OBJECTS OF KIWANIS

- To give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life.
- To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.
- To promote the adoption and the application of higher social, business, and professional standards.
- To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive, and serviceable citizenship.
- To provide, through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service, and to build better communities.
- To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism, and goodwill.

The six permanent Objects of Kiwanis International were approved by Kiwanis club delegates at the 1924 Convention in Denver, Colorado. Through the succeeding decades, they have remained unchanged.

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Hello fellow Kiwanians! Please, enjoy the newest edition of the Yankiwanian. We have all experienced issues that most of us have never had to deal with in the past and hopefully never have to in the future. Due to the virus, our communities need us now more than ever. Unfortunately, with the cancellation of the Mid-Winter Conference and District Convention it will be a year since we have all been together as a District. Plans are underway to have a Fall Conference in November, it all depends on what the Covid19 virus status is at that time. International Convention was also canceled. Because of this the International Council has been activated. This is the second time in Kiwanis history that the Council will be activated to conduct the necessary business of our organization. There will be two Kiwanians from the New England & Bermuda District involved in this process. Current Trustee George Delisle and I will be either traveling to Indianapolis or taking part virtually at the end of July. This is an extremely important process and a task that George and I are not taking lightly.

Since District Convention was also cancelled, we will have to assemble the equivalent of the International Council at the District level. The group that will elect your next Governor and Governor Elect will be comprised of the current District Officers, current Lieutenant Governors, and all past Governors. This process will occur on Saturday August 15th.

As most of you are probably aware Kiwanis International and the New England & Bermuda District have waived all new member fees from now until September 30, 2020. There is no better time than right now to ask people to join your club; giving others the chance to experience the joys of being a member of Kiwanis.

John Falconer
Kiwanis District Governor

If they join and decide to stay on after September 30th, they will have to pay regular dues. This is a great time to have someone get their feet wet, experiencing all Kiwanis has to offer, without paying for dues. I know it has been very difficult for clubs since the Covid19 virus hit in March. Hopefully your club has been meeting virtually so that the family experience is still being enjoyed by all members. As regulations continue to relax, please try to meet in person, making sure to wear a mask and social distance. I know this is difficult for typically Kiwanians who shake hands and give hugs to one another. Many clubs are experiencing financial issues. Most fund-raising events happen during the spring and summer months and many have been cancelled. It is imperative that all clubs attempt to keep giving as much as they can with current available funds. Some of the states have made available grants for not-for-profit organizations; please check to see if your club qualifies.

Our communities need us more than ever. Please take a look around your community and see if there is something that needs to be done. Instead of monetary donations, members can donate their time. Team up with other organizations in order to be a potent group, as we all know many hands make tasks easier. We will get through this Covid19 virus together; and we will all be stronger for it. Please put your best foot forward. Keep doing your Kiwanis work with a smile on your face.

My theme for this administrative year is “FUN, FAMILY, FELLOWSHIP.” I am asking that you bear this in mind as you perform your Kiwanis activities. Make all of your meetings and projects FUN. Enjoy your time with your Kiwanis FAMILY; and definitely take part in all the FELLOWSHIP that you can. First Lady Lindy and I are extremely disappointed that we did not have a chance to meet with many of you this year. We still have three months in our term; and we would love to come and visit your clubs virtually. Words alone cannot express how honored we are to have had the opportunity to be your Governor and First Lady. We will forever remember 2020.

Thank you for all you do for Kiwanis, Governor John
The past few months have seen much of the Kiwanis world’s routine upended as we seek to grapple with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Local clubs, divisions, districts, and Kiwanis International have been forced to set aside honored traditions and events in the interest of keeping ourselves and each other safe.

Despite our best efforts, many Kiwanians have contracted the virus. Some have become very ill. Some have died. Businesses and non-profits owned and managed by our members have suffered, and some have failed. Economic hardship has been widespread.

Our Service Leadership Programs have suffered as well. The New England and Bermuda Key Club and Circle K District Conventions both had to be canceled, replaced by virtual events. Key Club, K-Kids, and Builders Club programs abruptly ended as schools were forced to close by the pandemic. SLP administrators in New England and elsewhere had to scramble to find alternative ways to elect district officers and plan for next fall.

Kiwanis International was forced to cancel the Kiwanis International Convention which would have been held in Indianapolis. It was the first time the convention was canceled since World War II. With no House of Delegates scheduled, International bylaws require that the International Council be convened to elect a new vice-president and new members for the Board of Trustees.

In spite of it all, Kiwanis Clubs continue to meet, and Kiwanians continue to serve. We’ve had to be creative. Around the region and around the world, Kiwanians are working to make sure that the needs of our children are met. We still provide educational opportunities, food for the food insecure, support for medical programs, and so much more. Our Foundation and the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute continue to work together to save the lives of injured kids, and the Kiwanis Children’s Fund is providing disaster relief funds to impacted communities around the world. The pandemic may present new challenges, but I know Kiwanians will meet them.

