Kiwanis
NEBRASKA-IOWA DISTRICT

Greetings Fellow Kiwanians,

Last weekend, I attended the 2023-2024 lt. governor elect training in Carroll, Iowa. Governor-Elect Dale Doudna has a full slate of lt. governors to help lead our District next year! It was good to see so many familiar faces and several new ones also.

Our District also recently held two regional meetings where trustees were elected to three-year terms beginning Oct. 1, 2024. And, our clubs are now electing new officers to serve for the 2023-2024 year. Thank you to all of you who have stepped up to be leaders.

I found a definition of leadership that I really like and would like to share with you:

The definition of leadership is to influence, inspire and help others become their best selves, building their skills and achieving goals along the way. You don't have to be a CEO, manager or even a team lead to be a leader. Leadership is a set of skills – and a certain psychology – that anyone can master.

Everyone can be a leader. You are not born with or without it. It is a skill that can be developed. In fact, many of you have probably taken on leadership roles in your life that you didn't realize at the time.

In Kiwanis, our Service Leadership Programs (SLPs) – K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, Circle K and Aktion Club – not only focus on the value of giving back to their communities, but also developing leadership skills.

In one week, I was honored to attend an Aktion Club charter celebration in North Platte, Nebraska and a K-Kids charter celebration in Mason City, Iowa. Whenever I attend an SLP event, I am reminded what a great organization Kiwanis is. I see the excitement and the sense of self-worth in a new Aktion club president and the determination and then happiness in a new K-Kids president as he or she leads their first meeting and are congratulated for a job well done. These programs are truly what distinguishes us from other service organizations.

Our Nebraska-Iowa District has a rich tradition of leadership but we need more people to step up and serve in leadership roles. We need to have a full slate of officers, board members and committee chairs in every Kiwanis club. We need YOU! I hope you will consider becoming a leader in your club and consider district leadership in the future. Our district and Kiwanis International offer leadership education programs that can help you in whatever role you are interested in.

Another definition about leadership:

Leaders provide direction and vision, motivate and inspire others to achieve the organization's goals, and help to create an environment conducive to success.

Thank you for being a Kiwanian and thank YOU for your leadership.

Gov. Lynda

