was our very own Nicholas Hafez.

The KDCCP Board Members Annual "Meet the Fellows" luncheon with the Fellows, OHSU Staff, and the OHSU Foundation. The Foundation Staff goes all out to support the KDCCP Board, and this Annual luncheon is a highlight for KDCCP board members. At the luncheon, we met the Fellows and heard firsthand their personal stories in their fight to end childhood cancer.

The KDCCP is proud to announce the addition of 5 new members to our Board.

Stephanie Patterson, Mary Stocks, Wallie Downs, Gregg Hannon, and Terry Hopkins.

This year, we also touched our toes into the digital world with the "Giving Tuesday" campaign. Thanks to all the individual Kiwanians that contributed.

What did we learn in 2025? That our Kiwanis friends are the heartbeat of the KDCCP. That our mission to support the Doernbecher Fellowship program is wonderful. There is never enough space to share everything that we do. Please visit our website at www.KDCCP.org to get detailed information about us. We learned that it doesn't hurt to ask. You can always make a donation on our website at www.KDCCP.org.

So what does the KDCCP 2026 look like?

We have 3 new projects that we are working on.

The 1st project is an Online Auction with the Travel Theme of "Explore Oregon & SW Washington". The KDCCP will be reaching out to all our Kiwanis Clubs asking for your help on this. Check our website for details. www.KDCCP.org. The 2nd project will be a Casino Night on the Willamette Queen Sternwheeler in Salem on May 2, 2026. We are still working on the fine details, but we can tell this will be a fun night.

One of the most exciting events for Kiwanis that is in the works for 2026 is an enhanced “Frank’s BBQ” presented by the KDCCP. We will be celebrating Frank & Beth Morehouse for their contributions to the KDCCP. We will be working with the Tigard Kiwanis club to make this an outstanding event. Right now, we are in the beginning stages of planning and will be letting all of our Kiwanis Friends know all the details soon. The target date is August 2026.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR KDCCP PROJECTS AND SUPPORTED EVENTS IN 2026

Online Auction “Explore Oregon & SW Washington” - March 2026

Casino Night in Salem, Oregon on the Willamette Queen Sternwheeler - May 2, 2026

SW Washington Golf Tournament - May 29, 2026

Frank’s BBQ - August 2026

Florence Golf Tournament - September 2026

Giving Tuesday December 1, 2026

KDCCP is a 501C3 non-profit, all volunteer organization that provides funds to the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Fellowship Program at Doernbecher Children’s Hospital in Portland, Oregon. The Doernbecher Fellowship supports and trains Pediatric Oncologists who provide research and treatment to children with Childhood Cancer and Blood Disorders. The organization’s Mission is to eradicate childhood cancer through education and research.

KDCCP
13160 SE 172nd #230
Happy Valley, Oregon 97086

Visit us at www.Kiwanisdoernbecher.org



(Left to Right) Third Year Fellow Dr. Morgan Day D.O., Assistant Fellowship Director Dr Patrick DeMartino M.D., DCH Hematology/Oncology Department Nearhout Chair Dr Stephen Roberts M.D., Third Year Fellow Dr Zina Stavitsky M.D., KDCCP President Bruce Thomas, DCH Hem/Onc Fellowship Program Director Dr Marie Martinelli M.D, 1st Year Hem/Onc Fellows Drs. Pawni Kher MD and Dr Kaycee Moshofsky MD.

CLUB SERVICE SHOWCASE

Coats For Kids From Kiwanis this Winter

The Mt. Hood & Greater Portland Area Divisions came together to support the South Riverside Foundation's project of Coats For Kids. The Kiwanis clubs of Tualatin, Cedar Hills, Montavilla, Columbia Gorge, Tigard, Hillsboro & Ross Island Earlyrisers plus their members along with donations from the public raised over \$9,000 to buy 568 coats for low income kids in the Portland, Oregon metro area. Several club members along with the Cherry Park United Methodist Church, Governor John Flaherty's church, helped with distribution of the coats to schools & organizations.

We used the supplier Dollar Days that Kiwanis International endorsed. The foundation believes giving a child a new winter coat has a dramatic and measurable impact on a child's self esteem, on their participation in school activities plus in their ability to learn. The need for winter clothing is so great that new winter coats should be distributed in late fall. Any questions on the project please email solbergcary@gmail.com.



