

Another New Club Celebrated



Photos by Susan Dougherty

OFFICERS of the Kiwanis Club of Westfield Congratulated .. Pictured from left: Treasurer **Heidi Caponigro**, Secretary **Marvin Gersten**, International Trustee **Lance Incitti**, NJ District Governor **Gordon Meth**, Vice President **Jeffrey Christakos**, President **John Michael Jones** and Lt. Governor **Rosemary Oarsley**.

Importance of the Pinning Ceremony

If you have ever been to a training session for new secretaries and presidents that **Gwen Walding** heads, you know she means business. "Don't just hand the new person a pin at a meeting without saying something meaningful," she said at the session I attended back in the 1990s.

She knows the importance of bringing in new members and making them realize the significance of their commitment to the vol-

unteer organization.

So when she pinned Westfield's new secretary, she warned him of the job at hand. "You will be the hardest working member of the club," she said. And Mr. Gersten

knows that well since he's been working on the club's bylaws. Mr. Gersten is a friend of Governor **Gordon** and just had to heed the call when **Gordon** asked him to join.



Secretary of the newly chartered club, **Marven Gersten**, is congratulated by NJ District Secretary **Gwen Walding**.

After months of hard work, the Kiwanis Club of Greater Westfield was chartered on Tuesday, April 16 at the Echo Lake Country Club. International Trustee **Lance Incitti** welcomed the club into the K-Family and Governor **Gordon Meth** presented the banner and gavel.



Giving thanks... Lt. Governor of Division Six, **Rosemary Oarsley**, presents a patch in recognition to the sponsoring club to **Ron Pask**, president of the Kiwanis Club of Clark. Ron, along with Club Counselor **Susan Dougherty**, Club Opener **Steve Nagel** and a host of other volunteers made calls on members of the Westfield community to get the ball rolling. Governor **Gordon Meth** was also cited by Kiwanis International for his aid in the formation of the club, the second club added this year.

It's What's

Inside that COUNTS

Mid – Winter Fun	Pg 2
A Governor's Visit	Pg 3
Local Awards and Honors	Pg 4
K– Family Fun	Pg 5
Key Club's DCON	Pg 7
Gratitude Shared	Pg 8
Top Ten Good News Items!	Pg 9

CONGRATS to the new Swedesboro Club! Keep growing!

Looking for a way to get your name out there in your community?

Take a page from Sarasota, Florida's sign outside their meeting spot restaurant.



Mid-Winter Informs

Mid-Winter Conference, held on Saturday, February 27, was eventful with something for everyone. The Conference Center at Mercer County Community College was packed with veteran Kiwanis members as well as new members who wanted to learn about the I-Plan, and other sessions titled “Strengthening the K-Family Bonds” and “Service with an Eye Toward Membership and Community.”

After sessions on “Becoming a Lt. Governor” and “Somerset Home for Temporarily Displaced Children”, the audience listened to Governor Gordon’s promotion of “On to DCON.” The Keynote Address was delivered by past NJ Circle K Governor **Danielle Sammut**. **Mark Esposito**, District Chair gave an update on N.J. Kiwanis Foundation. In the morning sessions, the audience heard from other dignitaries,

Governor of Circle K **Rocky Trifari**, Governor Key Club **Josie Suddeth**. International Trustee **John DeVilbiss** shared wisdom of his years of experience as the Ohio District Governor, district and international positions including District Treasurer, and District Convention Chair.

Recognition is a part of our Kiwanis way of life. **Governor Gordon** is pictured with Governor Elect **Anthony Affatati** and former Governor **Joe Teti** who are recognizing the Trenton Club’s longevity.

Governor Gordon Meth congratulates former New Jersey District Governor **Michael Mulhaul**, on being recognized for his work as our District Chair for the Eliminate Project.



A longshot of the NJ District Mid-Winter Convention shows that the event was well attended on Saturday, February 27.



All photos by Joe Schmelz

**Convention in TORONTO
is Ready!**

Are you? The reduced rates are being extended through May 15. So go on Kiwanis International’s website and get the details.