This is the perfect time to bring someone new into our Kiwanis family. More hands mean more service, and the Kiwanis International board and our New England and Bermuda District board have both waived new member fees from now until October 1. Please take the opportunity to reach out to a friend, co-worker, or family member, and ask them to attend a meeting – live, or virtual, as the case may be. Let’s show them that being a Kiwanian means always being connected and relevant, no matter the circumstances.

In Kiwanis Service,

George

George Delisle
Kiwanis International Trustee

The Council is made up of the current International officers and Trustees, the current District Governors, and all living past International Presidents who are active members of a Kiwanis Club. Governor John Falconer and I will represent New England when the Council convenes in Indianapolis in July. The Board of Trustees made the decision to defer consideration of all proposed bylaw changes to the 2021 International Convention in Salt Lake City.

In Kiwanis Service,

George
Wow, what a year it has been so far! Schools, businesses, and most government functions – local, state, and federal – seemingly at a standstill. Trying to conduct our club meetings, fundraisers, and even signature events online using virtual meeting ZOOM, GoToMeeting, and other softwares. Conventions have been canceled and division caucuses moved on-line. Yes, it been an interesting year. So, what does next year look like? How does that effect the District? I can tell you that it is going to be another interesting year.

I will tell you that membership and club growth is a top priority. In part, thanks to Kiwanis International and the District waiving dues for new members, we have seen growth. The idea of “Try Kiwanis for a year on Kiwanis!” seems to be working. I would like to see “Kiwanis for a year on Kiwanis” as part of the membership growth plan for all new Kiwanians and new clubs within both the District and International. What do you think? Let us know. Let us know if you want to grow your club. Let us know if you want to sponsor a new club. I’d like each new club to have two sponsoring clubs with a dual member from each sponsor, as I said last August when we met.

As you may know, the District Board voted last year to cancel the 2020 Fall Training Conference. The Board recently met and decided to try to plan a conference for November 6-8 2020. We’re planning an event that we hope will be fresh, educational, and fun – and safe. Of course, this depends on a whole bunch of other factors falling into place. A Facebook poll the District recently conducted found that an overwhelming number of New England and Bermuda Kiwanians want an in-person conference. More details will follow once we have concrete plans.

My governor’s pin carries the motto, “Believe 2020-2021.” I passionately believe that we will have an exciting year. I also believe that we will have growth, not only in membership but in new clubs. We must think outside the traditional norm if we want to achieve growth. Online meetings and internet-based clubs may be a way to extend Kiwanis to many new members. We will be cutting a new trail, which may seem hard to cut at first. With persistence, I see that trail becoming an easily-followed road. Persistence will pay off for the District. Let us go and cut that new trail for our District and for Kiwanis as a whole.

In Kiwanis Service,
Denis
On Sunday, May 17, 2020 the Board of Trustees of the New England and Bermuda District of Kiwanis voted to declare an "Emergency Session" as a result of the effects of the Covid-19 Virus. This is pursuant to Article VI, Section 16 of the District Bylaws. In effect the in person Annual Convention that was to be held the weekend of August 15-16, 2020 was cancelled. Accordingly, all required business will be handled electronically via Zoom. All such meetings are set to held on the same weekend as originally scheduled and are summarized below. Links and any further information will be made available on our website for all of those interested in participating.

New England and Bermuda District of Kiwanis
Schedule for the Annual Events
August 15 – 16, 2020
(all meetings to be held via Zoom)

**Saturday August 15, 2020 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Emergency Session with the current officers, current board members (2019-2020) and past governors (Open to all interested parties, only at large members participate and vote)

Tentative Agenda:
Elections
  • Election of the position of Governor and Governor-Elect 2020-2021

Policies and Bylaws

**Saturday August 15, 2020 – 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM
Final Board Meeting – New England and Bermuda District of Kiwanis Board (2019-2020). (Open to all interested parties, required for board members)

**Sunday, August 16, 2020 - 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Initial Board Meeting – New England and Bermuda District of Kiwanis Board (2020-2021) (Open to all interested parties, required for board members)

**Sunday August 16, 2020 – 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM New England and Bermuda District of Kiwanis General Session (to be available to all interested in the district). Session lead by Governor John Falconer and Governor Elect Denis Murphy.

Tentative Agenda:
Reports and presentations:
  • Reports from District Leadership
  • Endorsed Candidate for Kiwanis International Vice President George Delisle
  • Open Discussion with district membership (John / Denis)

Additional agenda items and desired announcements to be determined by John Falconer and Denis Murphy.
Hello Fellow Kiwanians!

