The PNW International
CONNECTOR
Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time

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HIGHLIGHTS

SMILE AFRICA
because…

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message from the editor…

Hello Fellow Kiwanians:

I want to welcome you to the international scene of Kiwanis.

As the *PNW District Chair of International Understanding* it my mandate to keep the Kiwanis Clubs of the PNW informed of the various International projects that our clubs are involved in as well as the international connections and projects throughout Kiwanis International.

The purpose of this newsletter is to help you support, promote, or just brag about your international projects.

The Connector will be published 6 times during the next year – October, December, February, April, June and August (deadline the 10th of the previous month). The newsletter will be emailed to all the Lt. Governors to be forwarded on to their Division Clubs.

Please forward any information or pictures about your events and I will place them in this newsletter.
WendyF@telus.net

A major project that I will be promoting in upcoming newsletters is our partnership with SMILE AFRICA and how we can work this project into Kiwanis existing projects such as "Read Around The World"

If your club is not already connected internationally, then perhaps some of the ideas that will be posted here may appeal to you.

existing Kiwanis PNW projects…

Listed below are just a few of the international projects already in existence.

Websites are included for you to seek out further information.

African/PNW Partnership Pilot Program
Contact: Sylvester Neal, International Trustee
E-mail: sylvesterneal0139@msn.com
WEB: WWW.SylvesterNeal.com

S.O.S. PNW District Program
http://www.pnwkiwanis.org/PNWKIResources/Club/SOSPackage.pdf

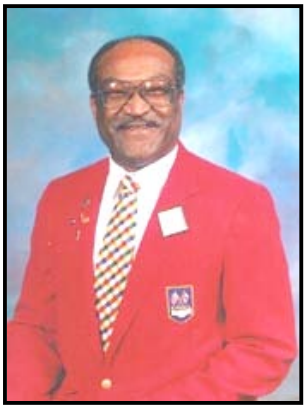
Photo of Franklin (Tegucigalpa, Honduras) by B. Hayskar

The worst sin towards our fellow creatures is not to hate them, but to be indifferent to them; that is the essence of inhumanity.

--From *The Devil's Disciple* by George Bernard Shaw

Kiwanis SIGN…

Surgical Implant Generation Network



The following message was written by Honorary Project Chairman for the Kiwanis/SIGN project, ***SYLVESTER NEAL.***

I have the great honor of serving as Honorary Project Chairman for the Kiwnais/SIGN project.

Kiwanis/SIGN is a PNW District-wide initiative to fund, by October 2008, 100 or more Orthopedic Surgery Centers in major trauma hospitals in developing countries of the world.

The Kiwanis/SIGN Surgery Center will each restore to productive live s each year a minimum of 100 severely injured family wage-earners and principal care-givers, in perpetuity – at absolutely no cost to the recipients.

At A cost to Kiwanians of $15,000 per center, the four Surgery Centers already established through the contributions of PNW clubs and Kiwanians, and the 96 more toward which we are working, will impact 10,000 person per year.

The beneficiaries are persons who otherwise face lifetimes as invalids or amputees.

Though 10,000 persons healed per year represents a small fraction of the annual count of 20 million severely traumatized person throughout the developing countries of the world, we view our effort as a start that may ultimately be adopted by Kiwanians and other humanitarians everywhere.

Visit the SIGN web site at http://www.sign-post.org

Kiwanis INTERNATIONAL projects…

Kiwanis International & U.S. Fund for UNICEF
giving children

A SMART START

in life
http://www.kiwanis.org/service/wsp/

Every child deserves a smart start in life. We need just a teaspoonful of iodine throughout our lifetime, but we need it in tiny amounts, daily. Iodizing salt can provide the iodine we need to grow, to develop, and to achieve our greatest dreams for ourselves and for our children.

KIWANIS
Read Around the World

African / PNW Partnership Pilot Program…

The following was taken in part from Kiwanis Internaional Trustee Sylvester Neal's letter of November 9, 2005 to the 2005-2006 Pacific Northwest Leadership Team.

Request for a club, several clubs, or a Division to consider partnering with a Kiwanis club in Africa. Africa is one of the regions of our International expansion without services from a Regional Service Center. It is an un-organized area, without a Division or District Structure. The clubs in this area must build up to 1,000 members before they can petition for district status.

The intent is to build a relationship with club leaders by sharing your club bulletins, E-mail correspondence, and assist financially with some of their local projects. Their resources are very limited. A small financial amount would go a long way in helping these clubs stay active, while meeting the needs in their communities. These relationships will help the most regarding club survival and feeling part of the Kiwanis family.

Helping to fund their efforts will also help them grow and attract new members.

If your club is interested, it must be approved by your board. E-mail Trustee Sylvester Neal at sylvesterneal0139@msn.com that your club wants to be a partner with one of the African clubs.