An Action – Packed Membership

Photo by Susan Dougherty



BUSY MEMBERS... Mt. Olive Club President **Richard J. Moore** shared on Facebook that they will be cooking funnel cakes and John and Dick from the **Keyport Kiwanis Club** are debuting a new fryer at their annual “Chicken Fry.” **Kiwanis of Bordentown** had almost 30 pints of blood donated in four hours at their blood drive. **Greater Mantua** is planning a Classic Car Show on June 4. Suds and Scholarships run by **Perth Amboy Club**, was a huge success according to brew blogger **Kurt Epps**. Held at J.J. Bittings Brewpub in Woodbridge, club president **Bob D’Urso** was “the affable and jocular host of the evening.”

McDonald’s helps with fundraising.

The Clark Club partnered with their ALJ High School Key Club for a McDonald’s fundraising night. The regional manager and the local manager top left, are pictured with some of the Kiwanis members and Key Club adviser **Ellen Zamboni**, front right. The Clark club has been growing by leaps and bounds thanks, in part, to the leadership of President **Ron Pask**, top right.



Sharing the Dream



Current Lt. Governor of Division Six **Rosemary Oarsley**, and former N.J. District Governors **Mark Esposito** and **Dean Konner** are always ready to share the vision of Kiwanis with others.

The Kiwanis Club of Somerset Hills celebrated nearly four decades of fish, chips and fun at its 38th annual Fish Fry fundraiser, held in March at Ridge High School in the Basking Ridge section of Bernards Township.

“More than 200 dinners of fish – fried up fresh by [Argyle Restaurant of Kearny](#), chips, coleslaw and dessert were sold at the feast,” said Gwen Walding, the event chair, the club’s treasurer and the secretary for NJ District. About 25 Kiwanis members and members of Ridge High’s Key Club, donated their time at the event in various roles, including preparing food, delivering meals and desserts to diners, and set up and clean up.

In the greater community, Kiwanis provides meals and social activities for veterans at the VA Hospital in Lyons, supports several local food banks, provides funds and volunteers to The Arc of Somerset County, donates money to local libraries’ English as a Second Language programs and more.

In addition, Kiwanis donates annually to defray the cost of entertainment at the Bernards High prom.

(This was edited from a local newspaper article)

Club Honors Members



Submitted photo

Photo by Nicolas Limanov

THANK YOU... Past Lt. Governor **Barney Zarro**, Lt. Governor **Marshall Kern** and Past Club Presbyterian **William Boyland** stand with their Kiwanis Legion of Honor awards.

At the end of March, Kiwanis Club of Leisure Village held a meeting to honor two of their long time members. **Barney (Alfred) Zarro** and **William Boyland** were honored for their 25 years of service. The Kiwanis Legion of Honor Tablets were presented to them by a grateful club.

Are You On Vacation? Look around and you'll find Kiwanis at work. This is a beautiful theater in Florida. Kiwanis commitment.



Photo by Susan Dougherty



Frank Cahill and Greg Elbin are honored with Hixson Awards and Robert Young and Deborah Mellinger are named Kiwanian of the Year. Steve McKinley, Steve Dickens, Bob Young, Deborah Mellinger, and Club President Connie Keller

Awards at Greater Parsippany Club's 25th Anniversary Gala

The Kiwanis Club of Greater Parsippany celebrated its 25th Anniversary at a dinner-dance held in January at the Hanover Manor. In attendance were New Jersey District 9 Lieutenant Governor **Steve McKinley**, New Jersey District Governor Gordon Meth and Kiwanis International Trustee **Lance Incitti**.

During the Anniversary Celebration, there were two George F. Hixson Awards honored and two Kiwanians of the Year. Kiwanis President **Connie Keller** presented **Greg Elbin**, the current President-Elect with the first George F. Hixson Award. Then she presented **Frank Cahill**, the current Vice President with a George F. Hixson Award. Cahill is a charter member of Kiwanis Club of Greater Parsippany.

Kiwanis Treasurer, **Steve Dickens**, awarded two "Kiwanian of the Year" awards. **Bob Young** and **Deborah Mellinger** shared that honor. Bob and Deb, who met at Kiwanis, and are engaged to be married in May.

Connie Keller said "Tonight we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Parsippany. It is because of every member of the past 25 years that we are still an active viable club. For every member that has volunteered, attended a fundraiser, chaired a function, was a direct or an officer ... this night is for you. You have shown me that way and I am proud to be part of this organization."