~ Cary Solberg, President
Ross Island Earlyrisers, Portland



CLUB SERVICE SHOWCASE

The Columbia Gorge Kiwanis Making Spirits Bright! – Kiwanis in Action

The Columbia Gorge Kiwanis Club in Troutdale partnered with the Multnomah County Sheriff Office (MCSO) and the City of Troutdale to be present in the community through various events planned throughout the year. This holiday season, our first joint event was called “Making Spirits Bright” and it was a Community Toy Drive.

Through the generosity of the community at the Toy Drive that was held on November 29th at Fred Meyers, Kohls and Walmart, we collected over 1,069+ toys for children whose families could use a little extra cheer and support this holiday season.

The Columbia Gorge Kiwanis Club members and club donated trunk loads of toys that also included bicycles, helmets, locks and scooters along with many books.

The “Making Spirits Bright” Community (free) Toy Giveaway occurred on December 13, 2025 from 09:00am to 12:00pm at Wood Village Baptist Church. Each family that comes to the event could pick out 6 gifts. There were also stations for crafts for the children while the family shopped.

Our 4 sponsored Key clubs were also volunteering at the toy giveaway. Each family had a key clubber as a personal shopper and along with the other community volunteers all gifts were to be wrapped prior to the families leaving the event.

This was a wonderful testament that highlights our Kiwanis mission statement by making a lasting difference in the lives of children by being a positive influence by serving our immediate communities that we live in.

The continued partnership with our community members will show children and families a positive environment where children can thrive as they see communities come together thru positive community engagement.

~ Angela Merritt Frymire, Lt. Governor
Mt. Hood Area



Fill the Cruiser Toy Drive Nov. 29 2025 9 am – 3 pm

MCOSO, Wood Village, Fairview, Troutdale & Maywood Park Holiday Toy Drive

Bring new, unwrapped gifts for ages 0-18

Donate Gift Bags & Tissue Paper

- Wood Village City Hall
- Troutdale City Hall
- Fairview City Hall
- Maywood Park City Hall

Wood Village Drop Off Locations

Fred Meyer
22855 NE Park Ln

KOHL'S
22557 NE Park Ln

Walmart
23500 NE Sandy Blvd

Making Spirits Bright Community Toy Giveaway

Pickup Day
December 13, 2025
9 AM – Noon

Wood Village Baptist Church
23601 NE Arata Rd

Wood Village BAPTIST CHURCH

Families are encouraged to leave children at home. No children are allowed in the "shopping" area.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

WHAT IS YOUR WHY?

Years ago, I sat beside an older gentleman named Bob Olson. He asked about my background, listened intently to my answers, and then thoughtfully said, “I think you’d make a great addition to our Kiwanis club and be enriched by the experience.” He wasn’t wrong. I thank him often, even though he is no longer with us. I know many of you have a similar story.

Which brings me to an important question for everyone: **What is your WHY?**

Your “why” is your core purpose, cause, or belief—the personal compass that guides your life and work. It is often expressed simply: To contribute something so that a positive impact occurs.

For Kiwanians, there are many reasons why we joined Kiwanis and why we continue to serve. For example:

- I want to give back to my community.
- I am aligned with the values of Kiwanis.
- I want to make a difference.
- I want to improve my leadership skills, and Kiwanis gives me that opportunity.
- I can express my patriotism by putting out flags on national holidays.
- I fell in love with our Service Leadership Programs and enjoy working with students as they grow and develop.
- I believed my business would benefit from working alongside like-minded people.
- I stay because of the great friends I’ve made.

All of these are excellent reasons.

Today, we see some members and clubs that are said to have “lost their why.” In many cases, these are individuals who have contributed enormously to their clubs and communities but are no longer able to perform the work they once did. What remains is a remarkable legacy—one built on service, impact, and lasting memories.

Now is the time to be a mentor. Now is the time to be like Bob Olson: to listen, to connect, and to ask someone to join your club so the legacy continues. Everyone remembers their Kiwanis sponsor—that special person who invited them in. Together, we can grow every one of our clubs, making them stronger and better equipped to meet the growing needs of our communities. And we must continue to welcome and support the new ideas that new members bring.

Your PNW Membership Team has tools, training, and support ready to assist club members in growing their clubs. Reach out. Let’s begin the dialogue. Let’s commit to honoring our past achievements while increasing our service impact in every PNW Kiwanis club.

Since “Season of Giving” is this issue’s theme, remember this: asking someone to join your club may be one of the most meaningful gifts they receive—and one they will cherish for many years to come.

Greg Wegrich
Membership Chair, 2025-2026
PNW Kiwanis Governor, 2021-2022
greg.wegrich@gmail.com
(360) 441-7082

CLUB SERVICE SHOWCASE

Kiwanis Club of Canby Shares Holiday Joy with Local Families

When red barrels and Poppi the Penguin show up in November, Canby knows it's time for a long-standing tradition: The Kiwanis Canby Community Food & Toy Drive.