Our initial three countries (an number of clubs) are Ghana (1), Kenya (2) and Nigeria (6). If you have a preference of the three countries, please advise.

Congratulations North Thurston Club

The North Thurston Club is partnering with the Owerri, Nigeria Club.

The North Thurston Club is endeavoring to raise $500 for the purchase of a washing machine and other necessities for the Motherless Babies Orphanage sponsored by the Owerri Club.

If your club would like to contribute to this project, then Contact Allan Wood at Ageow@comcast.net or phone: (360) 491-1414.

SMILE AFRICA...

SMILE AFRICA "because" campaign...

Smile Africa Literacy Challenge is our central goal to sweep Africa with a literacy and educational campaign designed to reach every village child with the opportunity to read and learn.

The three-fold Literacy Challenge goal is to ensure that universally accessible, literacy facilities and services are provided to help learners become independent and competent learners. They are:

1. **Portable Library Systems:**
Creating and supplying portable libraries, bookmobiles and computer centres made out of retrofitted shipping containers. These "icons of globalization" are innovative, relatively inexpensive, structurally sound and abundant in supply.

2. **Books for Africa:**
This is the lifeline of the Literacy Challenge -- an ongoing campaign that raises thousands of new and gently used books each year – to resource the portable libraries in Africa. Overseas partners donate English, French and Portuguese books while local people (in each country) donate local language children's books to the libraries. Click here to read more...

3. **Door to Reading:**
A children's literacy program, which employs simple techniques aimed at increasing a learner's passion, self-confidence and improving his or her fluency and comprehension, while developing problem-solving skills

Do you want to participate?

Contact:
Smile Africa International
Email:
ellom@smileafrica.org
Website:
www.SmileAfrica.org

SMILE AFRICA "door to reading"…

Door To Reading™ -- Program History

The Door To Reading is modeled after the successful ONE TO ONE Children's Literacy Program being used in schools across Canada. Developed by Learning Assistance Teachers with the Vancouver, British Columbia, School Board, Smile Africa has been granted the copyright permission to use or redevelop the program to suit the African situation.

Trained volunteer coaches work with learners who otherwise would not receive extra help in school. Coaches employ simple techniques aimed at increasing each child's self-confidence and improving his or her fluency and comprehension, while developing problem-solving skills. Journaling is a key component of the program; giving learners an opportunity to set their goals and further receiving help to complete the program.

Who Does What?

Literacy Coach:
commits to tutor for one and half hours, one morning or afternoon each week has excellent reading and English language skills. (Same principles apply in French and Portuguese speaking countries) consents to a "Criminal Record Check" where applicable attends a training and school or community orientation session has access to substitutes for those occasions when he or she is ill or on holidays

The Student:
may be any grade from 1 to 10 is not receiving specialized reading help from school staff attends up to five, thirty minute coaching sessions per week for approximately eight weeks strives to achieve the literacy goals established by coaches and teaching staff

Participating School or Community:
provide support, feedback and periodic training to the volunteer coaches select appropriate students and assess their progress in the program provide a yearly budget to enlarge the portable libraries with local language reading materials and maintain the programs

SMILE AFRICA "structure"…

Smile Africa International is being developed as a decentralized family of affiliates rather than a controlled, centralized organization. Main offices are being established to take on the responsibilities for planning, recruiting staff and volunteers, implementing programs, training and financial resource development.

Some of the common denominators that bind Smile Africa affiliates are:

- A shared vision and value statements.
- The requirement for implementing the Literacy Challenge program.

The CAP (Community Action Plan) mandate, described as a plan drawn by a community setting forth actions, which will address community-wide needs in education, health, housing, recreation and enterprise development.

A win/win fundraising approach through Smile Africa World gift shops

.All Smile Africa affiliates will be held accountable by regional and international leadership team called VIP (Validating Impact & Potential) Team, VIPs will meet once a year to assess, recommend changes and give awards to affiliates that are performing exceptionally

WHY should Kiwanis PNW support SMILE AFRICA?

Opportunities for PNW Kiwanis

Opportunity to LIVE our motto "Serving the Children of the World"

If each Division in the PNW purchased a container and filled it with books, then we would be able to send 47 libraries to Africa during our 2007 Read Around The World Campaign in February. Can you imagine the impact that would make on the world, in the news, and for the image of Kiwanis, especially the PNW?

Opportunity to Expand Kiwanis Clubs in Africa

A division could partner with a club in Africa. Then when the containers arrive in Africa they would be received and maintained by an African Kiwanis Club. What an opportunity to extend our own hand to help fellow Kiwanians.

Opportunity for Our Kiwanis Youth

Smile Africa conducts a leadership talent search each year for young people for their "Lead the World" Project. These young leaders will have leadership opportunities so their ability to lead is supported and developed. *Lead The World* combines the opportunity for eager and willing young people to "make a difference" in the world while building lasting relationships based on mutual respect and authentic support for the benefit of the African and Canadian / American.

