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Governor’s Message

As you all may know the goal of Kiwanis International is to grow and increase membership, build new clubs and to add as many SLP programmes/clubs as possible. For some of us this is not an easy task but we must realize that if we don’t grow we may cease to exist which is our biggest fear. Each one of you are icons in your community and has the possibility to bring in a member into your club. Let us all put our efforts together and see how we can manage this. Starting a new club sounds difficult but in fact it’s rather easy if we just make the effort.

I have a vision that we can start looking into forming/building musical clubs, which is maybe a way to get the youth innovated. Just think about this for a while and you will realize that this possibility exist. Even forming a musical group under your own existing members should work and we can create the possibility of maybe performing at of our activities or conventions. My goal is “Building”, building in any form or the other whether it be leaders, new clubs, new SLP’s, building getting in new members and even building on member retention which I know is also very important and so is our image.

We have to work on the Image of Kiwanis, make this known within our/your community. Doing this we get people asking questions which give you the possibility to get prospective members that later on can become members.

Enhancing the image is a multifold activity because here we have and can create the opportunity of making the Kiwanis Image known to the community, you create public awareness, enhances the possibility of getting new members / growth, encourages fellowship among your members and which also enhances membership retention.

So my final request is let us all do and work on our part and let’s make Kiwanis bigger better and beautiful in the eyes of the world, we should hear and see more of Kiwanis where ever we turn.

#KidsNeedKiwanis

Your Governor

Robert “Bob” Spellen

Building leaders to Lead
Everyone has a purpose in life a unique talent to give to others. And when we blend this unique talent with service to others, we experience the ecstasy and exultation of own spirit, which is the ultimate goal of goals.

Kallam Anji Reddy

We are all blessed with a talent (some with multiple) in some form or the other and we have an obligation, not to be selfish with that which we are blessed with but to share it with others. I am happy to be able to share with you through the production of the newsletter.

It is a new Kiwanis year and I would just like to thank District Secretary/Treasurer (DST) Jim Steele and Past International Trustee Pierre Laliberte for the support over the past 4 years. I also wish to thank all the Divisions and Clubs who have contributed on a monthly basis – without you it would not have been possible; and also to the persons who have issued words of encouragement and compliments.

This year the Newsletter will be published bi-monthly and there will be some new features, in addition to featuring the work of the clubs and our unsung heroes.

- Each division is expected to send a paragraph along with a picture of the work done each period for publication.
- There will be the sharing of stories about friendship/marriage/engagement formed while in Kiwanis. This idea I got from Kiwanis International.

The first such feature is a love story featuring Christine King and Gary Wallen. Christine was such a trooper - when I asked her if she would share her story, she did not hesitate. Thank you DLGE Christine.

I tried to make her story a one pager but you would have missed so much so I have made it into a 3 part story and I do hope you enjoy the “series”.

Articles/stories are due on or before the 15th of the month of publication and the next publication will be in January 2020; so prepare your stores/articles to share. Also, feel free to share your ideas, if there is something you would like to see included in each edition.

By now you should start preparing for the submission of your Signature Project. Please see what’s new about the Signature Project on page 3.

Have a great Kiwanistic year all.

In Kiwanis service,

Merdina

callu78@hotmail.com

Will your club project be a winner? It’s time to get prepared for the 4th annual Signature Project Contest. Start gathering information now to submit your top club signature project to represent your district in the 2020 contest.

The online contest form will open on December 15, 2019, and will close on January 27, 2020. Winners will be recognized at the District Convention in Fredericton in May and Kiwanis International convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, in June 2020.

For project inspiration, visit kiwanis.org/signature projects.
The 2020 Signature Project contest will be opened Sunday, December, 15th 2020. We hope your club will submit the best signature project from our district for recognition at the Kiwanis International convention in Indianapolis on June 18th, 2020. The submission deadline is Midnight EST on January 27th, 2020.

What is New?

The contest will have 2 new elements that should bring new excitement to our clubs and ease participation for our districts:

(1) TWO CONTEST TIERs:

This year there will be two separately judged contests based on the size of the membership of each club. Each tier winners (gold, silver and bronze) will be recognized at the convention in Indianapolis. Each District will submit 2 winners; one from each tier as per below.