Started by Kiwanis Club of Canby in 1958, this holiday event embodies the spirit of sharing and caring. Kiwanis members taking the lead, but the entire community comes together to provide toys and food for neighbors in need. Church groups, scouts, businesses, individuals, and other civic groups work side by side to make the holiday magic happen.

The 2025 drive, completed on December 13, served 532 families, providing toys for 980 children and food for 2,158 people. "We definitely saw a greater need for food this year due to the rising cost of groceries," said Sharon Schneider, long-time chair of the event. "Thanks to the financial support of local businesses and our own Kiwanis Thrift Store, we were able to provide about \$40,000 in food support to our neighbors. And more than 60 businesses helped collect toys in our bright red barrels, so each child from newborn to age 18 could have several gifts under the tree," Schneider added.

Club president Judy Neighbours said, "The entire process of planning and executing this event couldn't happen without the efforts of our entire club. Nearly every member played a role. But what we love most is working alongside others in the community – and seeing all the happy faces! We love helping families who just needed a little extra boost to get through the holidays. It's a great way to serve children right here in our own community."

~ Luana Hill, Kiwanis Club of Canby



Sandwich the Dog, the Canby Kiwanis mascot, helped collect coins from local schools. Poppi the Penguin, is the drive's mascot.



It's a tradition for Canby Rotary to join with Kiwanis for "bagging night," where the toy bags are gathered for each family.



Kahut Waste Management donated more than 40 bikes, which employees assembled & donated, along with helmets.



Community members arrive bright and early on the last day to deliver toys and food cards to families who couldn't get to the fairgrounds for pickup.



KIWANIS “[FIND A CLUB](#)” TOOL

The Kiwanis “[Find a Club](#)” feature on our website helps connect interested individuals with local clubs and the broader Kiwanis community. Each month, this tool generates an average of **300 inquiries**, introducing hundreds of potential members—many of whom ultimately join Kiwanis. Prominently displayed on our website, it offers an easy and accessible way for people to learn more about our organization.

SELECTING SPECIFIC CLUBS – “[FIND A CLUB NEAR ME](#)”

Prospective members interested in joining a specific club can use the “[Find a Club Near Me](#)” tool to select their preferred club and request to be contacted by its leadership. Once an inquiry is submitted, both the **club president** and **club secretary** automatically receive a notification stating, “*Someone is asking about [Club Name and Number]*,” along with the prospect’s contact information. Clubs are strongly encouraged to follow up within **1–3 business days**.

As a courtesy, the **district membership coordinator**, **district governor** and **district secretary** also receive a copy of each inquiry. No action is required from them unless the district has specifically requested their involvement.

Please note: This is a fully **automated system**—no manual processing is required.

DISTRICT FOLLOW-UP AND COORDINATION

District membership teams are strongly encouraged to follow up with the appropriate **club secretary** or **club president** within **one week** to ensure that each prospect has been contacted and to determine whether the district membership team can assist with the lead.

Some districts may choose to designate a specific individual—separate from the officers who receive inquiries—to manage prospective member follow-up.

If your district has appointed a representative, please email **Gloria Bidgood** at membership@kiwanis.org with the individual’s name and email address so she can add them to the distribution list.

SHARING WITH OTHER CLUBS

Each **district membership coordinator** may decide to share membership inquiries with additional clubs. If you believe another club might be a better fit for a prospective member, please share the inquiry to give that club the opportunity to connect with the individual.

COMMENTS SECTION

The inquiry form includes a **comments section** that many club leaders find valuable for assessing a prospect’s level of interest and distinguishing genuine membership inquiries from other types of requests. This section also helps prioritize follow-up efforts.

Important: Some messages may not relate directly to membership (e.g., speaker requests, solicitations for donation or partnership inquiries, etc.). In such cases, **please forward the message to the appropriate contact in your district** or email it to membership@kiwanis.org.

