



The Governor's Message

By Nebraska-Iowa District Governor Dale Doudna

On Feb. 2, Punxsutawney Phil and the local groundhog, Polk County Phyllis, both failed to see their shadow. Spring is coming early (we hope). Whether they saw their shadows or not, according to the tradition, spring would be here in six weeks. And six weeks is what was left until the Nebraska-Iowa Leadership Development Day on March 16, in Johnston, Iowa. Of course those of us who live in Nebraska and Iowa know that spring may come in February, April or anywhere in between.

Spring or not, the Leadership Development Day on March 16 is going to be our kickoff to a fantastic spring and summer. A good number of current District leaders are registered for March 16. In order to develop new leaders, we need those of you who are club leaders and even those of you who are considering becoming club leaders or district leaders to join us on March 16.

Last year, the District met at Lake Wanahoo and got "Hooked on Kiwanis." This year, we are going to meet in an historic barn (it is heated and modernized) in Johnston, Iowa to explore how to "Cultivate for Impact" to make an impact on our clubs and our communities. We are going to hear about the WOW experience of Pioneer Hybrid as it developed hybrid corn in Johnston and changed the world. We are going to hear from Steve Siemens and hear about how WOW experiences can change Kiwanis and change the world. We are going to explore how the cultivation model relates to both growing crops and growing Kiwanis. We are going to celebrate the achievements of our members and our Clubs. The day is going to be very full, fun, motivational and educational. Please join for the fun.

After March 16, we have about seven months left in the Kiwanis year to achieve our goals. The District Goal I proposed was to impact 1,000,000 lives in 2024. Many clubs and divisions set goals also. As winter ends, I hope you will revisit the goals and make plans to achieve what was set out last October. Kiwanis has done great work. Kiwanis does great work. Kiwanis can do more and better work.

During these seven months, there are two major opportunities for you to increase your involvement in Kiwanis. The first is the Kiwanis International Convention in Denver, Colorado, July 3-6. The International Convention is a place to meet Kiwanians from around the world, learn about our great organization, get new ideas, become motivated and have a great time. The Convention is geographically close and if you are a first time International Convention attendee, the District is making available five, \$500 stipends to help pay for the Convention. See details in this Kiwanian.

The second major opportunity to increase your involvement in Kiwanis is to attend the District Convention in West Des Moines, IA, August 2-3. Our District Convention has many of the same goals as the International Convention. You will learn about our great organization, you may become more motivated to change the world, you will get new ideas, and you will have a great time, but you won't meet people from all over the world. You will meet people from all over the District.

So over the next seven months, we have lots of opportunities. You have to decide how you want to get involved. I would share a thought that you probably already know is true and that I am convinced is true. The more you put into Kiwanis, the more you get out of Kiwanis. Take advantage of the upcoming opportunities and check out how much more you can get out of being a Kiwanian.

