



Nebraska-Iowa District

Moosletter

Spring 2017

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A Note from the Editor

Hey Nebraska-Iowa Key Clubbers,

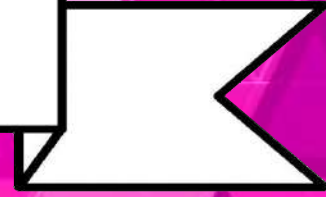


My name is Samyukta Karthik and I am your 2017-2018 District Bulletin Editor! I can't wait to work with you guys throughout the year to make Nebraska-Iowa Key Club thrive and grow! To begin with, here is a little bit about me. I am going to be a junior at Linn-Mar High School, in Marion, Iowa, this coming fall. I joined Key Club my freshman year of high school and just fell head over heels for it. I made so many new friends and created amazing memories so my love for Key Club just continued to grow and grow. This year I served on my school's Key Club officer team as Bulletin Editor. I loved every moment of it, so here I am! Aside from Key Club, I am also in Future Business Leaders of America, Yearbook, Students Opposed to Drugs and Alcohol, Teens Reaching out to Youth, Student Council, Orchestra (I play the violin), and Choir. I love reading, volunteering at the hospital, painting, baking, photography, graphic design, and dancing.

Enough of me, back to you guys. School is almost over everyone! We have managed to survive another year. Good luck to everyone taking AP Exams, I have been stressing out about mine. Also, I wish everyone well for your finals! To those who are graduating, congratulations, you made it! I hope you have an amazing time in college and continue your Key Club experience. Don't forget, when you aren't chilling on your bed or vacationing, utilize your summer to continue serving your community. There are numerous summer services projects, so make sure to get out there. Feel free to contact me throughout the term with any questions, comments, or concerns! I am looking forward to working with you this year! Have an amazing summer!

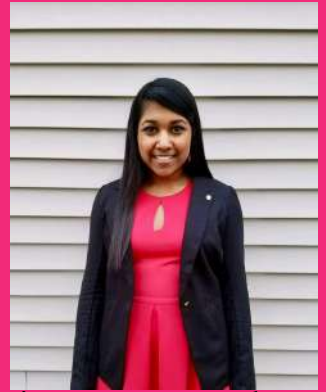
Yours in Service,
Samyukta Karthik
Nebraska-Iowa Key Club Bulletin Editor

Governor's Letter



Hello Nebraska-Iowa Key Clubbers,

My name is Saireshma Balakrishnan and I am so honored and humbled to be able to serve as your 2017-2018 District Governor. I am a senior at Linn-Mar High School in Marion, Iowa, and I am so excited to see what this year will bring! This past year I had an amazing opportunity to serve as the Lieutenant Governor of Area 9, and I am very glad to continue leading this amazing district. I believe that our district has a bright future and I am thrilled to take this district to new places.



With that being said, please contact me with any questions or concerns! I would love to visit your clubs and/or assist with upcoming service projects. I'm looking forward to leading this district into another incredible year!

Yours in Service,
Saireshma Balakrishnan
Nebraska-Iowa District Governor
Key Club International

International Update

Hello Nebraska-Iowa Key Clubbers!

It was amazing to be able to meet some of you at this year's District Convention! You all were so energetic and passionate throughout the weekend, it will be one that I'll never forget. I'd like to start off by congratulating all of the new officers who have just been elected into their Key Club position! You have an amazing experience ahead of you. Don't be afraid to reach out to your Lt. Governors, or the executive board throughout your term, myself included! We all want to make sure you all are successful throughout the next year. This has been an amazing service year, where we have been able to partner up with new organizations, like The Thirst Project, who combat the global water crisis, and Breakthrough, our brand new service immersion program through Key Club! These are just some of the exciting new things that Key Club has done in the past year, and you can learn more about it at International Convention in San Antonio! If you want more information, contact your Lt. Governor or Executive Board Member. Hopefully, I get to see some of you there!



Thank you to all the retiring officers and dedicated members who make our organization what it is today, and know that your ability to make an impact in our homes, schools, and communities does not stop at Key Club!

In love and service,
JoJo Saunders
International Trustee

Event Recap: DCON

Thanks to everyone who joined us at the 58th Annual Nebraska-Iowa District Convention in Omaha this year! It was a great success! So many new connections were made and seeing all of Nebraska-Iowa Key Clubbers, who are so like-minded, come together was truly an amazing treat. This year's theme was "Jazzed up for Service."



We held many workshops including officer training icebreakers, event planning, professionalism K-Family relations, Key Club 101, service, graphic design, and stress management. We also had a lot of fun with the talent show, service fair, dance, trivia night, fashion show, as well as a Thirst Project money-raising competition where we got to pie our governor and international trustee!



The new board was elected after candidates giving multiple speeches, conducting a meet and greet, and finally a delegate voting, at the convention. The previous board was retired and the new board was installed on the last day of District Convention.