Remember, “**Even a speaker request can be an opportunity to discuss the benefits of Kiwanis membership!**” – Dave Schmitt, California-Nevada-Hawaii District

PREVIOUS MEMBERSHIP IDENTIFICATION

Prospective members can indicate their relationship to Kiwanis by selecting one of the following options:

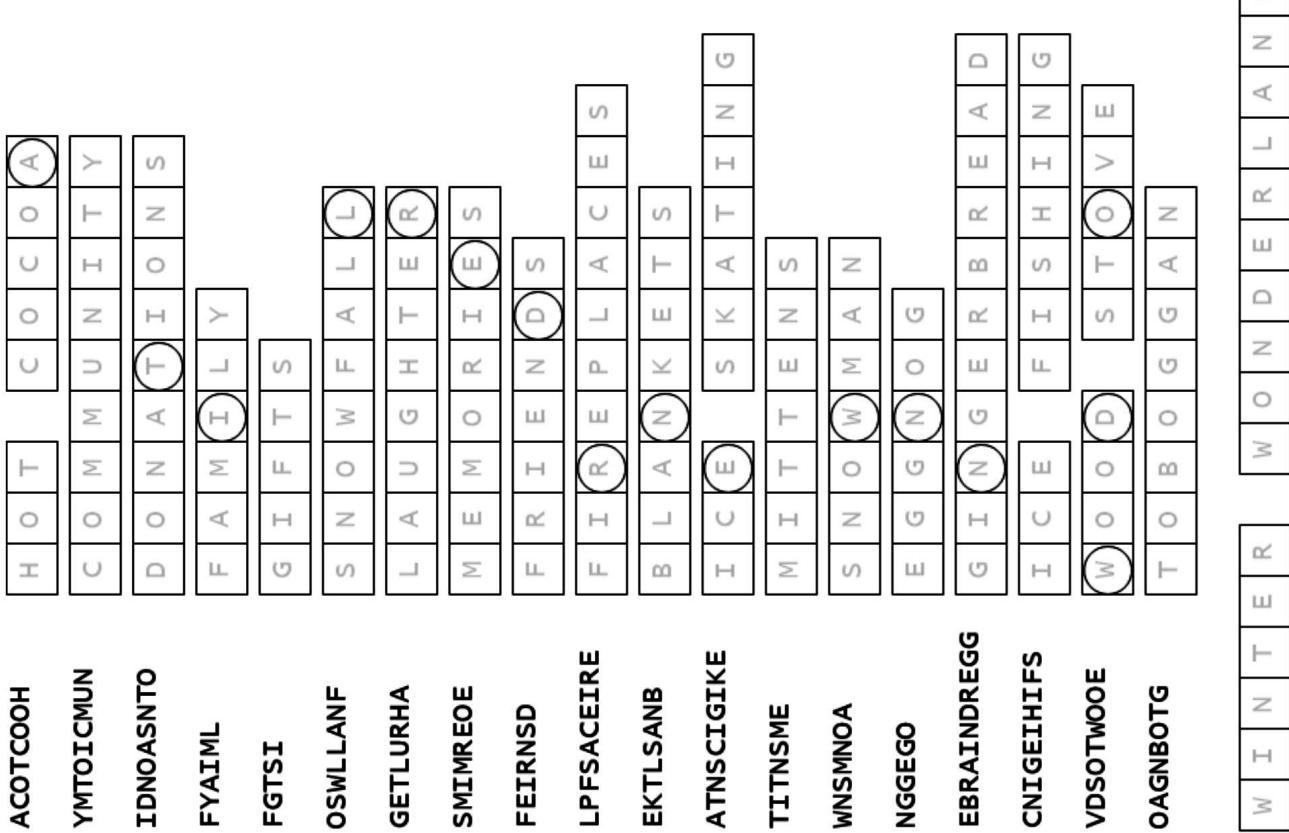
- Former Kiwanis member
- Former Circle K International member
- Former Key Club member
- Current Kiwanis member
- Non-member interested in joining a club

This information appears under the section labeled “**I am a...**” on the inquiry form.

Important Dates for 2026

| | | |
|--|---|----------------------|
| 2025-2026 Mid-Winter Conference | Best Western Plus Inn Hood River, Oregon | February 6-7, 2026 |
| 65th Circle K District Convention | Best Western Plus Inn Hood River, Oregon | February 6-7, 2026 |
| Key Club Winter Board | Marriot Portland Downtown Waterfront Portland, Oregon | February 20-22, 2026 |
| 76th Key Club District Convention | Marriot Portland Downtown Waterfront Portland, Oregon | March 6-8, 2026 |
| 2026-27 Lt. Governor Training | District Office Gladstone, Oregon | May 15-16, 2026 |
| 111th Kiwanis International Convention | Manila, Philippines | June 24-27, 2026 |
| 109th PNW District Convention | Silver Reef Casino Resort Ferndale, Washington | September 9-12, 2026 |

SKARAMBLE solution...don't peek. Puzzle is on the back cover.



KIWANIS SKRAMBLE

Winter Wishes

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Solution on page 17.