

## So, ...what's the plan?

Mike Duffy, 2003 – 2004 District Chair, Club Administration



In the ole “A Team” television series, when just about everything that could go wrong, had gone wrong, the colonel would light a cigar, smile big and say facetiously,

**“I love it when a plan comes together...”**

We are fortunate in Kiwanis that when things go well, people benefit and we can feel good about what we’ve accomplished. Occasionally, when things go poorly, it usually will not result in anyone getting seriously injured, punished, demoted, fired ...or any such thing. But because of the nature of what service is in today’s world, the lack of direct retribution does not make it any less important -- or easier -- to truly succeed at what we do. In fact, its not easy to succeed!

The best way for service club leaders to succeed is produce timely actions after; 1) knowing club objectives, 2) knowing club function and, most importantly; 3) knowing the people that are making the club/activity happen. *By this time in the Kiwanis year [about the end of the first quarter] every project leader or committee chair should have a clear idea of what they need to be doing this year and every club president should be sharing in that understanding with them.*

When the moment arrives for each group leader to do their part, the needed resources should already be in place as leaders take the proper action to successfully complete their task. Afterwards, we should be able to reap the rewards for a job well done! Or responsibly correct the reality of a failed activity or project.

**“Planning is a wonderful thing.**

**It almost never works out...but, it is a wonderful thing anyway.”**

In order to best prepare well for an activity, project, committee function or the administration of the Kiwanis club-year, club leaders must somehow plan ahead. When developing a cognizant plan, necessary knowledge is gathered, timetables built and appropriate communications established. As the year or activity unfolds, things may not go according to the plan. In fact, they seldom do go *exactly* as planned! But without the insight, resourcefulness and direction gained through planning, we are left to little else but drifting along in-to and out-of opportunity; seldom truly stumbling upon success in service leadership or substantial growth.

Here are some Kiwanis resources for Leaders who intend to succeed and grow.

Leadership Guide (Goal Setting and Action Plan on pgs. 69 & 70)

Membership Development Manual (Club Improvement Plan form on pg 47)

Tools for Success, step 3, pg 13 in the manual;

The Kiwanis International webpage ( <http://www.kiwanis.org/lit/> )

The PNW District webpage ( <http://www.pnwkiwanis.org/> )

Your Division’s Lt. Governor

Your District Chair for Club Administration (541 376-8543 or [pnwclubadmin@charter.net](mailto:pnwclubadmin@charter.net)).

**Please plan to succeed! And give me a call if I can help.**