One of the great New England & Bermuda District traditions throughout the years has been the presentation of Red Jackets by many clubs to outgoing Club Leaders, particularly Club Presidents. In my own club, I have seen members brought to tears when presented the Red Jacket. As this unprecedented Kiwanis year comes into the final months, please consider honoring deserving club members with a Red Jacket. If your honoree already has a Red Jacket, then please consider making a donation for a Crest Upgrade. As a reminder, the Red Jackets and Crest Upgrades are available for a donation of $1000 which can be made all at once or split into 3 yearly payments. There are 9 levels of Crest Upgrades available above and beyond the initial Crest given with the Red Jacket. The 2nd Level Crest is called “Trauma” so please consider upgrading your Crest to Level 2!

What other ways can you assist our own Kiwanis Foundation of New England (KFNE)? This spring and now summer, we officially introduced the 2019-2020 Sustaining Member Pin. Thank you to all those who have purchased a pin so far! This collectible pin is available for a donation of $50 or more to KFNE.

How has our Club/Foundation given back to our area this year? First we recently, approved a $1000 Club Grant for a Meal Packing Project sponsored by three Berkshire area clubs: Lee, Sheffield and Pittsfield. Grant funds are still available for new Service Projects for Kiwanis Clubs. Applications are available on our website. If you are planning on doing a COVID-related Service Project for your community, then there is a good chance this will be a “new” service project and, therefore, be eligible for funding.

KFNE and the Kiwanis Pediatric Institute (KPTI) recently held our Joint Annual Meeting. At this meeting, it was reported that thanks to Kiwanis support, there were 60 orders for KPTI Educational Materials/Kits. The Early Childhood Prevention kit remains the most requested of all program materials and there were orders to cover 3500 parents of infants! The bike rodeo resource was the second most requested item with orders to help 4700 kids!! By my count, that is over 8000 children we are helping here in the New England & Bermuda District. There is no charge to Kiwanis Clubs ordering these materials. In addition, KFNE Funding was used to purchase car beds and EZ-on vests which allow safe transport home from Tufts Medical Center to patients who are both medically compromised and have a special type of Spica cast.

As you can see, there is lots going on with our Foundation! For more information regarding all of the opportunities to help our own Foundation, please visit www.kfne.org. Our mailing address is KFNE, P.O. Box 2307, Westfield, MA 01086-2307. You can also e-mail me directly at davidap33@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your past support and we look forward to our continued work with all of you.
OUR MISSION: TREATING PEDIATRIC TRAUMA

Become a sustaining member. Send your donation of $50 or more to Kiwanis Foundation of New England, P.O. Box 2307, Westfield, MA 01086-2307. www.kfne.org

Grant Recipient: Kiwanis Club of Methuen
Grant Amount: $1,000.00
Granted Date: March 2018
Purpose: To purchase bike helmets for the club’s first bike safety rodeo

For more information on how to apply for a grant, go to: http://www.kfne.org/grants.html
Hello Kiwanians! My name is Alison Lunny, and I’m a rising fifth year at Northeastern University pursuing a degree in Civil/Structural Engineering with a minor in Photography. While this year will be a unique one, I am optimistic for our year of service and think that we will all grow and find creative solutions for operating given these new parameters. Thank you all for your continued support towards Circle K in our district. Without the Kiwanis district and individual sponsoring clubs’ help, we wouldn’t be where we are today. Our year has started off well, with a full district board full of great ideas and the energy to begin implementing them!

We have already had our first district event of the year. We hosted a citizenship engagement discussion, where we discussed the state of racial injustices that exist in the US, how our communities are reacting, and how we as CKI can make tangible steps to work towards a better future. We had many productive conversations. While there is a lot of work ahead of us to achieve social justice, we are taking the first steps that need to happen. In the words of our international board, “As integral actors in our respective communities, it is vital that all CKI members exercise our global citizenship, rooted in empathy and social consciousness, to improve all human relationships and to realize humanity’s potential. In the context of the killing of George Floyd and all those before him, this most readily means that CKI unequivocally condemns racism and its manifestations in both individual as well as systemic capacities.”

We formulated many goals for the year, and they all can be found on our website, but they fall into two main categories: Membership and District Involvement. Overall, we want to see our clubs and the district grow and lean on each other for support and resources. Some specific goals we have that fall under these themes are to grow from 206 dues-paid members to 250, host/facilitate at least 4 interclub service projects (one is already completed!), and have each club interacting with another Kiwanis family club twice each semester, and once over the summer.

There are many ways that you can help support us. Of course, monetary donations are always very appreciated and go right to our members in many ways such providing programming and leadership development activities at our Fallcon and DCON; but interacting with us and providing meaningful connections can help us grow as young professionals and increase the value of being a part of the Kiwanis Family. And in a way, being fully virtual for the first part of this year can help us connect across the district in ways we wouldn’t have considered otherwise. You can attend our virtual events, reach out to a nearby individual Circle K club that you would like to form a stronger connection with, and attend our larger Fallcon (the date/setting is not set yet, but it will be in October) and DCON (February 19–21 in Portsmouth, NH) events.