Thank you so much to Roy Hedeem, our keynote speaker, for a truly motivating and inspiring speech. Also, thank you to our international trustee, JoJo Saunders, for providing valuable insight from Key Club International and making the whole convention so much fun!

We hope to see all of you at DCON next year!!!

Upcoming Event: ICON 2017



International Convention is an experience that is like no other! The 2017 International Convention, commonly referred to as ICON, will be held in San Antonio, Texas from July 5th – July 9th. The convention will be at the Grand Hyatt Hotel.

Why Should You Go?

It is the biggest Key Club event of the year! Over 1,600 Key Club members from Canada, the Caribbean, and America come to this event to reminisce over the accomplishments and success that Key Club has had over this past year!

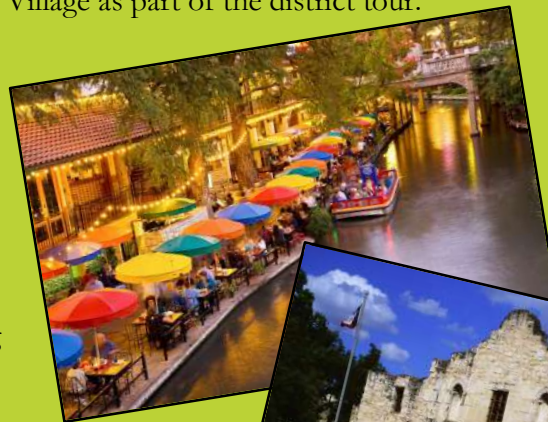


What Do You Do There?

You will get to bond and travel with other Key Club members from your district, listen to extraordinary speakers, making new friends, learn about innovative service project ideas, go to various workshops, receive training for officer positions, discover new charities you club can team up with, learn about servant leadership, hear about the success we have had with The Eliminate Project, elect the 2017 Key Club International Board, as well as have fun and make unforgettable memories. If you are attending ICON will be visiting the Alamo, the Riverwalk, and La Villita Historic Arts Village as part of the district tour.



International Convention is a one of kind opportunity that no doubt will create amazing memories for you! It is a great way to take your passion for Key Club to the next level and grow your leadership skills. It is open to all members and will leave you with unforgettably phenomenal experience, so we hope to see you there!



K-Family Connections

K-Kids

K-Kids are our youngest members of the K-Family. Worldwide, there are over 36,000 members in K-Kids. They work closely with Kiwanis members to work on several service projects like assisting the elderly and organizing drives. Members take on responsibilities of leading the club and having officer teams. They also serve their schools by raising money for sports and extracurricular activities.



Builder's Club

Builder's Club is the middle school and junior high level of the K-Family. There are over 45,000 kids involved in this program. They work on various service projects ranging from raising awareness and funding for AIDS to holding drives and cleaning up parks. Builder's Club helps build strong student leaders, get them involved in serving their community, and sets middle schoolers up for the Key Club experience.

Circle-K

Circle-K is the college level in our K-Family. Those of you who are seniors, it doesn't just end with Key Club. We hope you continue your Key Club experience in college, too. Circle-K has over 14,000 members involved in 17 different countries. Circle-K is an amazing way to continue expanding on your leadership skills and giving back to the community. They do many projects such as the Six Cent Initiative. Check if your college has one today!



Kiwanis

Kiwanis is our adult level of the organization and the largest, too. They have over 600,000 members. Kiwanis helps sponsor the other levels of Key Club. They work on over 150,000 service projects in a year. Kiwanis pursues creative ways to support the needs of children through local fundraising and service projects. Their clubs raise more than \$100 million dollars a year for various projects, in addition to the Kiwanis Children's Fund and they put forth over 18.5 million service hours. We are so thankful for all they do and how vital they are in our K-Family.

Aktion Club

Aktion Club is the part of our K-Family dedicated towards members with disabilities. There are more than 9,000 members with disabilities that take part in Aktion Club, around the world. They work on many projects like recycling drives and cleaning up parks. One of their most important projects is fundraising for Sleeping Children Around the World. Aktion Club builds leaders ready to serve the world and helps bring change in its communities.



Summer Project Ideas



Clean Up the City and the Parks

Clean up your city is important to create a clean and safe environment for your community. Therefore, this easy service project is a great way to help your community while bonding with your members. Officers can split up the club into different sections to clean up specific areas in the park. Just bring some trash bags and gloves to a park or different area in the city and enjoy making your community more beautiful while having fun in the sun. You could also do this project with multiple clubs in your area. Each club can take a specific section of the city to clean up. This is an easy way to get to know other clubs around you and bond with members of your club!

Car Wash and Bake Sale/Lemonade Stand

A great way to raise money during the summer is holding a bake sale or a lemonade stand. You can ask members in your club to prepare treats to sell. Also, you can provide a free car wash. This will provide a great incentive for people to buy things. Make sure to choose a really hot day to hold your car wash. You can ask members to promote the event by making posters and handing out flyers in neighborhoods. Finally, your club can donate the money to homeless shelters around town or charities of your choice.