Tier 1: Clubs with 27 or fewer members
Tier 2: Clubs with 28 or more members

(2) NEW UNIVERSAL CONTEST FORMS:

The online submission form (Formstack) that had previously been used only by the district for their submission will now be available for all clubs to use. As each club completes their online submission, an email with their contest entry details will automatically be sent to the District Secretary. This will afford each district the opportunity to receive all submissions from its clubs in a standard format that will make the judging process more simple. Once the district selects its contest winners, these will be submitted to Kiwanis International for final judging.

Below are key milestones leading up to the recognition and awards events for both tiers at the Kiwanis International Convention for you to share with your clubs. Please pay close attention to submission deadline. NO submission will be accepted after midnight on January 27th, 2020.

Our Eastern Canada and Caribbean District will also recognize winners of the two categories at our district convention in Fredericton in May.
In today's fast-paced society, our brains have been retrained to view images and shorter phrases of words to form an opinion, capture our attention to learn more or disregard the message. We see this in social media, where powerful messages are broadcast in 144 characters or with images. This practice is not new. In fact, society has accepted a short form of communication for many years and in many countries. The method? A bumper sticker.

Many of our Kiwanis clubs rely on pamphlets, brochures and websites that are outdated and take too long to get to the point. Writing and sharing your Kiwanis story should invoke an “I'd like to learn more” response from the reader. While it can be challenging to answer the question, “What is Kiwanis,” it shouldn’t be hard to create a heart-felt message about your personal experience with the organization without writing paragraph after paragraph.

A top seller in the Kiwanis Family Store is the Terrific Kids bumper sticker. A simple “My Kid is Terrific” message makes people wonder why. It opens the door for a parent to talk about their child and their participation in the Kiwanis Terrific Kids program.

What is your club’s message that will spark a reader or listener to stop and want to learn more? Can that message fit on a bumper sticker? We’d love to see your responses to your bumper sticker message. It’s your turn to share your love of Kiwanis in a message that makes potential members want to learn more.

Any club or division interested in hosting a future convention can contact the District Convention Chair Brian McKeown for information.

Email brianm@shabriproperties.com

Thanks.

Brian McKeown
Recently, Governor Bob presided over the installation ceremony for the 2019-2020 administration at his home club, Kiwanis Club of Aruba at the Grand Ballroom of Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino. Kiwanis Club of Aruba had the honor of Her Excellency Prime Minister of Aruba Mrs. Evelyn Wever-Croes and Governor Robert ‘Bob’ Spellen’s wife, First Lady Mary Spellen.

The presence of Governor Bob was even more special as he is the 2nd member of Kiwanis Club of Aruba to have been elected to the highest office in the Eastern Canada & Caribbean District after late FK Clinton Whitfield held this position in 1978-1979. The late FK Clinton was also the founder of the club and charter club president in 1964.

For the pinning of the club directors and vice presidents, Governor Bob requested the assistance of Past Lieutenant Governors Gordhan Daryanani and John Every. This was followed by his address in which he outlined his goals for the Kiwanistic Year.

President Edalitza thanked the members for their time, devoted service and commitment to make lasting difference. She said that in 2019 – 2020 the club will continue to serve the children of Aruba and will focus on impactful projects and also a memorable Kiwanis experience for our members.

The 2019 -2020 board of Officers:
President
Edalitza Weller (2nd term), 1st Vice President Ingmar Ramharkh, 2nd Vice President Nathalie Maduro, Secretary George Croes, Treasurer Claudine Ho-Kang-You and IPP Norma Brinkenberg – Spellen.

Board of Directors:
Ryan Kock, Carol Kelly, Oslin Ismail, Sigrid Hammelburg, Dorylee Pappers-Lopez Penha, Yelitza Domacassé-Helmeyer and Jokoeza Hooplott.
Recently the Kiwanis Club of Kralendijk Bonaire held its first turnover event to introduce the new Board for the Kiwanistic year 2019-2020. During the event new members Alicia Xuan-Krijgsman and Mimi Dongen were also officially installed.

In her speech, outgoing Distinguished President Patricia Gerritzen-Veen spoke about Club’s achievements in the first year since its charter. She thanked the members for their hard work and commitment to helping the kids of Bonaire. After her speech, the new members of the Board were installed by special guest District 26 Lieutenant Governor Marlon der Meer.