In its 25-year history, Kiwanis Club of Greater Parsippany has awarded almost 40 Hixson Awards. Hixsons are given to Kiwanians who have contributed to the betterment of the club. The Club is eligible to award a Hixson for each donation of \$1,000 to the Kiwanis International Foundation.

Bringing JOY to Others



Photos by Susan M. Dougherty

BINGO! Mini-marshmallows serve as the space holders for the K-Kids BINGO boards. Each kid is allowed to bring a guest. If none is available, teachers at the elementary school volunteer. At left, Nurse **Donna Kircher** verifies the numbers called for the winning BINGO card.

The thrill of doing a project or event that brings a smile to someone else's face is something that **Donna Kircher**, adviser to the K-Kids at Hehny School in Clark, shares with her club. Every winter, she and her K-Kids host a JOY social, that invites members to ask a friend or relative other than their parents to an hour of fun and games. Ice cream sundaes start the party with the kids sitting with their invitee. Then, a rousing series of BINGO games gets the competitive spirit revved up in all of them. There are small gifts for the winners and applause all around.

Submitted photo



Sharing Easter Cheer

Christmas isn't the only time to think of assembling items for others! At Easter time, the Kiwanis Club of Central Hunterdon prepared 40 Easter baskets and took them to St. Magdalene's Hope House, a social ministry in Flemington, NJ.

Pictured above are Kiwanian **Roger Burkert** with **Sister Pat Vayda**, the director of the charity work.

More K-Family Fun



Jersey City Kiwanis "K" Family Night. Sponsored by St. Peter's University Circle K. Jersey City Kiwanians, Key Club and Builders Club, members join Circle K'ers in a night of pizza and women's college basketball. It was a fun night for all.

(Submitted photo)

Jared Boxes... Key Club, K-Kids Club and Kiwanis Club of Clark joined forces to donate and assemble plastic boxes for children who enter a hospital. These containers are chocked full of crayons, little toys, coloring books and other items that could be distracters for children when they first get to the hospital. **Mrs. Donna Kircher**, K-Kids adviser at Hehny Elementary School in Clark was the coordinator of the month-long project. Morristown and Overlook Hospitals received the boxes that had notes of encourage-



Submitted photo

SO YOU WANT TO LEARN ABOUT THE KIWANIS FAMILY?

Kiwanis International is a global organization of adults volunteers dedicated to improving the world, one child and one community at a time.

Kiwanis is also the umbrella organization for the following clubs:

Aktion Club is the Kiwanis branch for adults with disabilities that help to serve the community.

AKTION CLUB

Circle K is the international student-led organization for university students which highlights community service, leadership and fellowship.

CIRCLE K

K-KIDS

K-Kids is the international student-led organization for elementary students focused on community service.

BUILDERS CLUB

Builders Club is the middle school/ junior high branch of Kiwanis.

KEY CLUB

Key Club is the international student-led organization for high school students with core values of leadership, character building, caring and inclusiveness.

Key Club's D CON



Submitted photos

All dressed up with some place to go! Key Club officers glam it up at their annual convention. This year it was once again held in Long Branch, NJ. Congratulations to outgoing as well as incoming Key Club members.



Spring Time = Clean Up Time



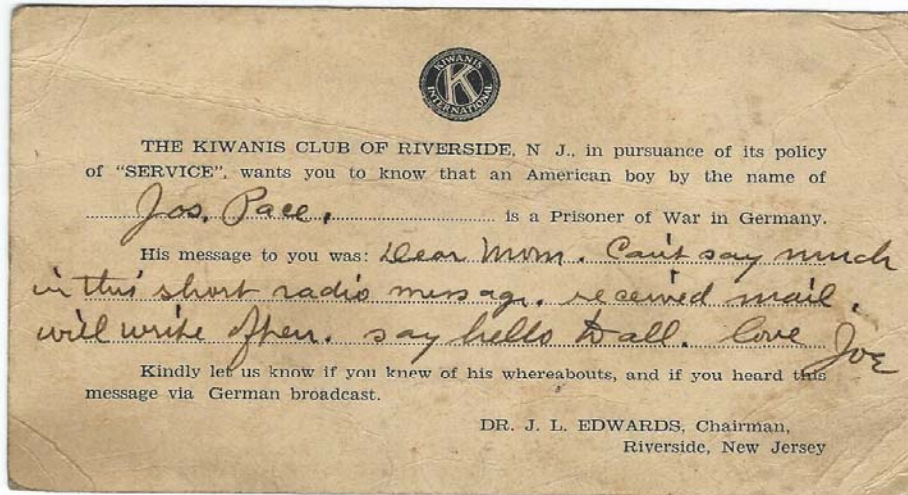
Lt. Governor of Division 6 **Rosemary Oarsley** and President **JM Jones** of the newly formed Kiwanis Club of Greater Westfield congratulate **Sarah Morton**, Westfield High School Key Club President for taking home a third place award at DCON for her digital poster contest entry.

