

The Governor's Message

By Nebraska-Iowa District Governor Dale Doudna

Now is the time for IMPACT!

I know it is summer and we are all ready to enjoy the season. But it is also the time when we can lay the foundation for our clubs and our District to provide the most IMPACT for the future. I am going to address four things we can all do to increase our personal, club and District IMPACT.

First, is the ongoing Membership Contest. The contest began May 1 and runs through June 30. The District has tried to provide some incentives for individuals and clubs to recruit new members. I hope your club has made plans to recruit new members. But if not, I hope you have made plans to personally do some recruiting. Isn't it reward enough that you share your positive Kiwanis experience with friends, family and business people in your community? If they accept your invitation, you will be responsible for improving their lives. As Gary Wattnem has said for a long time, "just ask."

After one month, there are 31 Nebraskans and Iowans who have become members. With 31 new members that means six people will be given $100 credit to attend the District Convention. Seventeen clubs have added new members. The Kiwanis Club of Roland is off to a great start and is currently leading the small club division. I would challenge clubs with 25 or fewer members to catch Roland. Remember the prize is $1,000 to help your next project. Larger clubs need more new members to reach the qualifying level for the $1,000.

The Membership Contest is not just an effort to grow, but rather is an attempt to have more IMPACT.

Second, is the District Convention which will be held Aug. 2 and 3 in West Des Moines. The Convention has been planned to help you and your clubs increase the IMPACT in your communities. Our hope is that you will be inspired, learn, and increase your IMPACT. Two years ago at the District Convention, a friend of mine who had never been to a District Convention turned to me and said, "Everyone should come to these." Well, maybe not everyone. Maybe just, Kiwanians or perspective Kiwanians.

IMPACT is important. We will have speakers and sessions that inspire you to increase your IMPACT, but we cannot forget about having a good time. We have planned a fun day in Des Moines for everyone who can arrive early in Des Moines. Saturday after the Convention, we have planned a baseball game and picnic for those who want to stay and play a little.

You are going to see information about the Convention in other places in this newsletter. Please check out the information and register. Only you can decide to IMPACT your Kiwanis experience.

Third, Kiwanis IMPACTS our world with Service Leadership Programs (SLPs). Kiwanis is the only service organization that has programs for children of all ages. If your club does not have an SLP, I encourage you to check out these programs. Of course, the District Convention is a great place to check out SLPs. We have invited our SLP governors from Circle K, Key Club and Aktion Club to address our convention attendees. There are also going to be IMPACT breakout sessions to learn about the SLPs.

In my opinion, there is nothing that Kiwanis does that is more important than support our SLPs. Check them out and see if you agree. SLPs provide a major IMPACT.

Fourth is the Kiwanis International Convention in Denver July 3-6 and I have put it in fourth place here not because it is not important, but rather because it is coming up sooner and in some ways requires more planning to participate. The International Convention is our District Convention on steroids. More speakers, more breakout sessions, more fun. You will not forget the experience. There are 53 Nebraska-Iowa Kiwanians and guests registered for this event. Although the International Convention is just four weeks away, you still have time to check it out and register. We still have rooms available in our convention hotel. The International Convention will help you understand the IMPACT Kiwanis has around the world.

You get to decide the IMPACT you want to have. Kiwanis International and your Nebraska-Iowa District are providing opportunities and events to IMPACT the world and your local community. Please take advantage of these opportunities this summer. Wouldn't it be fantastic if we could IMPACT the lives of 1,000,000 kids in Nebraska and Iowa this year?

Kids Need Kiwanis. Kiwanis needs you to learn, grow and IMPACT more kids.