We have a great Kiwanis Family Chair on the board this year, Jordanna Belle-Isle. She will be facilitating the planning of KFam events hosted by our district and reaching out to our clubs with ways to interact with their sponsoring and nearby Kiwanis clubs. You can reach Jordanna at kfamily.nedcki@gmail.com with any questions. I am excited to lead the district through this year which has been eventful thus far, to say the least. My time with Circle K has brought me many friends, skills, and lessons learned that I will carry with me, and I am excited to enter my last year of college with such a great organization. I look forward to seeing a lot of you (even if it is through our computer screens!) this year and hope you are all staying well and healthy. Be sure to check out our website, and if you have any questions don’t hesitate to reach out!

Hello from Circle K!

Circle K District Governor - Alison Lunny
Email: govnedcki@gmail.com
Website: nedcki.org
Greetings New England and Bermuda Kiwanians!

My name is Lydia Tucker, and I was elected Governor of the New England and Bermuda District of Key Clubs this past April. I’m excited to be serving for the 2020-2021 term!

I am currently a rising senior at Laconia High School in Laconia, New Hampshire. I have been a member of Key Club since freshman year, and since then, I have served as my Key Club’s secretary and as the Lieutenant Governor for Division 5. In addition to Key Club, I play field hockey and lacrosse, and I’m a member of my school’s National Honor Society and Life of an Athlete Club.

Accompanying me on the Executive Board this year is District Editor Kristina Jutras from Scarborough, Maine, District Treasurer Emily Cheung from Portland, Maine, and District Secretary Nicholas Yang from Seekonk, Massachusetts. We held our District Board Trainer in April on Zoom, so our Board members have been very productive already!

Unfortunately, the New England District of Key Clubs was unable to hold its usual District Educational Conference in Springfield, MA due to COVID-19. However, all of our guest speakers and workshop presenters were able to speak and share their presentations on Zoom for all to access. Those workshops are now also available on the District’s YouTube channel and Facebook account. Feel free to check them out!

This past month, I also chose Children of Peace International (COPI) as my Governor’s Project. Key Clubs in New England and Bermuda will be encouraged to fundraise and donate to the project throughout the year and especially at DECON! Currently, our District has a goal to raise $18,000 for the San Sa Ho Project by next April. This project is working to build a dormitory for the children in Vietnam, which we hope to name after our beloved Mr. George Whitney.

Overall, COVID-19 has somewhat limited our District as a whole, but Key Clubbers have been finding virtual alternatives to what we usually do. I was able to attend Governor and Administrator Training online, Lieutenant Governors and Key Clubs are meeting virtually, and Key Club International Convention is also going to be online. We miss not being able to see our fellow Key Clubbers and Kiwanians in person but are glad to stay safe and seek new ways of serving others!

Kiwanians, thank you for your continued support. We look up to you and appreciate all that you do for us and our world!
Good Morning fellow Kiwanians,

According to data from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS), 49 States reported a total of 1,585 fatalities. Nationally it is estimated 1,670 children died from abuse or neglect in 2015, which is 5.7 percent more than in 2011. This translates to a rate of 2.25 children per 100,000 children in the general population and an average of nearly five children dying every day from abuse or neglect.

Three-quarters (74.8 percent) of child fatalities in 2015 involved children younger than 3 years, and children younger than 1 year accounted for 49.4 percent of all fatalities. In 80% of child abuse and neglect cases, the alleged abusers are overwhelmed, stressed parents who took their frustrations out on their own children; in other cases child abuse results because some parents were abused as children and never learned how to be a good parent. A Kiwanis club could assist through local events in a variety of ways:

- **Recognition event.** Hold a luncheon, dinner, award ceremony or other event to publicly thank child protection workers, foster parents, a media personality or others who have made a significant contribution to preventing child abuse.
- **Publicity.** Send press releases to local radio and television stations.
- **Proclamation.** Work with the sponsoring organization to have government leaders issue proclamations supporting Child Abuse Prevention Month in April.
- **Blue ribbon campaign.** Urge everyone in the community to wear a blue ribbon during April, to show that they know child abuse is an important problem to address. If appropriate, make the wearing of the blue ribbon a reminder of a child in the community who died from child abuse during the past year.
- **Kids day.** Organize a “Kids for Kids” parade dedicated to children featuring children.

**WORK WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS** One of the best ways for a Kiwanis club to effect change in child abuse situations is to work with organizations already addressing the problem. In many countries there is a group dedicated to preventing child abuse through public education, such as UNICEF and the International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect. The United States is fortunate to have chapters of Prevent Child Abuse America in most areas. Using their website, [www.preventchildabuse.org](http://www.preventchildabuse.org), you can find your local chapter.

