

Establishment of the Kiwanis Club of Dover

A preliminary meeting was held on January 8, 1935 with 12 men present including G. Dan Enterline, Sr., a former member of Shamokin, Pa. Kiwanis Club and Lyle Moulds, a former Seaford Kiwanis Club member.

The Dover Kiwanis Club was organized on January 16, 1935 with a membership of 28 on this date but charter membership was kept open until March 6, when the charter was officially received. There were 35 charter members.

The Dover Club was sponsored by the Wilmington Kiwanis Club. This club sent down 13 of their members with George Hering, Sr., who spoke on the Kiwanis objectives. The formation of the Dover Club completed the goal of establishing a Kiwanis Club in every Capital of the then 48 states.

On February 27, 1935, the Club held a patriotic meeting with Mr. George Miller as guest of honor. He was Dover's last surviving member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

On March 6, 1935, the Club received its charter from Capital District Governor Walter Cole of Towson, Md. in the former Richardson Hotel in downtown Dover with 153 members and wives present from 6 clubs in the District.

One of those charter members and the Club's first President – H.B. King, went on to become Capital District Kiwanis Governor in 1941. The son of another one of those charter members is a member (Art Lewis) of our Club today. He is also our Club's longest serving member – joining in 1965.

Kiwanis Club of Dover – 75 years later

It took almost 75 years to achieve it, but the Kiwanis Club of Dover has the largest membership in Division 11, which is composed of seven other Clubs stretching from Wilmington to Millsboro. Dover also had the honor of hosting the Capital District Convention last summer for the first time ever. The Club has become a role model for membership growth over the past few years and regularly earns Distinguished Club status.

Kiwanis was established 95 years ago as a networking/service club for male businessmen. Some 22 years ago Kiwanis International amended its bylaws to allow women to join and they have become the lifeblood of the organization. In fact the Dover Club is now nearly half women and the current President is female – Joyce Thompson, as is the Club Secretary and Club Treasurer.

The Dover Kiwanis Club has sponsored a Halloween Costume Parade for area youth for over 35 years and continues to do so in conjunction with the Delaware Agricultural Museum's Ghosts & Goblins event. The Club has donated over 8,000 books to newborns at Kent General Hospital since our major Young Children–Priority One "Books for Babies" project started in 2004. The Dover Kiwanis Club has been continuously involved in the community by providing free hot chocolate at the Dover Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony and keeping a stretch of SR1 south of Dover Air Force Base clean through the Adopt-A-Highway program. The Club also conducts an annual canned food drive for the local food pantry, purchases school supplies and Christmas gifts for needy children, collects used clothing for the homeless, delivers Meals on Wheels one week a month in the Dover area, and donates needed household items to the Shepherd's Place homeless shelter.

Financially, the Club conducts fundraisers to support numerous organizations benefiting the youth in our community such as Camp Lenape, Boys & Girls Club, Pop Warner football, Little League, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Special Olympics, Ronald McDonald House, and many more. But Kiwanis is an international service organization, so the Dover Club like others helped nearly eliminate the dreaded health effects of Iodine Deficiency Disorders in very young children in developing nations and continues to support that effort to this day.

The Dover Club is most proud of the service leadership programs its sponsors including the Delaware State University CKI, St. Thomas More Academy Key Club, Milford High School Key Club, Middletown High School Key Club, Smyrna High School Key Club, Aktion Club of Dover, Aktion Club of Milford at KSI, and Aktion Club of Newark. Dover Kiwanis sponsors more Aktion Clubs than any other Kiwanis Club on the Delmarva Peninsula.

KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL DEFINING STATEMENT

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time.

THE OBJECTS OF KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL

To give primacy to the human and spiritual, rather than to the material values of life.

To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.

To promote the adoption and the application of higher social, business and professional standards.

To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive and serviceable citizenship.

To provide, through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service, and to build better communities.

To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase righteousness, justice, patriotism and goodwill.

Key Club is the oldest and largest service program for high school students in the World. It is a student-led organization that teaches leadership through service to others.

THE OBJECTS OF KEY CLUB INTERNATIONAL

To develop initiative and leadership.

To provide experience in living and working together.

To serve the school and community.

To cooperate with the school principal.

To prepare for useful citizenship.

To accept and promote the following ideals:

To give primacy to the human and spiritual, rather than to the material values of life.

To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.

To promote the adoption and application of higher standards in scholarship, sportsmanship, and social contacts.

To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive, and serviceable citizenship.

To provide a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render unselfish service, and to build better communities.

To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which makes possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism, and good will.

Circle K International (CKI) is the largest collegiate community service, leadership development and friendship organization in the world.

THE OBJECTS OF CIRCLE K INTERNATIONAL

To emphasize the advantages of the democratic way of life;
To provide the opportunity for leadership training in service;
To serve on the campus and in the community;
To cooperate with the administrative officers of the educational institutions of which the clubs are a part;
To encourage participation in group activities;
To promote good fellowship and high scholarship;
To develop aggressive citizenship and the spirit of service for improvement of all human relationships;
To afford useful training in the social graces and personality development; and
To encourage and promote the following of the Objects of Kiwanis International.

The Mission of Aktion Club is:

- To provide adults living with disabilities an opportunity to develop initiative and leadership skills.
- To serve their community.
- To be integrated into society.
- To demonstrate the dignity and value of citizens living with disabilities.

The Objects of Aktion Club are the Objects of Kiwanis International:

- To give primacy to the human and spiritual, rather than to the material values of life.
- To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.
- To promote the adoption and application of higher social, business, and professional standards.
- To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive, and serviceable citizenship.
- To provide a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render unselfish service, and to build better communities.
- To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism, which makes possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism, and goodwill.

WHAT IS KIWANIS?

Kiwanis Name

The name "Kiwanis" means "we trade" or "we share our talents." It was coined from an American Indian expression, Nunc Kee-wanis.

Kiwanians are volunteers changing the world through service to children and communities. Kiwanis members help shelter the homeless, feed the hungry, mentor the disadvantaged, and care for the sick. They develop youth as leaders, build playgrounds, raise funds for pediatric research, and much more. No problem is too big or too small. Why? Because working together, members achieve what one person cannot accomplish alone. When you give a child a chance to learn, experience, dream, and succeed, great things happen!

As Kiwanis clubs and members, we see it everyday!

Membership

- About 8,000 clubs in 96 countries
- More than 260,000 adult members
- Approximately 320,000 youth

Mission

To serve children of the world.

Service

Each year, clubs:

- Sponsor nearly 150,000 service projects.
- Raise more than \$107 million.

Global Results

Members and clubs have contributed more than \$80 million toward the global elimination of iodine deficiency disorders (IDD), the leading preventable cause of mental retardation.

KIWANIS FACTS:

- Kiwanis was founded in Detroit, Michigan, on January 21, 1915.
- In the early years, Kiwanis clubs focused on business networking, but even then, members were serving the needs of the poor.
- By 1919, the organization had changed its focus from business to service.
- Kiwanis became an international organization in 1916 with the organization of the Kiwanis Club of Hamilton, Ontario.
- Kiwanis limited its membership to the United States and Canada until 1962 when worldwide expansion was approved.
- Until 1987, Kiwanis was a male-only organization. But after years of debate and growing support, women's membership was received overwhelmingly.

For more information about Kiwanis, visit www.kiwanis.org