Sounds just like our Kiwanis Youth.

Upon settlement of the mobile library in Ghana, West Africa, the Canadian Team will travel to join the African Team to form the Ultimate Team.

For ten weeks, the Ultimate Team will be instrumental in promoting the library as a learning and innovation centre, working alongside onsite educators from Canada and Africa to enable children and families to achieve sustainable progress in literacy education, health, nutrition and rural income generation...

Opportunity for Kiwanis Publicity.

Each container that is sent by Kiwanis will feature our Kiwanis Logo as partnership with Smile Africa.

Opportunity for Kiwanis Fellowship

When the books are collected, they need to be sorted – so volunteer service time is very much needed.

The containers need to be outfitted with shelves, etc. Kelowna parked the first container at a city children's festival and the sides were painted with flowers, etc. The children made up a banner by placing their hand prints over it and the banner was enclosed in the container for the African children to have.

Opportunity for Some Fundraising

After the books are sorted, there will be some that are not appropriate to ship because of content or lack of room. Then, a Kiwanis Book Sale or an on-going book store could be a fundraiser with proceeds going to *Smile Africa* as that was the reason the books were donated in the first place.

Cost of the Container

Is quite reasonable – approximately $3,500

Cost of Shipping

Is approximately - $4,500 to $5,000. However, Smile Africa does have other sponsors that would pay for the shipping if the Kiwanis Club purchased the containers.

I believe that this project is a perfect opportunity for all the divisions of Pacific Northwest to contribute.

Let's take the challenge to stamp out illiteracy and kick-start this campaign

Let's convince Kiwanis International that this is a world leadership campaign

Let's start in Africa and eventually conquer the World.

Let's make the PNW District the Leaders in stamping out illiteracy.

We are Kiwanians because we care and we can make a difference!

We ARE serving the children of the world.

SMILE AFRICA "book drive"

This is the lifeline of the Smile Africa Literacy Challenge -- an ongoing campaign that raises thousands of new and gently used books each year – to resource the portable libraries in Africa. Overseas partners donate English, French and Portuguese books while local people (in each country) donate local language children's books to the libraries.

Setting Up a "Books for Africa" Book Drive:

Select a collection site: (i.e. cafeteria, gym, lobby) and provide a container such as a gift wrapped box to hold the books.

Spread the word: Provide information about the Literacy Challenge and your book drive in newsletters, bulletin boards, notices, posters, etc. Please make sure to include an ending date for donations. Collect books

What Books To Donate:

Our criterion is similar to the ones used by other organizations promoting literacy in Africa.

- Physical condition of the books
- Age of the books
- Content

At the End of the Book Drive:

We need to know how many books were collected and who to address our thank you! Please fax us your information to: 250-717-1265 for pick-up or delivery details

What Kinds of Books Can You Donate?

Our criterion is similar to the ones used by other organizations promoting literacy in Africa.

Physical Condition:

Books should be new or gently used, complete, clean and durable. Please do not donate a book if it is:

- shabby, soiled or torn in any way
- poorly bound
- marred by missing pages or serious misprints

Age of Book:

Depending on the type of book, age can be an important factor in the evaluation process:

Atlases should not be more than ten years old. Editions before 1992 will not have accurate names for some countries.

Encyclopedias should be the most current edition. They are usually only reprinted every eight years. Editions before 1994 may be out of date.

Educational Text Books should contain current and accurate information

Content:

This area requires sensitivity to the values of potential recipients. In evaluating the content, please pay attention to the following:

Ethnocentrism: Many early history and geography textbooks, as well as books in the social sciences and anthropology reflect a European point of view that could easily perpetuate stereotypes about the "third world".

MAGAZINES:
the only magazines that accept are:
national geographic 1985 or newer
travel and leisure 1995 or newer
gourmet magazine 1995 or newer

Categories of Books:

General Reading

This category includes literature, fiction, and non-fiction library books

- Basic Reading, ages 6 to 12
- Intermediate Reading, ages 13 to 19
- Basic Reading Level for Adults
- Advanced Reading, adults

Items in High Demand

Encyclopedias
Dictionaries
Teaching Aids
Educational Posters
Computer software (learning)

Primary Level Textbooks

Science
Arithmetic
Language Arts (grammar, spelling, composition)
English, French, Portuguese
Health and Physical Education
Social Studies (history, geography)
Educational Games (e.g.,flash cards)
Creative and Manual Arts
Music

Secondary Level Textbooks

Mathematics
Sciences
English *(American Literature)*
Language Arts
(grammar, spelling, composition)
Geography
History
Computer science
Psychology
Economy
Art
Global issues
Programming
Accounting
Business law
Music