



# Kiwanis®

## NEBRASKA-IOWA DISTRICT

Holiday Greetings to all,

It is that time of year when Kiwanians from all over the Nebraska-Iowa District are ringing bells, giving to food banks, serving meals, delivering presents and much more. We do it year after year. Why? Because we recognize there is an ongoing need and we want to make the lives of children in our communities a little better, a little brighter. It is part of what we do as Kiwanians.



One of the other things we do that makes me so proud to be a Kiwanian is our support of our Service Leadership Programs (SLPs). Nebraska-Iowa has strong and active Kiwanis Kids, Builder Clubs, Key Clubs, Circle K and Aktion clubs. Their members are also learning about ways to help their communities. They are learning the value of service.

I recently received some photos from the Greater Missouri Valley K-Kids Club. They are photos of some of their members harvesting lettuce from the Lettuce Grow Tower their sponsoring club got for them. They've nurtured it and watched it produce food that can be given to others.



When I look at those kids, I see wonderment in their faces and a "wow", this is really cool. I also see kids who are benefiting in so many ways because there is a Kiwanis club in their community who supports them.



As we approach this holiday season and the gift of children, I would like to thank all of our clubs who sponsor and support an SLP program. For those who currently don't, please consider doing so. It is truly a way you can change the lives of children.

I am also looking forward as the new year approaches. A new year of opportunities as well as challenges. Membership continues to be a challenge for many clubs.

In the new year, find out who's who in your club. Are they engaged? Are you making these members feel valued and appreciated? What is your club's greatest strength? If you could change one thing about your club, what would it be? Have the conversation and then take action.

Celebrate the leaders and develop leaders within your club. Being a leader is a positive part of the Kiwanis experience. It's an opportunity to inspire, motivate and to accomplish positive changes within your club. Which leads me to ask you to mark your calendar for March 18, 2023 when our district will hold a Retreat and Leadership Conference at Lake Wanahoo in Wahoo, Nebraska. The program that day will help give you the tools you need to make your clubs stronger so we can continue to be the Kiwanis we are all so proud of.

Wishing you and your families a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!  
Thank you for being a Kiwanian.

*Gov. Lynda*