



The Action Report of Japan District, Kiwanis International

(August 1, 2004 – September 30, 2005)

In deciding the 2004-05 Action Plan, the basic guideline was: 1) activities based on our new District Bylaws, 2) activities that all the clubs in the District could be involved in, 3) emphasis on marketing and public relations, 4) further promotion of service and fellowship, 5) coordination with the IDEA, which was one of the Kiwanis International resolutions for 2004-05. We are proud to report that we could attain most of the goals. The details are as follows.

1) Management of the District according to the revised District Bylaws.

1. Board Meeting

Three Board Meetings were held on October 2004, May 2005 and September 2005. Although the number of officers was reduced from 33 to 13 under the revised District Bylaws, we continue to encourage the president of each club to attend the board meeting as observers, in order to have better communication within the District.

2. Committees

According to the revised District Bylaws, eight standing committees and three special committees were established, each consisting of three members. Due to the delay in activating the District Bylaws, the chair of each committee could be appointed much later than expected. Consequently, most of the committees failed to be active except the committee on YCPO, which tried to look for a theme for the District to work on after the successful end of the Worldwide Service Project on Iodine Deficiency Disorders.

3. Convention

The Sendai Convention is the first convention to be conducted by the delegates under the revised District Bylaws, which stipulates each club to have two delegates only and does not seem to be fit for our District with only eight divisions, twenty-two clubs but about 1,500 members. Measures should be taken so that each Kiwanian in the District continues to have sense of participation in the operation of the District.

2) Membership Growth and New Club Building

1. Membership Growth

Regaining 1,500 members has been quite difficult, especially in old clubs where

the number of withdrawing and deceased members exceeded that of new members. Some clubs have succeeded in expanding membership through campaigns such as special discount for new member fees. Some clubs have been successful in reducing the number of withdrawing members and low attendance to the club meetings, by conducting intensive orientation for new members.

2. New Club Building

The Kiwanis Clubs of Sendai and Kobe have been working on building new clubs in Fukushima and Matsue, respectively. We hope to have a new club each before the end of this administrative year or early in the next administrative year.

3) Promotion of District Service Projects

1. As of the end of September 3,400 Kiwanis dolls have been manufactured and 2,821 of them were delivered to hospitals and other institutions, both exceeding the target of 2,000. Intensive marketing, especially the one-hour nationwide TV program contributed to this achievement. For cooperation in producing the TV program, thanks are due to Executive Director Eddie Sigurdsson of Kiwanis International, Governor-elect Erlend Sande of the Norden district, Past President and First Lady Brian and Miki Cunat of Kiwanis International, and Mr. John Fife of the Kiwanis Club of Nunawading, Australia that started the Kiwanis Doll Project. A shortened version of this TV program will be made available in DVD and used for further marketing of Kiwanis dolls, as well as for new club building and membership growth.

2. Participation in the Sweet Water Project

Japan District participated in the project that was originated by Kiwanis Clubs of Kobe and Nishinomiya. Twenty other clubs donated \$5,000 altogether in December, 2004 for wells and water supply for the Compassionate Clinic building that the KC of Kobe and Nishinomiya supported to build through Children of Peace International.

3. Adopt-a-School Project

As was promised by Past Governor Kobanawa, we donated a library to Jesus S. Cabarrus Elementary School in Antipolo City in the Philippine Luzon District. This project is in its second year, and will be continued for another couple of years.

4. Cultivation of a new District project in the spirit of Young Children: Priority One.

The Committee on Young Children: Priority One chaired by Ms. Kimata had been working on the task and announced to work against child abuse.

4) Contribution to the Kiwanis International Foundation

1. Worldwide Service Project against Iodine Deficiency Disorders.

As of September 30, 2005 we have contributed \$57,900 since July, 2004 through the Japan Committee for UNICEF, highly surpassing the target \$20,000 set fourth in July 2004. The total amount of the District contribution since the start of the project in 1994 is \$1,171,982.40. About \$850 contribution per member is the highest in the world with the world average \$208.

2. Annual Club Gift Campaign

We tried to raise 2,000 Yen per member, and sent \$20,000 to Kiwanis International Foundation on June 29, 2005.

3. Sumatra Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster Relief Fund

With prior notification by Governor ODA to the Kiwanis International Foundation, the Japan District decided to make contribution through the Japan Committee for UNICEF to enjoy preferential tax treatment for contributors. Many members of twenty-one clubs and corporations participated in this fund-raising, and succeeded in contributing 5,304,600 Yen as of the end of July, exceeding the target of 4,690,000 Yen.

