

Kiwanis

Mankato Kiwanis Diversity Club

NEWSLETTER

August 9th, 2007

A message from our President, Bukata Hayes

Hello Diversity Kiwanians, Diversity in our community is now a reality and no longer just a potentiality! As the Diversity Kiwanis Club, we are in a special position to assist Greater Mankato to reach great heights. To accomplish this goal, we must work together to prepare our community for our new brothers and sisters. This is an important task that will need the coordinated efforts of all our members. We must all be actively engaged in the process of community building and betterment!

I encourage you to attend our meeting on Thursday, August 16th at noon at the UCC! At this meeting, we will discuss the outcomes of the club retreat, hear a wonderful program and as usual, enjoy some delicious food (provided by Hy-Vee Hilltop) and fellowship. The Mankato Diversity Kiwanis Club can be a leader for the community when it comes to diversity issues and matters but we must stay focused and committed to supporting Greater Mankato.

Bukata Hayes Diversity Kiwanis Club President

Retreat notes: The recommendations, from the retreat, will be considered at a Board meeting soon, and then be presented to the Membership for a vote. Please give these items some thought and feel free to send your input to anyone on the board.

Recommendations for the Board and Membership to consider include:

- More action! - a monthly service project opportunity available for members
- A focus on children 0 to 5 years old, in particular those facing challenges due to diversity
- Maintain a 75% “emergency” (respond to a request for help) versus 25% “sustainable” (be part of a pro-active plan) action balance in service projects for now, but work toward a more balanced approach in the future
- A focus on the Greater Mankato Area during our formative years, but tying each project where we can, to an international/national need.
- Weekly instead of twice a month meetings (for greater energy, fellowship and less lag on projects)
- No committee work on regular meeting dates, but have the 5th Thursday of each month (4 times a year) be an Action day for committee and project work
- Meeting programs/presentation that are relevant to the mission, as often as possible
- Review service commitments yearly, after new Board members are elected
- Each year have a similar retreat, with past and new board members present

Our Special Guest Speaker for this meeting is: Ojoye Akane. He will be sharing information on a very special project to benefit refugees called... “Books for Africa”. Come hear his compelling life story and find out what we as Kiwanians can do to make a difference. It can be as simple as donating a book!