- **RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS** Most child abuse prevention organizations have public awareness materials that they will share with Kiwanis clubs. Rather than starting from scratch, clubs should seek out these organizations and ask permission to use printed and video public service announcements, radio spots or art for fliers and brochures. Some also offer “op-ed” pieces that can be submitted to newspapers.
- **Below are two additional links providing current information on child abuse information:** [https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/fatality.pdf](https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/fatality.pdf) and [https://www.childhelp.org/child-abuse-statistics/](https://www.childhelp.org/child-abuse-statistics/)

I hope your Club will consider doing a YCPO project to help prevent Child Abuse. Every child deserves to be born into a world knowing and expecting warmth, love, nourishment and security. And isn’t this what Kiwanis is all about?
Maybe our opinions about child care and its problems would change if we got rid of the term "child care centers" and replaced it with what many are, and more should be: “Early Care and Education Centers.”

Perhaps if more of our legislators had a better understanding of the overwhelming importance of the 1000 days following conception, appropriate support would at last be recognized for the true value it provides not only to the child but to society years later.

Yes, we have pre-kindergarten for 4-year-old children, but for many it is too late to take full advantage of the remarkable brain development that has already been occurring, even before birth.

The goal should be to establish high quality centers with teachers providing care of children but also education, by enhancing the brain's genetic growth instructions with a scientifically-based background and the environment needed for optimal brain development of infants, toddlers and young children.

This is not new knowledge. Ever since President George H. W. Bush declared the 1990s the Decade of the Brain, research has provided evidence recognizing the immense changes that occur in brain functioning long before children enter kindergarten. Economists have also shown a significant benefit to society as these children grow into adulthood, a benefit that outweighs the cost of providing quality.

Unless or until we provide our youngest citizens with a quality education based upon brain research, we continue the risk of seriously limiting the social, emotional and intellectual potential available for our country.
YOUNG CHILDREN: COVID-19 PROJECT IDEAS

1. Give or continue to give financially to food distribution centers (ie. Table, Food Banks, Schools –Continuing to feed our children at this time is critical). Additionally, food pantries/banks/centers are experiencing not only increased demand for food but are getting increased inquiries about cleaning supplies and diapers.

2. Volunteer to help children with school work who are in the hospital (one on one virtually).

3. Encourage members and the community to donate blood, if possible. Blood donation is needed as supplies are at a critically low level. Contact www.redcrossblood.org for an appointment.

4. The budgets of early education and childcare centers that are open or that might be re-opening are under heavy strain. Some centers may now have older children all day so ask them about items that may be needed for those children (Never gift a center without consulting the director or site manager.) Check to see what needs centers might have and then discuss how your club might help meet those needs. Consider giving gift cards to providers. Consider an appropriate socially distant fundraiser.

5. Advocate with your local and state elected officials urging them to support early education/childcare. With government budgets at all levels under heavy stress, many will view early education/childcare as an easy target unless they hear from groups like Kiwanis.

6. Support school aged students kids who depend on 2 or even 3 meals a day at school. Reach to your local district and ask them how to help.

7. Offer parents who might be suffering from new stresses the opportunity to have support by organizing discussion and sharing groups.

8. Child abuse could be on the rise. Contact local agencies to see if there is some way you can help them reach out - like manning a phone help line.

9. Setup programs explaining (with cool analogies and graphics) COVID-19 to kids, especially when a 2nd wave later in the summer sounds likely. USA TODAY

10. Consider sponsoring a community Vroom session. Early learning can happen anywhere, anytime, and Parents, are you looking for FREE and easy to access resources? #Vroom has 1,000+ creative and fun ways to add learning to mealtime, bath time, bedtime, and more. You already have what it takes to be a brain builder! For more Vroom Tips, to download the Vroom App, or to sign up for Vroom By Text visit: https://www.vroom.org/

11. The following link shares Remote learning resources for preschool through middle school age children from Tufts Medical Center Boston, MA.

12. Help your own members. Set up a “system” in your own club to make sure members and their families have the support and materials they need.

13. Collect bottles, cans, and other supplies in anticipation for winter needs. Individuals may bring their donations to a collection point at a safe distance.

DO YOU HAVE A GREAT PROJECT IDEA THAT BENEFITS YOUNG CHILDREN?

Please submit your project to the Kiwanis International Committee on Young Children: youngchildren@kiwanis.org.
Hello New England and Bermuda District,

This has definitely been an unprecedented time for our clubs. From taking our meetings to zoom and other online platforms to marketing our efforts. It has been amazing to see such positive press coverage of what you are all doing! Everyone is thinking outside the box to make sure we are still doing things to help our communities.

Now more than ever it is crucial to continue to keep our clubs in the public eye. The more we continue to shine as individual clubs and as a district the easier it will be to grow our clubs and attract new members. Some of the fundraisers and service projects now done virtually have been heartwarming!

There are some great PR pieces on the international website to help with posting if you need ideas. Here is the link to get you started: https://www.kiwanis.org/news/covid-19-kiwanis-suggestions. Also if you are looking for some creative branding opportunities to get the Kiwanis name out there, please check out the Kiwanis store for some great products including Kiwanis masks. It is important that we stay focused on the mission of Kiwanis and servicing the children of the world. Make sure that the talking points you post on social media and discuss within your meeting(s) continue to show and strengthen our mission.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you need any resources or if you need any help. Also, the Kiwanis Inflatable logo is back out in circulation. If you need it for an event please email me at pr@newenglandkiwanis.org so you can be on the schedule. Please continue to post all the great things your clubs are doing on the district facebook page.