4. Nigata-Chuetsu Earthquake Disaster Relief Fund

Independently of the Kiwanis International Foundation, we have raised funds from 21 clubs, and donated 1,533,000 Yen through President Sato of the KC of Niigata to the children of Yamakoshi Village (currently a part of Nagaoka City), where the damage was devastating. Meanwhile the KC of Osaka donated fund to Toyooka City, for those who suffered from a flood.

5. Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief Fund

1,991,700 Yen gathered from 19 clubs was remitted to the Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief Fund of KIF. At the request of President Stan Storey of KIF, the District consented that the contribution may be used not only for children but all those who suffered.

5) Registration for Conventions and Success in District Convention

1. ASPAC Convention in Melbourne

38 members from 6 clubs attended, exceeding the target of 20 members.

2. International Convention in Hawaii

47 members from 7 clubs attended, exceeding the target of 30 members.

3. Japan District Convention

425 members attended the 2004 District Convention in Kobe, and 356 members attended the 2005 Convention in Sendai. Many of the participants enjoyed the excursions after the convention.

6) Awards

1. Robert P. Connelly Medal for Heroism

There is no recipient of this medal this fiscal year, for the nominee from the District reached KIF after the deadline and is to be considered at the KIF Board Meeting in

October, 2005.

2. Japan Kiwanis Culture Award

The 41st. Japan Kiwanis Culture Award was presented to Mrs. Yoshino CHIBA of Kurihara City, Miyagi Prefecture for her contribution to indigo dyeing.

3. Achievement Awards

*Donations to Disaster Relief Fund for Niigata Earthquake, Sumatra Earthquake and Tsunami, and Annual Club Gift Campaign

Tokyo Club, Nagoya Club, Kobe Club, Takamatsu Club, Kyoto Club

*Cooperation to the Sweet Water Project and the World-link Program

Tokyo Club, Nagoya Club, Hiroshima Club, Kobe Club, Sendai Club, Sapporo Club, Yokohama Club, Takamatsu Club, Fukuoka Club, Kyoto Club, Chiba Club, Wakayama Club, Niigata Club, Nishinomiya Club

*Number of Kiwanis Dolls donated to hospitals and other institutions

Tokyo Club, Hiroshima Club, Yokohama Club, Kyoto Club, Saitama Club, Nishinomiya Club

*Attendance at club meetings

More than 60%:

Kobe Club, Senshu Club, Nishinomiya Club, Shizuoka Club, Shizuoka Club

5% or More Improvement

Tokyo Club, Takamatsu Club, Kyoto Club

*Attendance at the ASPAC Convention and International Convention

Tokyo Club, Osaka Club, Sendai Club

*Attendance at the Japan District Convention

Tokyo Club, Nagoya Club, Osaka Club, Hiroshima Club, Kobe Club, Sendai Club, Sapporo Club, Yokohama Club, Takamatsu Club, Fukuoka Club, Kyoto Club, Chiba Club, Wakayama Club, Niigata Club, Senshu Club, Saitama Club, Nishinomiya Club, Fukuyama Club, Kumamoto Club

*Governor's Awards

Tokyo Club (for entries to all sections), Yokohama Club (for Maternity Concert), Takamatsu Club (for encouraging young volunteers), Niigata Club (for donation to Sumatra Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster Relief Fund)

4. Awards to Individuals

Introduction of two or more new members: 19 members from 11 clubs

7) The Japan District Office ready to serve all Clubs

We are yet to finalize this aim, hopefully within the next administrative year. The District Web site was created, and training program was offered to the club office staff members. Relevant information from Kiwanis International (including revisions of bylaws and procedures) is to be passed out more thoroughly and promptly to the clubs, and the data from each club need to be passed out to all the clubs more thoroughly

and promptly. The membership database management system planned earlier needs to be suspended, since some clubs have already developed their own systems, while other clubs may not be able to afford to have a new system.

8) World Link Program

(A part of the “IDEA” advocated by International President Case Van Kleeef)

We decided to sponsor new clubs in non-districted nations in the ASPAC Region as an indirect cooperation to the ASPAC District Link Program. The target was sponsoring 20 new clubs. 16 clubs offered to sponsor 18 new clubs altogether. The total \$6,300 of 18 times \$350 was sent to the Kiwanis International.