

## November 2012

### Kiwanis family fun

Kiwanis Family Month is in full swing, so hopefully most of you have worked together on a project or two with your local Key Club or Kiwanis club. If not, what's stopping you? Kiwanis Family Month is a great opportunity for Builders Club members to bond with their older K-family counterparts. And don't forget about K-Kids! Why not encourage your members to read a book to the K-Kids and do an activity afterward. Who doesn't want to act as a positive role model?

Here's an idea to say thank you to your supporting Kiwanis club. Cut out leaf shapes in different colors. Have members write down on the leaves why they are thankful for Builders Club, Kiwanis or community service. Glue a few of the leaves on a placemat-sized sheet of colored paper. On the back of the placemat, write "Thank you for everything you do." You can laminate the placemats and give them to your Kiwanis club at their next meeting.

Check out more ideas on the [blog on the Builders Club website](#), and don't be afraid to comment with ideas for other clubs to try.



## Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF

Now that the ghosts and goblins are safely put back in the closet until next year, it's safe to start talking about how Trick-or-Treat is coming along. As of today, we've already raised just over \$2,500 and counting!

This year, we decided to reward the club that went above and beyond during the Trick-or-Treat season and raised the most money. The catch was the club had to have all of its money turned into the Kiwanis International Foundation by Nov. 9 to be eligible for the contest. This year, the Builders Club of Trenton Middle School of the Missouri-Arkansas district raised \$499.24. Congratulations to Trenton Middle School and the rest of the clubs who worked hard this trick-or-treat season to make a difference!

If you haven't turned in your money yet, please don't forget. Make a check payable to the Kiwanis International Foundation. Be sure to clearly state the donation is from Builders Club. Write "The Eliminate Project" in the memo line and mail donations to:

The Eliminate Project  
Kiwanis International Foundation  
3636 Woodview Trace  
Indianapolis, IN 4626

Thank you to all of the clubs who really made a difference this season! If you had any great projects that you did that helped raise a lot of money, be sure to let us know so we can share those ideas with clubs next year. Email Nicole Harris at [nharris@kiwanis.org](mailto:nharris@kiwanis.org).



## Builders Club Contests

2012--13 [Builders Club contests are now available on the website](#). There are three new speech themes this year, as well as an additional contest, [The Eliminate Project book](#). This contest is similar to the Builders Club book, only specialized for The Eliminate Project. The book can then be used as a great promotional tool to create awareness about helping rid the world of maternal and neonatal tetanus. Contests aren't due until April 1, 2013, but it's never too soon to get started.

## Prematurity Awareness Month

Every year, 15 million babies are born prematurely worldwide. More than a million die, and many more face serious, lifelong health challenges. Up to 75 percent of these deaths can be prevented. Raising awareness of this serious problem is the first step to defeating it. Join the March of Dimes this November for Prematurity Awareness Month and help more moms have healthy babies!



November is  
Prematurity Awareness  
Month – act now!

What's the best way to get involved? Plan an event, get your school involved, raise money. One fun idea is to ask teachers and/or students to bring in baby photos. You can have people guess names. Or you can host a "cutest baby" contest where each donation counts as a vote. To find more tips like these, check out [the youth planning guide for tips and ideas](#).

Don't forget, this Saturday is World Prematurity Day, so be sure to wear purple in support of The March of Dimes. If you have Twitter, show your support by using the handle #WorldPrematurityDay.

## Holiday delights

No matter what holiday you celebrate in December, it's likely no different than any other day for Builders Club members. We love giving back all year!

Dedicate one of your meetings to making gifts for teachers in your building or for parents. Show the kids that they can make something great out of something simple. Know about a great project that would be fun for a lot of kids to try out? Invite everyone in the school to take part, even if the project's something simple like making cute cards. Maybe your club can buy a glass ornaments in bulk and fill them with glitter, beads or maybe even a tiny garden like the ornament shown on the left!



One project you can do schoolwide would be a toy drive for the kids in New Jersey. Talk to your clubs about how some families lost everything during Hurricane Sandy and have the members create handmade cards. Check out more great ideas like these on [the blog on the Builders Club website](#) and don't forget to comment your own great ideas.



From books and articles to videos and personal interactions, different things inspire us every day. Every month, a few of those inspirations will be gathered here in the Idea Oasis.

**VIDEO** [Caine's Arcade: Just imagine what we can build](#)

It seems like most kids today are using an iPad or playing Xbox, but what would happen if you gave a kid a few cardboard boxes? For 9-year-old Caine, a few boxes is just the start to an amazing hand-made arcade! This documentary will warm your heart and maybe even bring tears to your eyes. [Go to video here.](#)

**VIDEO** [Allowing children to believe the words "I Can."](#)

Kiran Bir Sethi shows how her groundbreaking Riverside School in India teaches kids life's most valuable lesson: "I can." Watch her students take local issues into their own hands, lead other young people, even educate their parents. [Go to video here.](#)

**PROJECT** [More service please!](#)

Does your club meet at a Boy's and Girl's Club? See if you can set up a large art board. Have the kids paint a themed mural to put on display. What about at a library? Host monthly themed reading nights. Have your members create the flyers and choose the story. As a club, decide on a cool project that goes with the story. [Check out more great service ideas here!](#)

Have you stumbled across any good articles, projects, or videos lately? Send them to Nicole Harris at [nharris@kiwanis.org](mailto:nharris@kiwanis.org) to be shared with the rest of Builders Club!



Here are the upcoming Kiwanis webinars:

**[November 27 - Till death do us part](#)**

Many members leave their clubs for understandable reasons, but most leave for reasons that could have been prevented. An effective membership retention effort doesn't just happen. Learn the best practices used by successful Kiwanis clubs to retain active members.

**[December 4 - Be significant](#)**

Is Kiwanis a household word in your community? Does everyone on the street know about how you are contributing to your community? No? Then you need to make some changes. Come learn what your club needs to do, what choices you need to make to be significant in your community.

**[December 11 - Membership committee II](#)**

You are three months into the new Kiwanis year. Are the right people in place for your membership committee? Are the right priorities set? We will explore best practices of successful clubs and the

membership committee and sub-committee ideas that help make them that way.

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*"Our chief want is someone who will inspire us to be what we knew we could be." -Ralph Waldo Emerson*