Thank you,
Gayla
Kiwanis Club of Meriden Presents

2020 Summer of Service!

Kiwanis and our Kiwanis Family are all about community service and helping others. Members like you have a unique passion for making the world a better place. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more important than ever to think about how we can help others...while remaining socially distant and safe!

We hope that all members of our Kiwanis Family - K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, CKI, and Aktion Club - will spend time doing service this summer.

Here are 10 ways you and your family can make a difference and have a Kiwanis Summer of Service!

1. Make T-Shirt Dog Toys
A Kiwanis Family favorite! Braid three strips of old (but clean) t-shirts into a toy for dogs in need. Donate your toys to Saving Paws (savingpawsct.org) or another animal group.

2. Collect Pop Tabs
Our Kiwanis Family is collecting pop tabs to support the Ronald McDonald House of CT and families who stay there while their children are in the hospital. You can help by saving the tabs on your beverage, pet food, and other aluminum cans, and bringing them to your advisor in the fall.

3. Donate Food to Meriden Soup Kitchen
Every winter, we hold the Kiwanis Family Souper Bowl Food Drive. But the Meriden Soup Kitchen relies on donations year round. Visit meridensoupkitchen.org to see what items they need most, and coordinate with an adult to pick up a few food items from the grocery store to donate.

4. Donate Books to the Kiwanis Little Free Library (LFL)
Do you have gently used books you’ve already read and want to share with others? Bring them to our LFL on the Meriden Linear Trail (Oregon Rd). If the box is full, email us or donate your books to another LFL in Meriden!
5. Paint Kindness Rocks
Kindness Rocks are small rocks with positive messages painted on them. They are left for neighbors, friends, or people in the community to discover. Paint rocks of your own and leave them for someone to find! Learn more at thekindnessrocksproject.com.

6. Make a Cardboard Cat Scratcher
Are you a cat lover? You can make a cardboard cat scratcher for cats at a local shelter. Find instructions and other animal craft projects at: https://cthumane.org/events-and-service-projects/craft-projects.

7. Write a Card or Draw a Picture For Nursing Home Residents
Take a few minutes to write a card or draw a picture for a nursing home resident. It will brighten their day! Ask an adult to help you contact a local nursing home to coordinate mailing your card/picture.

8. Leave a Sidewalk Chalk Message or Picture
Sidewalk chalk art and messages are an excellent way to give someone a smile. Leave a message on a neighbor’s or friend’s driveway, or leave a positive message on the sidewalk for all to see!

9. Make “Milk-Bone” and Peanut Butter Sandwiches for Dogs
Dogs love peanut butter sandwiches, too! Make simple treats for dogs in need by putting peanut butter (cannot contain the ingredient “xylitol”!) between two “Milk-Bones.” Contact a local animal group like Saving Paws to coordinate your donation.

10. Show Some Kindness
2016 Kid Governor Elena Tipton created six videos about how kids can show kindness while social distancing. Find her “Ways to Show Kindness While Social Distancing” playlist at youtube.com/connecticutskidgovernor and choose an act of kindness to do!

Tell us about your Summer of Service!
How many projects did you complete this summer?
Do you have photos of your projects or a service project idea to add to our list?
Have an adult email us at meridenkiwanis@gmail.com to tell us!

www.meridenkiwanis.org  |  facebook.com/meridenkiwanis  |  Instagram: @MeridenKiwanis
Kiwanis Member Opportunity:

How do you attract active members who may think their jobs restrict their ability to join and participate?

I am sure this is the feeling of many folks whose jobs require them to travel and to be away from home and/or maybe away for seasonal work.

This was certainly my case 32 years ago in 1988 when I was away sailing the World as a Tanker Captain. I happened to be home and my oldest daughter was enrolled in a Naval History course at the University and happened to mention that her Dad was home from Sea. The Professor stopped her and asked for details and she ended up volunteering me as a guest lecturer. It worked out perfectly and I did this for many classes over the years. However, the professor was a member of the local Kiwanis Club and he asked me to join. I declined saying I would be away for the next 4 months and unable to attend. He told me that there is no attendance requirement and that being a Kiwanian meant when I was away that was okay and when I was home I normally had time to take part in meetings and many projects that the club did in the community. Well...I JOINED. He was so right, when away you are simply away and when you are home you are available and welcomed to participate.

The bonus for me is that I have visited Kiwanis Clubs all over the World in my travels...

Another great story: Our Bangor Breakfast Kiwanis Club has a current member who is sailing as a Tanker Master on a Suez Max tanker of 163,750 tons carrying 1.5 million barrels of oil. Oil is 42 gallons per barrel just like wine!