LG Marlon der Meer installed Secretary Mimi Dongen, Treasurer Juliette de Grijze, Director of Community Service Charlotte Flanegin-Rodriquez, Immediate Past President Patricia Gerritzen-Veen and President Ricard Nicholson.

In his first speech as President, Ricard Nicholson thanked Immediate Past President Patricia Gerritzen-Veen for her hard work during the last Kiwanistic year as well as expressed his gratitude to the board and members for their hard work and dedication.

He also thanked the sponsors for their contribution, special guests LG Der Meer, Rotary president Mr. Balentien, Lions Club president Ms. Carolina and Lions Club delegates from Aruba.

President Ricard Nicholson emphasized that he sees the Kiwanis Club of Kralendijk Bonaire as a family working hard to better the community of Bonaire one child at a time.
The Kiwanis Club of Eastern Kingston and Port Royal (EKPR) and the Caribbean Maritime University (CMU) Circle K Club embarked on a program dubbed, “Let’s Motivate Our Youths”. This program was coined from the Governor General, Sir Patrick Allen’s, National Motivation and Affirmation Day Tuesday October 15, 2019. The theme was “Let’s Do It Together”. Each member of Jamaica was challenged to wear yellow; reach out and motivate somebody as they would for themselves.

Port Royal Primary and Infant School was the venue for the “kick-off” of the series “Let’s Motivate Our Youths”. Both the Kiwanis Club of Eastern Kingston and Port Royal and Caribbean Maritime University Circle K Club members were in attendance. The delegation was led by club presidents Tadmar Moore, EKPR and Kevaughn Myrie, CMU Circle K. The students were exposed to informative, concise and fun ways of being motivated and motivating themselves.

President Kevaughn shared his wealth of knowledge with the students who reciprocated by participating and responding to the questions he asked. He encourage them to believe in themselves and have loads of fun but to remember that education is the key and studying is important. Important.

Co-chairman Junior Edwards took an unconventional approach by reminding the students that each activity they partake in is important for the future. He alluded to simple chores which teach time management; asking questions to gain a better understanding and troubleshooting arriving at solution on their own. Past Vice President Calbert Williams reassured each student; that anything they want to achieve; they can. He maintained that they are the future of this country and we as adult must ensure we cultivate and pave the way forward. Being focused, hard work and discipline will get them a far way. Never give up, be humble and be patient.
With the Blue Mountain as its backdrop, and the caves, bays and waterfalls sprinkled throughout, is the parish of Portland. Situated in that very beautiful parish is the Rio Grande which has one of the largest rivers in Jamaica and that happens to be the home town of Gary Wallen. He is, therefore, no stranger to beauty - both in his surroundings and in the characters that have peopled his life.

The third of seven children born to Letetia Moore and Leslie Wallen, Gary grew up in Rio Grande, and attended Basic, Primary and All-age School before transferring to Port Antonio Secondary High. His vocational specialty was electrical installation and he graduated with certificates in Mathematics, English, Life Skills, Social Studies and Electrical Installation. He then entered the youth service program, which led him to a local government community development initiative. Gary went on to work for a water drilling company, a job which prompted his interest in geology. However, as fascinated as he was with nature and as good as he is with his hands, he possesses a charm that has made him an accomplished salesman. This gift for sales was first recognized when he applied for and secured a job with D & G Wines, a subsidiary of Desnoes & Geddes (D & G), the local producers of Red Stripe Beer.

"Somehow the supervisor just took on to me. He said, 'I don't see where I'm needed here. You can manage yourself'' she told him. Truer words had not been spoken! Not only did Gary manage himself but he managed to use his experience with D & G to open his own business - a bar which had a successful run until his professional path took an unlikely turn.

He went from selling wines and spirits to delivering knowledge and understanding to Jamaica's students living in some of the most rural parts of the country. As the driver for one of Jamaica's largest mobile libraries, Gary pulled his eight ton-plus truck into residential country areas and later, into schools. He left this assignment with fond memories when he went to work for the power company - Jamaica Public Service Company (JPS). In some ways, his interest in electrical installation had come full circle and for eleven (11) years he worked as a meter reader and field service technician respectively. However, his entrepreneurial nature was something he could not part with and he eventually founded a trucking and construction business.