Photo by Susan Dougherty

Get out the rakes and clippers.

Miller Cory House in Clark was the recipient of back breaking work in clearing brush and trees. Key Club members joined with Kiwanis Club members (at right) to do the Sunday morning clean up for the historic old house.

Photo submitted by Ron Pask



Wondering if Kiwanis Makes a Difference? Years Later, A Retired Police Officer Says Thanks Kiwanis

My father was a POW at Stalag II B for 27 months. As always, on Veteran's Day, I go through a folder I have put together that contains the Western Union telegrams of MIA and captured POW as well as all the correspondence from my dad to his mother.

It also contained a post card that I failed to look at closely prior to Veteran's Day. This postcard was from the Kiwanis Club of Riverside, N.J. It was sent to my grandmother stating that my dad was a prisoner in Germany. The Chairman of the Kiwanis was Dr. J. L. Edwards.

I want your members to know how greatly appreciated this act of kindness was as well as service to our Country.

My dad returned home just after the war and married my mom and they had one daughter and three sons. As years passed when I was 19 my dad was overcome with being a prisoner of war issues and sank into depression and alcoholism. He was in and out of the VA Hospital numerous times. One day he decided he would not let the issues ruin what life he had left and it was like he was reborn in life. I was so proud of him.

In November, 1974 my Dad was robbed, beaten and murdered in Nashville, TN, where we all lived. The next few days were almost unbearable for me and my family. One night after meeting with the Nashville Police Detectives, I went to my knees asking God for guidance because I was not handling it well. Long story short, in January 1975, I joined the Nashville Metro Police Department where I spent 30+ years before retiring.

I just want to thank each and every one in the Kiwanis Club for making a difference in my family's life.

Richard Pace

Role Model/High Impact Clubs

Given that we have a range of sizes of Kiwanis Clubs, we often emphasize accomplishments on a per member basis in order to keep clubs on a level playing field. However, it is sometimes important to acknowledge those clubs that have a consistently high impact. Listed below are the 12 clubs that have consistently contributed the most money, based on their reports. Also included are several other parameters. Collectively, these 12 clubs contributed over \$1.1 million, raised over \$800,000, and provided nearly 18,000 service hours over the past 2.5 years. As well, they sponsor 70 service leadership program (SLP) clubs and gave out nearly \$250,000 in scholarships. Many clubs sponsor a large number of SLPs. Two-thirds of them made Eliminate club pledges, and they paid over \$125,000 to the Eliminate campaign over the past 2.5 years. The age of these clubs mirrors all of the New Jersey District, with a quarter being less than 30 years old, a quarter being 30-60 years old, and half being 60-93 years old. Half are from northern New Jersey, and half are from central or southern New Jersey. All but two clubs have 38 members or more, which is what research from The Formula tells us is the ideal minimum size of a club that will have enough people to handle projects adequately. Most noticeably, all these clubs have one or more signature projects that they are known for. When one asks why many clubs need to grow, it is so all of our New Jersey clubs can have this kind of cumulative impact!

