Kiwanis
NEBRASKA-IOWA DISTRICT



Welcome to the Kiwanis New Year! I am so excited to serve you as governor of this great Nebraska-Iowa District. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to lead a terrific TEAM of volunteers.

A brief history. The name "Kiwanis" was coined from an American Indian expression, "Nunc Kee-wanis," which means, "We trade." In 1920, the motto of Kiwanis became "We **Build**." It 2005, our members voted to change it to "Serving the children of the world."

I recently attended a club installation where a Kiwanian named Jack reminded me of **WHY** I am a Kiwanian. He also reminded me of my father. Jack, now retired, spent his career as a builder. He built homes. So did my father. They built homes so that families could raise their children in a safe place, with a sturdy roof over their heads. These homes also contributed to neighborhoods where families looked after each other and looked after the children of those neighborhoods.

While Jack and my father were building houses for families, Kiwanis was building a huge house for all our members. It is a house where, year after year, we serve the children of the world.

In the Nebraska-Iowa District, that house consists of 25 rooms, one room for each of our 25 district's divisions. Each room, and each club in that room, are unique. They each have their own traditions, their own leaders, their own service projects. It makes for a fun and exciting home, a home that is continually changing.

As the needs of our communities and our children change, so must we. We must continually refresh our home, give it a new coat of paint and welcome others.

There is much to do to do, but as we have in the past, we will rise to the occasion. **WHY?** Because when you give a child the chance to learn, experience, dream, grow, succeed and thrive, great things can happen. That is **WHY** I am a Kiwanian.

I hope you will join me this year in becoming an active member of our district TEAM. You can do so by being an active member of your club, by being a leader and by inviting others to join.

TEAM Kiwanis – **T**ogether **E**veryone **A**chieves **M**ore.

Thank you for being a Kiwanian.

Sincerely,

Gov. Lynda



"Any opportunity for someone to do service – I don't care what you call it, it's useful. Nobody ever said, 'I wouldn't do that for that child.'"

***Bert West**, Kiwanis International President*