In 1994, Gary became a Kiwanian and like everything else in his life, he approached his civic duty with absolute buy-in. He has served as Lieutenant Governor for two years and has traveled around the world attending Kiwanis events and conferences. His other principal interest is the kind of socializing that allows for constructive conversation.
On Friday 25th October 2019 the Kiwanis Club of Pinewood intercubed with the Kiwanis Club of Abaco officers and members who were affected by hurricane Dorian.

They were presented with donation of clothes, toiletries and dry foods. The Abaco members were overjoyed and greatly appreciative to for the assistance given.

The Kiwanis Club of Pinewood was the first club to assist a club that was affected. The Lieutenant Governor Christopher Rahming was also in attendance to bring greetings and give the members few encouraging words.

President Jovinta was presented with a fruit basket for her persistence in keeping her members together after hurricane Dorian and ensuring that they keep the faith as a group.

Special thanks to all who made this a special day for the Kiwanis Club of Abaco.
Out & About

with Governor Bob

From left, Lieutenant Governor for Division 18, Linda Jarvis - Duguay Governor Bob and Governor Elect Delores at the Kiwanis Club of Fredericton 75th anniversary dinner.

From right: Leslie Morrell, Fredericton Boyce Farmers’ Market Coordinator welcomes Governor Bob Delores Boudreaux Lewis, Governor Elect from Barbados, & Murielle Lordon President of Kiwanis Club of Fredericton.

Governor Bob at dinner with members of the Kiwanis Club Alma, during his visit to the clubs in the Division.
Division 23 East One Day took the form of a Mini Exposition and Concert featuring the wards of the Randolph Lopez School of Hope.

The aim of the Expo was to highlight the abilities of the students, raise awareness of their work and worth as well as to present them with opportunities for further training in various disciplines. Ministry of Education, HEART Trust/NTA and Edna Manley College personnel will be on hand to share knowledge and offer advice to them.

Presenters included Captain Dr. Kasan Troupe who represented the Minister of Education Youth and Information (MOEYI). She lauded Kiwanis 23 East for the very timely initiative while underscoring the importance of ensuring special needs children reach their potential. She informed that the MOEYI, has special education unit with special needs coordinators, clinical and educational psychologists who conduct assessment, diagnosis and referrals. She also lauded the teachers for the great job they are doing with the children. She encouraged the students to believe in themselves as they can become anything they want to. “Success is in your reach, excellence is in your reach and the Ministry of Education will ensure you become the best selves you can be”, she said before declaring the exhibition opened.

Other presenters were Miss Nerva Davis, Actg. Recruitment Coordinator at HEART Trust/NTA and Miss Coleen Douglas, Director of Marketing and Communication – Edna Manley College who gave advise on programmes and the various institutions the students could register into to further their education/skill sets.

Established in 1956, the Randolph Lopez School of Hope is the largest and oldest school serving children with intellectual disabilities in Jamaica and the English-speaking Caribbean. The Expo featured Food and Nutrition, Art and Craft, Woodwork, and Soft Furnishings produced by the inmates at the Randolph Lopez School of Hope as well as barbering and manicure and pedicure.
On Saturday, October 26, Kiwanis Club of Aruba and its SLP’s; Key Club Colegio Arubano, Key Club Colegio San Nicolas, Circle K EPI, Builder’s Club Mon Plaisir College and Aktion Club Sonrisa joined forces for another Kiwanis One Day project at the Saint Teresita Church in San Nicolas.

It was a fun filled day with lots of laughter, fellowship and of course a lot of helping hands. At the end of the day the Church received a complete facelift; walls and windows of the church building were fixed and painted.

A total of 80 volunteers participated in this Project dedicating a total of 567 service hours.

Kiwanis Club of Aruba is proud to improve the world one child and one community at a time. One day CAN make a difference.
The Kiwanis Club of Kralendijk Bonaire chose the Alejandro Nicolaas Park in Nort'i Saliña, for its One Day project after a member of the club saw that it needed some attention and maintenance. There was a lot of overgrown grass and weeds, broken glass and the playground equipment needed repairs. Members spent the day weeding, shoveling, raking, pruning and painting in Nort'i Saliña. It was nice to see that some neighbors of the park and some kids spontaneously decided to help.