Club	Signature Project	Club Age (years)	Oct. 1, 2014-Mar. 31, 2016							
			Members (average)	Donated/spent	Raised	Scholarships Given	Service Hours	Eliminate club pledge	Eliminate for period	SLPs sponsored
Caldwell-West Essex ¹	street fair	93	60	\$ 259,931	\$ 113,059	\$ 51,000	2,326	yes	\$ 24,518	11
Sparta	casino night, steak bust	68	39	\$ 132,105	\$ 163,089	\$ 38,900	3,274	no	\$ 3,300	4
Randolph	arts & crafts show	45	38	\$ 110,230	\$ 70,604	\$ 27,000	1,088	yes	\$ 10,697	6
Livingston	carnival	86	39	\$ 100,410	\$ 127,460	\$ 15,250	966	yes	\$ 11,760	2
Ewing ²	Safety Town	62	37	\$ 98,319	\$ 18,226	\$ 8,000	2,200	yes	\$ 38,025	3
Chatham (The)	fish & chips dinner	86	48	\$ 88,895	\$ 52,883	\$ 54,000	1,419	no	\$ 4,350	7
Greater Parsippany	wine tasting	24	49	\$ 88,873	\$ 68,250	\$ 8,500	448	yes	\$ 10,205	13
Holmdel	wine tasting/pig roast, golf outing, pasta dinner	50	45	\$ 60,600	\$ 89,100	\$ 8,000	837	yes	\$ 3,250	7
Toms River Daybreak ³	river to bay 5K race	26	50	\$ 47,120	\$ 43,700	\$ 3,600	416	no	\$ 2,013	3
Keyport	fish & chicken fries	93	29	\$ 45,696	\$ 33,631	\$ 11,700	1,767	yes	\$ 9,220	5
Northfield-Linwood	peanut days fundraiser	41	47	\$ 40,553	\$ 26,380	\$ 8,000	1,469	no	\$ 1,250	5
Jackson	PBA Dinner/Dance, Santa Breakfast	25	21	\$ 36,015	\$ 34,695	\$ 3,500	1,499	yes	\$ 9,369	4
Total		58	42	\$ 1,108,747	\$ 841,077	\$ 237,450	17,709	67%	\$ 127,957	70

Notes:

1 - period included building a playground, which was funded in part with contributions from previous years

2 - to Feb 29, 2016 only, due to missing reports

3 - to Nov 30, 2015 only, due to missing reports

EASY FUNDRAISERS: Try Applebee's Restaurants



It takes a team of Kiwanians and Key Clubbers for a successful event!

Take a restaurant that supports their community, add some committed Kiwanis Family members and you have a recipe for a relatively easy fundraiser. Applebee's Restaurants offer a "Flapjack Fundraiser" to community organizations. Just pay a flat fee for each guest and then guarantee 100 tickets to be sold and the profit is yours! The Clark club—with a profitable ad journal and "opportunity baskets," made over \$5,000 at their April event.



A true K-Family! Brianna an officer at a Key Club and her brother who is in Builders Club bring in their parents for a pancake breakfast.

Historical Significance:

First Great Kiwanis Expansion in New Jersey

The Hottel-Duffy Clubs

By Governor Gordon Meth

Work on forming Kiwanis began in the later part of 1914, under the original name “The Supreme Lodge Order of Brothers”. The first order of business was to change the name. The word “NuuKee-wan-nis”, which means “We have a good time – we make ourselves known” in the Otchipew Native American Language, was shortened to “Kiwanis”, and the first club was founded in Detroit in January, 1915.

- **SOME FIRSTS**

The first organizational meeting of a Kiwanis Club in New Jersey took place at the Robert Treat Hotel in New Jersey on July 21, 1916. The Newark club was chartered on April 26, 1917. The Paterson club was organized next, and it was chartered on January 22, 1918. The Trenton Club followed, and was chartered on June 26, 1918. The Trenton Club is the oldest remaining club in New Jersey today.

- **The first International Convention for Kiwanis** took place in Detroit on May 17, 1917. Andrew Snyder of the Newark Club was elected International Trustee. In June of 1918, at the Providence Convention, Kiwanis was divided into districts. The original plan was to divide New Jersey, with the northern portion being part of the New York District and the southern part being part of the Pennsylvania District. International Trustee Andrew Snyder from the Newark Club strongly opposed this, insisting that New Jersey had to be united and independent. This led to a three-hour debate in the house of delegates. Andrew Snyder’s argument won the day, and the New Jersey District was formed.

At the time, Kiwanis International had trained “field representatives” whose job it was to build new clubs and strengthen existing clubs, much like the FORMULA team today. For two years, New Jersey failed to grow any new clubs. They requested field representatives from Kiwanis International, but none were available.

