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November 2013

[News](#) | [Contests and Awards](#) | [Club Renewal Center](#)



Trick or treat for UNICEF: It's time to celebrate!

You did it. It's time to celebrate! Thanks for making this the best Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF year yet! Your club made a difference when you collected coins instead of candy this Halloween, so make sure to celebrate your success. Announce to the school what you have accomplished. Hold a pizza party or ice cream social for club members. Recognize members who made outstanding contributions to Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF this year.

Send in your funds: Don't forget to [send in your hard-earned funds](#) by December 31. You can send a check or money order (payable to the Kiwanis International Foundation) and your completed [gift form](#) to:

The Eliminate Project: Campaign Office
 Kiwanis International Foundation
 3636 Woodview Trace
 Indianapolis, IN 46268, USA
 ATTN: Trick-or-Treat

Write the club name or club number on the memo line of the check.

With the [giving form](#), you can also see if you are eligible for club and member recognition. Find out more about recognition opportunities at www.TheEliminateProject.org/slpawards.



Inspire your club with a special [thank-you message](#) for you from Trick-or-Treat ambassador Laura

Marano, star of the Disney Channel series "Austin and Ally." Play it at your next club meeting.

What's next? If your club loved being a part of our global effort to raise funds for Eliminate, then mark your calendars for [Builders Club Eliminate Week](#) May 5–9, 2014 . Eliminate Week is when Kiwanis youth programs concentrate efforts on raising funds for The Eliminate Project. Start planning your project now! Find [more information](#) about [Builders Club Eliminate Week](#).

Thank you again—for making a difference and saving lives!

Renew your club, get your stuff

Get your stuff! Don't forget to [renew online](#) at the [Builders Club renewal center](#) to prompt the mailing of your program kit. Kits include member pins, officer pins, cards, handbooks, certificates, posters and advisor resources. Be sure to review these materials when they arrive. Kiwanis advisor: Don't forget to pass materials along to the faculty advisor.

The Kiwanis member services team can answer your questions and send additional supplies if you need them. Just call 1-800-KIWANIS, ext, 411 (USA and Canada), or email memberservices@kiwanis.org.

Kiwanis Family Month: just a couple weeks left

November is Kiwanis Family Month. Have you and your club celebrated yet? There's still time to get together with other Kiwanis-family clubs in your area (including your sponsoring Kiwanis club) and make an impact on your community! Even just sending a few members along to the Kiwanis club's meeting can bring you closer together. Or invite members of another Kiwanis-family club to your club meeting. See what Kiwanis family month is all about in [this video](#) from the Key Club, CKI and Kiwanis International Presidents.

Did you do something fun and unique with other members of the Kiwanis family? We want to hear about it. Email BuildersClub@kiwanis.org to share your story.

Track your success



The Builders Club annual [achievement report](#) is a great way to identify and track club success. The report has been updated and is posted on the Builders Club website. Even though the deadline for your report isn't until June 30, have your club officers take a look now to help set goals and keep the club on track throughout the school year. Reports can be filled out [online](#) or [printed and mailed](#) to the address listed on the form.

Holiday service project ideas

No matter how you celebrate this time of year, there are countless ways you and your club members can give back to your school and community. Here are just a few:

- **Bake sale.** Do more than just collect food—bake it! Club members can get together and bake bread, muffins, cookies and other treats. Wrap them up and take them to a homeless shelter, retirement community or to others who might be in need of some cheering up this winter. Tag each package with an inspirational quote or story. Don't forget to check the school's policy on food.
- **Hot chocolate.** Host a free hot chocolate stand. Pick a busy location where people might appreciate a warm drink, such a public bus stop or busy shopping center. Offer hot chocolate and a smile to stressed-out shoppers and commuters.
- **Cheer-up day.** Contact a nearby children's hospital and find out how members can help cheer up patients who have to stay there over the holidays.



Find it online

There are so many resources available on the Builders Club website. Check out these tools that can help your club be the best it can be:

- [Service: A guide to innovative service projects](#). 12 pages of service project ideas
- [Fundraising ideas](#)
- [Recruitment suggestions](#)
- Do you know your Builders Club district administrator? They can be a great local resource for you and your club. [Find out who they are](#).
- Find even more at www.buildersclub.org/resources.

Dates and deadlines

Now	Renew your club!
November	Kiwanis Family month
November 23	Family Volunteer Day
November 24–30	National Family Week
November 28–29	Kiwanis International Office closed for Thanksgiving
December 10	World Human Rights Day
December 25–January 1	Kiwanis International Office closed

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From books and articles to videos and personal interactions, different things inspire us every day. Every month, we share a few of those inspirations in the Idea Oasis. Here's what's new this month:

BUILDERS CLUB PEN PALS [Pen Pals in the 21st century](#)

There's nothing quite like getting a hand written letter in the mail, and what better thing to read about than what members of other Builders Clubs are doing to serve their communities. If your club is interested in becoming pen pals with another club, send your name, the name of your club, name and address of the school and email address to Lisa Pyron (lpyron@kiwanis.org) and she will match you up with another interested club. Check out this article about [Pen Pals in the 21st century](#) to see how members could benefit.

BLOG [Brains, brains, brains! How the mind of a middle schooler works](#)

VIDEO [Middle school football players execute life-changing play](#)

Check out [this report](#) about a middle school football team that took a fledgling player under its wing and carried out what may be the most successful play of all time.

GRANT OPPORTUNITY [Sudexo Foundation Youth Grants](#)

Do you know where your next meal is coming from? One in five children in America doesn't. But this is a problem that can be solved, and kids are a part of the solution. That's why Youth Service America and Sodexo Foundation are offering Sodexo Foundation Youth Grants, funding of up to \$500 for youth to lead projects focused on ending childhood hunger in their communities. The deadline for applications is January 31, 2014. [Learn more](#).

"I like nonsense, it wakes up the brain cells. Fantasy is a necessary ingredient in living." —Dr. Seuss

Have you stumbled across any interesting or inspiring articles, projects or videos lately? Send them to Abby James at ajames@kiwanis.org to be shared with the rest of Builders Club.

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Mark your calendar and plan to check out these upcoming Kiwanis webinars:

Recorded webinar: [Youth protection guidelines and you](#)

Are you working with youth as a Kiwanian? If the answer is yes, you need to know Kiwanis International's Youth Protection Guidelines. Develop a better understanding of your responsibilities, best practices for working with youth and how to protect yourself and others from risky situations.

December 3: [Take charge of Kiwanis' future: Invest in your club today](#)

Is your club investing in its future? Is it ready to take on the big challenges in your community—and invest in solutions for the long term? Does your membership reflect your community's diversity? Take charge of your club's future today! [Register here](#).

December 10: [Club membership committees](#)

Think of what you love most about your club. Whatever it is, members make it happen. So make membership growth a priority. From serving children to enjoying fellowship and connecting with the community, we'll discuss what you can do to brighten the future. For your club and your community. [Register here](#).



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