Together with the volunteers from the neighborhood and family members, the Kiwanis Club of Kralendijk Bonaire provided the park and playground with a much-needed facelift. The kids were so excited that they started playing immediately, swinging and climbing in the tree.

Kiwanis Club of Kralendijk Bonaire intends to help with the upkeep of the park to ensure that the kids can have a safe space to play.

Kiwanis Club of Kralendijk Bonaire thanks Selibon for the waste container, Krioyo Paint for paint and supplies provided, Skyview, Ms. Martina Martilla of Stichting Maskarada, the Dorothea-Cruz family, Mrs. Clorinda Bernabela, and our own family members who in one way or the other helped to make this project a success.
The Kiwanis Club of Nepean has made a $25,000 donation to the Special Care Nursery at the Queensway Carleton Hospital for the purchase of specialized equipment utilized in the care of newborns.

At a presentation ceremony hosted by the hospital on October 15th, President Gord Clark presented the cheque to Judith Scott, Interim President and Acting CEO of the QCH Foundation and suggested that the gift was in keeping with Kiwanis International’s focus on young children. Mr. Clark was accompanied by several members of the Kiwanis Club of Nepean and Division 13 Lieutenant Governor Raghavan Vijay and the group heard from staff members of the Special Care Nursery regarding the importance of the donation to the unit.

A recognition plaque, acknowledging the Kiwanis Club of Nepean’s donation and the many years of dedicated employment at the hospital by Kiwanian Araina Clark, will be prominently displayed in the Special Care Nursery Unit.
In 2015 the Kiwanis Club of Chatham-Kent (ECC Division 3) formed a partnership with the Chatham Public Library in Ontario Canada which has proven to be very successful over the years. There are three main components – Reading Buddies where Kiwanians meet with individual children for half-hour shared-reading experiences; a 100+ Book give-away to kick off the Summer Reading Program at the library and the “Learn-a-Skill” component which has attracted a great deal of interest.

Learn-a-Skill is offered once a year for 4 weeks by one or more Kiwanians for children with an interest in a specific topic. The library provides the advertising (with the approved Kiwanis logo) and registration of students. Kiwanis provides the expertise, supervision and support. In addition to the voluntary human resources devoted to this component of the partnership, a budget of $500 is established to cover costs of materials. Each session is unique and designed to attract a specific group of interested students.

Year 1 – Quilting: 10 Kiwanians and friends, with one-on-one support for children learning to machine quilt.

Year 2 – Painting with watercolours: 1 Kiwanian with 6 children who explored colour mixing and the techniques of watercolour painting.

Year 3 – Bird house and bird feeder construction: 6 Kiwanians worked with 8 children to provide guidance and assistance in the construction of wood bird feeders with so much enthusiasm and success that bird houses were added to the construction zone.

Year 4 – Robotics for Girls: 6 young girls were invited to learn about coding and robotic movement; organized by library staff and the role of Kiwanians was as supervisors and co-learners rather than experts.

Learn-a-Skill is an opportunity for inter-generational learning, for children to develop a talent outside the general educational curriculum and for Kiwanis members to share something they enjoy. There is the benefit of highly motivated participants who want to learn and Kiwanians who have time and expertise to share. No teaching skill is required, just a love of interaction with children.

For the Kiwanis Club of Chatham-Kent, this Library partnership has proven to be very successful in creating a positive learning environment and in revitalizing the commitment of members to serving the children of our community.

Kids Need Kiwanis – and in the case of Learn-a-Skill - Kiwanis Needs Kids.
Fredericton, NB

Save the Date / Réservez ces dates
May 14-16, 2020
Les 14 au 16 mai 2020

Eastern Canada & Caribbean District Convention 2020
Congrès de l’est du Canada et des Caraïbes 2020

Host Hotel / hôtel principal: Delta Fredericton by Marriott
From / à partir de $174 + 15% tax / taxe
(booking opens mid-June 2019 / réservation seulement à la mi-juin 2019)
www.marriott.com/yfedf

Kapital Connections
Fredericton 2020
Eastern Canada & Caribbean District Convention
Catch the Kiwanis Wave, One Child at a Time

Maritime Kitchen Party / Un party de cuisine des Maritimes
NB Host Night
La soirée du Nouveau-Brunswick
May 15, 2020 / Le 15 mai 2020

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