At the New Jersey District third annual convention in September, 1920, International Vice-President Elwood Turner advised the delegates that Kiwanis International felt that since no new clubs had been built in New Jersey, it was time to carry out the original district plan and Divide New Jersey. Action was necessary to grow New Jersey. The Governor at the time, William Duffy of the Trenton club, had experience building new clubs in Paterson, as well as New York and New England. He resigned being Governor and became a field representative of Kiwanis International to build new clubs. Joseph Hottel of Trenton became Governor. He made a commitment to Vice President Turner and Kiwanis International that within a year, New Jersey would have at least ten clubs, and that New Jersey wanted to remain united in Kiwanis as “Jerseyans.”

Over the next two years, William Duffy built new 17 clubs in New Jersey, and laid the groundwork for 3 others. Eight (8) of the clubs from this great expansion still exist today:

New Brunswick (chartered July 12, 1921)

Burlington (chartered November 22, 1921)

Jersey City (chartered February 8, 1922)

South Orange-Maplewood (chartered April 19, 1922)

Egg Harbor City (chartered June 12, 1922)

Hammonton (chartered June 14, 1922)

Bloomfield (chartered June 15, 1922)

West Hudson (chartered May 2, 1923) – efforts began during the period in question

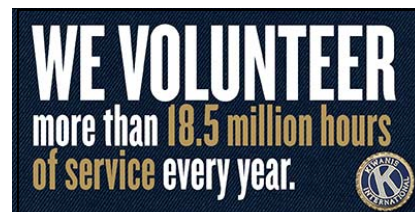
Other clubs built during this expansion included: Atlantic City (closed 2014), Bayonne, Asbury Park (closed 2015), East Orange, Orange-West Orange, Hoboken, Ocean City, Irvington, North Hudson, and Pleasantville (closed 2012). Efforts began as well on Montclair and Palisades, in addition to West Hudson (mentioned above).

Top Ten Good News Items from Your Governor

- 1) **Greater Westfield Kiwanis Club** is open for business! **Clark**, right next door, has now added 5 new members as well.
- 2) Three clubs have grown to Charter Strength this year – **Clark** (now 18), **Old Bridge** (now 17), and **Pitman-Glassboro** (now 15). Notable growth has been shown by **Egg Harbor City** (+3, now 13), Central Hunterdon (+3, now 12), **Galloway** (+2, now 8), and **Phillipsburg** (+2, now 6).
- 3) 35 clubs have had net membership growth this year, with 5 clubs are +5, 2 clubs are +4, 5 clubs are +3, 9 clubs are +2, and 14 clubs are +1!
- 4) Our membership is currently at 1,695. This gives us a year to date growth rate of 3.4% - the highest in USA Region 1 and the third highest in the USA. Kudos to the Formula Team!
- 5) **Joey G** and **Danielle Sammut** are hard at work building a new club in Middletown.
- 6) We have our billboard up on Route 35 in Middletown to support their efforts.
- 7) Circle K Convention is now complete. **Mickey Cohen**, **Nancy Hart Esposito**, and the rest of the Circle K team worked tirelessly to ensure that it was successful. We have a new Circle K board installed for the coming year. There is still a Lt. Governor vacancy for the Metro Division (Caldwell, Drew, and St Peters). Drew has also not renewed their Dues. There is a new club at Atlantic Cape Community College. Latest paid member reports have membership at 308. **Steve Nagel** and **Anthony Affatati** made sure no new graduates or former Circle K members left without a membership application!
- 8) Almost all Key Clubs have now paid their dues. We are at 151 clubs and nearly 13,000 Key Clubbers. Their successful convention during the first weekend of April was held at Ocean Place Spa and Resort. **Kaitlin**, **Peter**, and the rest of the Key Club team worked hard preparing for this great event.
- 9) Please spread the word about what you did to celebrate Kiwanis One Day, April 2nd. We want to publicize it in the NJ Kiwanian. Send press releases to your local papers as well as to **Susan Dougherty**, the editor at crusadersue@hotmail.com.
- 10) **Toronto registration is still open.**
Think about attending and make your plans NOW!

Thank you for all that you do,
Governor Gordon

Did You Know ?



I PLEDGE... We can get there to our pledged amount if we all meet our commitments. We have collectively raised over \$1,000,000 in cash and pledges for the Eliminate program over the past 4.5 years. Let's finish our commitments to this worthy cause.