The story is that Captain Numan Cokgormusler actually sailed with me on the Training Ship State of Maine back in 1999 as a visiting professor from a Maritime University in Izmir, Turkey. His wife also came over and visited and we stayed in touch over the years. Their son Kevin was born while visiting relatives in Texas in 2002. Numan is an educator, Ship Captain, and Harbor Pilot in Izmir. A couple of years ago his son showed an interest in attending Maine Maritime Academy so they bought a house in Bangor and Kevin attended Bangor High School for the two years before graduating and is currently enrolled at MMA where he just completed his Freshman year.
When Numan and his wife Fulya looked for volunteer opportunities (they volunteered in Turkey) in the Bangor Area they were turned down by the local hospital because of no Social Security credentials. Anyway, I suggested he join Kiwanis. WOW, what a great member he is. So, after Christmas here he returned to Sea on the MT BESIKTAS BOSPHORUS and his wife Fulya was able to go with him. They have been traveling from the Black Sea to Western India and recently from Iraq to Eastern India with Crude Oil cargo under charter by Chevron. He is currently in Fujairah, UAE and expects to sail for Istanbul in the next few days headed for shipyard and drydocking required by regulations. Kevin flew to Izmir this past week and will be joining his Mom and Dad for shipyard...what a great hands-on educational experience for him. They will be back in Bangor in August and he will again be an active participant in everything our club does.

This just goes to show that we as Kiwanians need to encourage friends, and family who may have jobs that take them away for periods of time and or maybe they have recently retired to join. If someone is looking for an opportunity to help children and to give back to their communities then ask them to join Kiwanis.

Doctor, Captain Numan Cokgormusler, BS, MS, Licensed Master Mariner, Harbor Pilot, Educator. Spouse: Fulya, Retired Turkish Air Force.

Check out this Local Article: https://foxbangor.com/bangor-local-sports/heart-of-a-captain-bangor-grad-comes-to-america-to-chase-lifelong-dream/
Food Pantry – Hooksett Kiwanis has sponsored a Food Pantry for the Town of Hooksett since 2009. During the Pandemic the Food Pantry played an even more important role for the Community, by subsidizing food for students who qualified for reduced or free lunches from school. We started providing "Kid Packs" to all children including those who were part of the school referral list that received assistance through the free and Reduced Lunch program. At our peak during Covid-19, we were preparing 45 Kid Packs per week. There also were many extra donations to the Food Pantry during this time which the staff spent a great deal of time, accounting for the funds and purchasing necessary food to satisfy the extra demand.

The small town of Hooksett, NH with a population of approximately 15,000 is part of greater Manchester, NH. It may be best known for having the toll booth on I-93 or rest areas with liquor stores. However, Kiwanis has been working to bring a spotlight to some of the other things the Hooksett Community could be known for. Since September 2000 Hooksett Kiwanis continues to grow its membership while helping to improve the Hooksett Community at the same time. Some things the Hooksett Kiwanis did during the Pandemic include:
• Medical Staff – Two Manchester hospitals each have satellite facilities in Hooksett. We provided for their staff “Thank You!” gift bags and gift cards from a local Dunkin Donuts and Aroma Joe’s.

• Additionally, the Hooksett Kiwanis Club started a Satellite Club in Derry-Londonderry, NH during the Kiwanis year of 2019-2020 and we helped in that community as well during the Pandemic.

• Medical Staff at Parkland Medical Center – We assembled and distributed “Thank You!” Bags, including Gift Cards to local Restaurants for lunches and breakfast for their staff.

• The Salvation Army of Greater Derry – We donated $1,000 to the Salvation Army which was used to help offset the high demand for food during the Pandemic.

• YMCA of Londonderry – We donated $1,000 to the YMCA which was used to put together at home activity bags for the children who normally stayed at the YMCA but during the Pandemic had to stay at home.

• Habitat for Humanity Food Packets – Purchased 20 cases of Food Packets from Habitat for Humanity Outreach Program given to Hooksett Food Pantry, The Salvation Army of Greater Derry, Upper Room Derry, End 48 Hours of Hunger programs for Derry-Londonderry, NH.

The total Financial Commitment from Hooksett Kiwanis was over $14,000. Certainly, the Pandemic has been a real challenging time for so many. That is why Hooksett Kiwanis felt there couldn’t be a better time to support the community. It was a good feeling knowing we could help and certainly based on the responses from all we dealt with, we know it certainly was appreciated. As one of the old sayings goes “When the going gets tough the tough get going”. We are proud to have helped both Communities of Hooksett and Derry-Londonderry during these challenging times.
Since September of 2009, the Hooksett Kiwanis Foundation has sponsored the Hooksett Community Food pantry, a previously established project within a basement of a local community church. Each month, approximately 35-40 community volunteers provide food to over 50 families with fluctuations in summer, vacations, and local labor markets. Since its inception, volunteers have distributed over one million dollars in food to area families in need. This community effort has not let up during the current COVID-19 pandemic. With a generous gift of masks from a local community member and supplies of wipes, gloves, and disinfectant, the pantry volunteers don their protective gear and package up food for distribution to client families by individual appointments while maintaining social distancing practices. During this unique and uncertain time, the pantry has taken on several new families in need, especially those that were qualified for free and reduced lunch from the schools. To help with the loss of local school offerings, the pantry puts together more than 40 "Kid Packs" each week that include yogurt, cheese sticks, fresh and can/jar fruit, cereal bars, dry cereal, a sweet treat and other items that they might normally receive during the school day. The Hooksett School's food service director has been very supportive with this effort offering any perishable and soon to expire goods from their refrigerators and freezers.