School Supplies Drive

A lot of school supplies are cheaper around the beginning of the school year. Also many people have school supplies that they no longer use like old binders or folders. Before school starts hold a school supplies drive where people can bring in their older school supplies that they no longer want to use. Whatever needs to still be bought members can buy during the back school shopping or just after school starts, so the prices drop, making school supplies extremely cheap. Also you can talk to local stores that sell school supplies if they would donate some for a discounted price or for free. Then you can donate the supplies to schools, community centers, and/or colleges.

Help Plant Flowers at a Nursing Home

It the time of the year all the beautiful flowers are in full bloom. Why not give these beautiful plants to the elderly, too. Talk to a local nursing home about planting flowers around the home or handing our flower pots to people staying at the nursing home. Then, you can have half your club members decorate \$1 flowerpots with paint and stickers. The other half can put in the potting soil and the seeds. Talk to your families, neighbors, and flower nurseries about getting seeds for the flowerpots. This is a great way to connect with the elderly in your community and have fun with your club!

For More Service Ideas Check These Websites

idealist.org

handsonnetwork.org

volunteermatch.org

ysa.org

nylc.org

Preferred Charities

Children's Miracle Network

Children's Miracle Network Hospitals work to raise money and awareness to provide 32 million treatments to children in the US and Canada. Donations are made locally to fund critical treatments, healthcare services, pediatric medical equipment, and charitable care. The charity raises money through its Miracle Balloon icon. Key club participates with Children's Miracle Network Hospitals by sponsoring fundraising events. Key Club members also participate in service projects at their local children's hospital.



March of Dimes

March of Dimes focuses on preventing birth defects and infant mortality. The March of Dimes helps discover the genetic causes of birth defects, promote newborn screening, and educates medical professionals and the public about best practices for healthy pregnancy. For decades, Key Club has partnered with the March of Dimes to give every baby a healthy start. Key Club members thousands of dollars annually through various programs, including collecting change, holding dances and taking part in March of Dimes' signature event, March for Babies.



UNICEF

UNICEF works in over 190 countries and territories to protect the rights of every child. UNICEF has spent 70 years working to improve the lives of children and their families. Their main goal is to defend children's rights throughout their lives and produce results as well as understand their effects. UNICEF helps out with child protection, inclusion, survival, education, emergencies, gender disparities, supply issues, and research. Since 1994, Key Club has been Trick-or-Treating for UNICEF and over the years has raised nearly US \$5 million for iodine deficiency programs worldwide and HIV and AIDS programs in Kenya and Swaziland. Now it's helping The Eliminate Project.



Thirst Project

The Thirst Project's goal is to increase awareness and bring an end to the global water crisis. With water borne killing more children in a year than AIDS and women and children walking an average of 4 miles a day to get water, they want to raise money to provide clean water for everyone. Since 2014 Key Club International has been partnering with the Thirst Project during the Month of March to participate in the "Dirty Little Secret" Campaign. In March, and for World Water Day, Key Club members fill up a water bottle with dirty water and carry around the bottle to share the secret; 748 million people don't have access to clean drinking water, when people ask.



Check out Key Club International's page about preferred charities to learn more about service projects you and your club can do to raise money for these charities at: <http://www.keyclub.org/service/fund/osp.aspx>

Contact Us

District Governor
Saireshma Balakrishnan
reshmabala2000@gmail.com

District Secretary
Tatum Vondra
tatum.vo19@milfordpublicschools.org

District Bulletin Editor
Samyukta Karthik
samyukart@gmail.com

Webmaster
Leo Lu
leolu1999@gmail.com

Area 1 LTG
Elizabeth Miller
elmille@gips.org

Area 2 LTG
Erik Strickland
erikstrickland@gmail.com

Area 3 LTG
Kelly Alonzo
alonzokelly721@gmail.com

Area 4 LTG
Dawson Schwerdtfeger
dawsonschwerd@gmail.com

Area 5 LTG
Bianca Aguilera
bianca.aguilera18@denisoncsd.org

Area 6 LTG
Ashtain Montange
aschtian@gmail.com

Area 7 LTG
Elizabeth Wessels
easwessels32@gmail.com

Area 8 LTG
Grace Bowker
gbowker@gmail.com

Area 9 LTG
Carter Rieckhoff
carterrieckhoff@gmail.com

International Trustee
JoJo Saunders
jojosaunders.kci@gmail.com

District Administrator
Byron Tabor
wibatman@gmail.com

District Administrator
Amy Hoger
amy.hoger@gmail.com

District Administrator
Aaron Podschun
aaronpodaschun@gmail.com

District Administrator
Tawney Schreier
tawney.m.schreier@gmail.com

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Check out our websites!

Nebraska-Iowa Website

<http://www.nebraska-iowa-keyclub.org>

Key Club International Website

<http://www.keyclub.org/home.aspx>

Share your Key Club pictures using #NEIAKeyClub on your social media!

