

Happy new year Hoosier Kiwanians!

Congratulations to those who have completed their ceremonies to install their new officers! We have an excellent Kiwanis Leadership Team for the District and I'm looking forward to a great year serving our kids and achieving club excellence!

Thank you to Kris Bowers, Greg Ayers, Sue Prifogle and Taka Ogata for helping with Club Leader Education. It was great to get back to in person CLE training and I appreciate all of you who took advantage of the classes. Training our officers to be more effective directly translates to more effective clubs which equals serving more kids more effectively.

Thank you to the members of Kiwanis International, from around our District and from the Scott County Club for your work to help us charter a new club in Madison, IN. The Scott County Club has agreed to sponsor the new club in Madison. We could still use a couple of club coaches. Please let me know if you are interested in assisting. Lee Kuan Yong and other District Governors will be here to help charter new clubs in Indiana, Kentucky/Tennessee and Ohio! The team has already been busy with a lot of leg work and the main effort will take place 6-10 Oct. I look forward to reporting to you our success next month!

Congratulations to all our clubs and members who earned a brick in the Miracle Wall at Riley for your donations during the last campaign. You have received an invitation to celebrate at Riley at the unveiling of the wall on 12 Oct. I look forward to celebrating this achievement with you!!

As we start the new year, we are focused and dedicated to <u>building, retaining and nurturing our clubs</u>. This is the year we begin to grow Kiwanis again! For the build aspect, we will open four new clubs in 24-25 and I want to thank the Lt Governors, clubs, membership team from our District and assistants from Kiwanis International for all the planning that has already taken place. Now it's time to make it happen for the kids!!

For the nurture aspect, your District Team will work with our Lt Governors and Club Presidents to use the <u>Achieving Club Excellence</u> <u>Tools</u> to help our clubs get stronger and more effective. The ACE tools are designed to help a Club President identify areas their club needs to improve and provides some recommendations on how to work on those specific areas. We have volunteers who are available to assist the clubs to grow and be more effective! Please check out the resources on the website to review the ACE tools and determine which ones you can use to achieve club excellence.

The retain portion focuses on developing and supporting our current members to be more effective and motivated Kiwanians and to prevent the attrition we suffer each year. We want to reduce our losses this year by 50% from last year. We have volunteers and coaches available to assist our clubs. With team work we can achieve these goals!

We're putting together a Public Relations Committee to develop a plan to help us tell our story better to our club members and our community. The committee is just coming together. If you would like to assist or serve on this committee, please let me know! We're going to do a better job of telling everyone who we are and what we do!

We're also putting together a Strategic Planning Committee. We cannot afford to continue to lead Kiwanis one year at a time. We've got to have a long term strategy for the things that matter most to us and promote that down to our Divisions and Clubs. The committee is starting to come together! If you would like to assist or serve on this committee, please let me know!

Finally, as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of <u>Key Club</u>, 50th anniversary of <u>Builders Club</u> and 25th anniversary of our <u>K-Kids Clubs</u> we are planning ways to celebrate with our kids and our communities. We'lll be sharing events and ideas with you and we ask you to share what you are doing to celebrate these outstanding programs that provide leadership skills to our kids, develop a spirit of serving, give them something to belong to and provide positive relationships with our Kiwanis members to help them grow in confidence and resilience. I look forward to hearing what you are doing to celebrate!

Indiana District Governor (2024-25) Al Riggle

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