Notably, the Hooksett Community Food Pantry does not draw on the statewide services of the NH Food Bank, the pantry is a success because the Hooksett community continues to support its mission to feed the hungry within its community. The community has been very generous in supporting the pantry over the years, and especially at this time with generous monetary donations. The usual generosity of food donations may be contaminated with the COVID-19 virus and precautions have been defined that all incoming public donations would need to be quarantined for a period of time—an option that the pantry does not have currently but is working to establish with the town. Until that time, donations remain suspended from sources other than the school, USDA commodity distribution, and bulk orders from the grocery stores. Food throughout the year is provided by donation from USDA, Salvation Army, individual community food donors, local businesses, annual food drives by the Hooksett Scouting community, Hooksett Schools & PTA, the US Postal Service (which is on hold for 2020 because of the pandemic), and other creative collections including in lieu of birthday gifts, plant parties, and admission to events. Monetary donations are used to continue the operation of the pantry and to obtain additional goods from Hooksett stores including Walmart, Hannaford Supermarket, Shaw's Supermarket, Target, Dollar General, and Market Basket.

Although sorting and distribution is currently suspended during the pandemic, Kiwanis volunteers also operate a “Kid’s Kloset” where members, throughout the year, provide gently used children’s clothing to families in need. Each year the Kloset supplies about 4,000 articles to children in the community. Clothing collection similar to food donations would need to be quarantined before being handled by volunteers and those receiving it.

Hooksett Kiwanis has developed an ongoing partnership with the Town of Hooksett, whereby the Pantry and Kloset operate within the Town’s municipal building at no cost.
The Kiwanis Club of Greater Waterville celebrated its 97th anniversary this year. Like many, most of our events have had to be canceled thus far, including the Club's major fundraiser, our annual live community auction. We, like many I am sure, at first struggled a bit during this pandemic, but then decided it was time to start meeting (on ZOOM, where else!) and to come up with a project that would involve all Club members while giving back to the community in some fashion. We reined our spending in knowing new funds would just not be available to us given the cancellation of our major annual fundraiser. However, we still wanted to provide service, so after a bit of strategizing we decided the project would be Operation Thinking of You. Our members accepted the challenge of handwriting 375 note cards to be distributed to 3 large and 1 small assisted living facilities within our area, letting them know they were being thought of during this crazy time with little ability to see family and friends. In addition we put together "goody bags" for the staff at each facility to share. Homemade cookies, various candies and other snacks easy to grab on the go. Wednesday, June 17th found us safely gathered together for the first real face-to-face meeting since March to stuff the bags and to add Kiwanis stickers to all of the envelopes. The bags were then distributed over the next 2 days and were overwhelmingly received. A wonderful service project!
The Danvers Kiwanis club made “get well fun bags” for the children at Beverly Hospital. Club member Gardner reached out via social media for children’s DVDS that the hospital needed. Through the generosity of the Danvers community he received over 200! A big thank you to Brandy DeAlmeida of Little Helpers Children’s Center in Danvers. She reached out to Gardner to see how the children could help. The students made get well cards for the children in the hospital. Then the Care packages were delivered to the pediatric ward at Beverly Hospital. What a wonderful service project spreading the mission of Kiwanis. #kidsneedkiwanis
MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings Member of the Kiwanis Family,

Thank you for taking the time to read this season’s district publication. I just wanted to take a moment to share with those who have made it this far, a term. The term is “Social Justice”. In the Oxford Dictionary of Environment and Conservation (3 ed.) by Chris Park and Michael Allaby the term Social Justice is defined as, “The objective of creating a fair and equal society in which each individual matters, their rights are recognized and protected, and decisions are made in ways that are fair and honest.” Some may be seeing this term for this first time, others may have seen it 100 times over or have their own definition. It is important for us as members of Kiwanis to be aware of such terms, as we work to support the children and their families within our communities. By sharing with you this definition, I hope it will make it a term that we welcome in our discussions, work, and clubs. In the next publication, I also hope we can fill its pages with words, stories, and actions that are being done in support of Social Justice within our communities. As we get closer to the new service year in October another call for articles will be sent out. Thank you for sharing your stories and experiences.

Yours in Service,
Karl Uzcategui, M.S.
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