

NOVEMBER 2025

HOOSIER KIWANIAN

Indiana District of Kiwanis International

A giraffe is shown in profile, facing right, against a clear blue sky with some light, wispy clouds. The giraffe's long neck is extended upwards, and its head is tilted slightly back. The giraffe's coat is a light tan color with large, irregular brown spots.

**Reach
for
More!**

Hello, Hoosier Kiwanians!

Although my official term as Indiana Governor began on October 1st, it already feels like I've been all over the state—and I still have many more miles to go!

Just before my official start, I was honored to be the guest speaker at the Scenic Farms Division Council Meeting, thanks to outgoing Lt. Governor Marilyn Hutchinson. Marilyn and I go WAY back—twenty-five years! She and her husband John are dedicated Kiwanians and a joy to be around. It's always a pleasure to see them.



A few days later, I hosted a Division Council Meeting for the Rose Division alongside incoming Lt. Governor Jennifer Feaster. Jennifer will be a fantastic Lt. Governor, and we're grateful to Chris Sitler for his service as the immediate past Lt. Governor.

Soon after, I found myself dressed as a Mexican señorita during Rush County's Willkie Days Bike Ride through our covered bridges. Alongside fellow Kiwanians and Salvation Army members, we handed out refreshments to riders under our festive "Mexican Fiesta" theme.

Less than a week later, I helped install new officers at the Kiwanis Club of Scott County. New Lt. Governor (and Scott County member) Tim Mohon joined me in recognizing outgoing officers and Scenic Farms Lt. Governor Marilyn Hutchinson. We also celebrated incoming President Jennifer Coward, whose goals for the club are inspiring—I know she'll achieve them!

Then came a day of high-flying adventure: I went up in a hot air balloon and landed safely... then up in a helicopter and landed safely again (which is why I'm still your Indiana Governor!). The Kiwanis Indiana Balloon Fest is a marvel—if you haven't attended, I highly recommend it. Hoosier Division Lt. Governor Vanessa McClary leads an incredible team that raises thousands of dollars for kids. I felt like a kid myself all day, from soaring above the clouds to getting my face painted.



October 1st itself was relatively quiet—like a birthday when you’re over 21. I attended my Rush County Kiwanis club’s board meeting, then dove into the whirlwind of my first month. Each day brought something new: a fresh contact, a new question, a new community to explore for a potential club. It’s an adventure and a challenge. And when I feel overwhelmed, I hear my late dad’s voice reminding me to do my best and trust that everything will be okay. He’s the reason I became a Kiwanian, and I carry his spirit with me.



October continued with another event I highly recommend: Big Band Saturday Night, hosted by the Richmond Noon club. This annual celebration of music and community raised an incredible \$23,000 for Riley Hospital. Way to go, Richmond Noon!

A few days later, I visited New Harmony—a quaint town with a mighty Kiwanis club led by President Tammy. They stretch their necks out and get involved in everything. I’m proud of you, New Harmony!

Past Governor Al and his team launched the Kiwanis Club of Huntington just a few months ago, and on October 23, we gathered to celebrate their Charter Night. The club is now officially part of our Indiana District—welcome to the family!



Then it was off to Batesville, where I installed new officers including President Jerry Bennett. This vibrant club blends youthful energy with seasoned wisdom and has its hands in nearly every local event. Here’s to another successful year, Batesville!

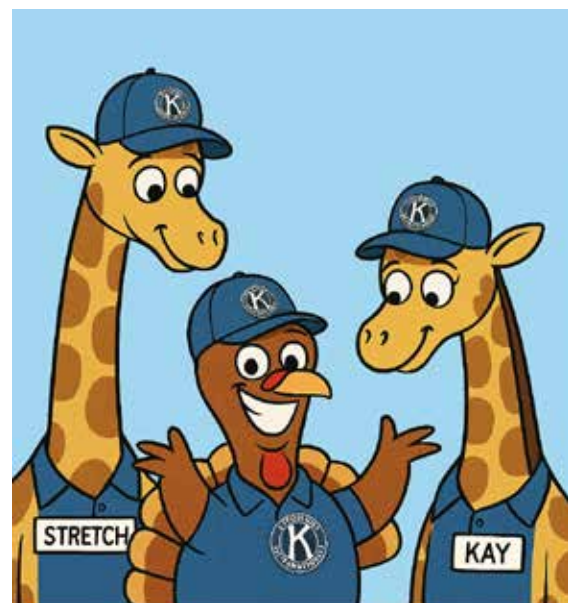
I closed out October by speaking to the Richmond Noon club. I’ve known many of its members for twenty-five years, and it’s easy to see why Past Governor Doug McMillan named it the Outstanding Club of 2023–24. In addition to Big Band Saturday Night, Richmond runs a Safety Village where kids learn about safety in the most fun way imaginable. Best wishes to President Tamara and the whole Richmond team for 2025–26!



The rest of October was filled with Zoom meetings, phone calls, and emails. I even carved out a few hours for myself—got my monthly massage and haircut (not at the same time!) and visited my elderly aunt, my last living elder relative.

November is already proving to be just as busy. This adventurous chapter of my life story continues!

Remember, I'd love to visit your club or see you at Division Council Meetings, the Mid-Year Conference, or District Convention. Like the giraffe—my spirit animal for the year—I'm reaching out to everyone. Let's stretch together and Reach for More!



**And that's how you
get a new Kiwanis member!**

WANTED: Key Club Administrator — Must Love Teens

Do you speak “teen” or willing to learn? Then we want YOU!

The Indiana District is seeking a Key Club Administrator for the 2025–26 year.

This volunteer role is perfect for a Kiwanian who:

-  Loves mentoring youth
-  Thrives on adventure and caffeine
-  Has wisdom and patience to share

You’ll guide and support our brilliant Key Club officers and help them shine as the next generation of leaders.

Apply now or ask questions by contacting Tammy at the District Office or Governor Sue.

WANTED: Lincoln Division Lt. Governor — Must Be Willing to Stretch That Neck

Are you ready to rise above the crowd and connect 10 amazing Kiwanis clubs across the Lincoln Division? Do you enjoy helping others, organizing, and being the glue that connects the Lincoln Division to the Indiana District?

This volunteer role is ideal for someone who:

-  Enjoys building bridges between clubs and the Indiana District
-  Has a knack for watching, listening, and gently herding cats or giraffes
-  Inspires & Energizes

Apply today or ask questions by contacting Tammy at the District Office or Governor Sue.

The Lincoln Division is waiting for YOU!