

Circle K International District Profile

This information will be provided to all International officer candidates, via the Candidate's Packet that is emailed and posted on the CKI web site. This is the prime vehicle through which candidates gather information from districts. Please be specific and complete the entire form. This form will appear "as is" on the Circle K Web site for potential candidates to review as well as the general public. Please complete the form electronically and email to gbidgood@kiwanis.org by May 1.

District: Illinois-Eastern Iowa

States/Provinces/Countries in District: Illinois and the eastern half of Iowa

2006-07 Governor: Kathleen Benson

2006-07 Administrator: Larry Spone

Immediate Past Governor (05-06): Yury Kolesnikov

Number and name of divisions: 9 Divisions (Division 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)

Name of district publication and frequency of publication: Eye on I-I, it is published 6 times a year

Please list and describe any district service projects:

- Our district project is raising money for the Spastic Paralysis Research Foundation. This research foundation is unique, because not only does the I-I CKI fundraise every year for it, but so does the I-I Key Club District and I-I Kiwanis District. It truly brings all levels of the I-I Kiwanis Family together. Spastic Paralysis concerns diseases of the central nervous system such as Alzheimer's, Cerebral Palsy, and Spina Bifida. Each year, we hold a formal dinner and dance for all Kiwanis Family members called Holiday Embrace, as our huge fundraiser for the year for the foundation.

Please list and describe any district administrative programs (i.e., recognition programs, incentive programs, training programs, etc.)

- We use the Club Leadership Education materials to train our club officers at the beginning of the year.
- In the fall, we also hold our Leadership Training Conference at a camp in Illinois. It is a time when new club members and club officers can come together to learn more about Circle K and learn more about each other through a highly exciting and jammed packed of activity weekend!

Please list any international awards received by your district, or clubs within your district, during the 2005-06 year.

- International Convention 2005
 - o Distinguished District
 - o Distinguished District Governor- Jenny Kelly
 - o Distinguished District Secretary- Stacey Canova
 - o Distinguished District Treasurer- Bryce Callighan
 - o Outstanding District Kiwanis Support

- 3rd Place for Club Achievement in the Bronze Division- Illinois State University
- 2nd Place for Single Service- Northern Illinois University
- 2nd Place to the Champaign-Urbana Noon Kiwanis Club for Outstanding Kiwanis Support to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Please list and discuss critical issues facing your district

- We have three major vacancies on our district board, two ltgs, one covering the clubs in the Western half of Illinois and Iowa and the other covering the Eastern and Southern part of Illinois, and the Kiwanis Family Chair (who is responsible for many different tasks including keeping up relations with all levels of the Kiwanis Family and creating/presenting Key to College forums in the fall for Regional Training Conferences for Key Club)
- Poor communication this past year of the district board down to the clubs concerning district events led to poor attendance at every single of the major district events this past year. In turn, this led to lack of district involvement by clubs and I am concerned about this for the upcoming year (i.e. lack of enthusiasm for a new year and not wanting to come to events fearing that they will be similar to the year prior).
- A major issue for our district is breaking that 500 member mark. This past year, we were at 493 and the year before we were right at 500. We have some clubs that excel and have more members than anyone could imagine, but then again, we have other clubs who are barely at 20 members or are way below the mark. It is truly sad to see a few of our clubs that were recently chartered within the past two years be below the active member mark.

Please list and discuss the top five priorities for your district for the 2006-07 year.

1. For the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District of Circle K International, to raise \$12,500 for the Spastic Paralysis Research Foundation by April 1, 2007.
2. For the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District of Circle K International, to perform 13,000 service hours as a whole by April 1, 2007.
3. For the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District of Circle K International, to have 200 Kiwanis clubs donate to Outreach by April 1, 2007.
4. For the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District of Circle K International, to build 3 new Circle K clubs and to reactivate 3 nonactive clubs as well by April 1, 2007.
5. For the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District of Circle K International, to obtain 500 members by April 1, 2007.
6. For the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District of Circle K International, to increase attendance at each district event throughout the 2006-07 year.
 - The goal attendance for each specific event:
 - Summer Social: 50 individuals
 - Leadership Training Conference: 80 individuals
 - Holiday Embrace: 200 individuals for the dinner and 50 for the dance
 - District Convention: 175 individuals

Please discuss how the 2005-06 and 2006-07 International boards can help your district with the priorities discussed above

- One major way that the International board could help us do is just to keep us informed about the different programs/upcoming events/happenings of the International and the board.
- We would also love to have our International Trustee come to our Leadership Training Conference and for International Officers to come to Holiday Embrace. Having members from other districts come to our events

makes our members truly realize how large this organization is and the dedication of others to put service first.

- We would like for the CKI Board to focus on member recruitment and retention and help us out in this area as we push for higher membership numbers for the 2006-07 year. Providing the current members with information on recruitment and retention is the most important area for CKI to grow. It is one thing for the district leadership to stress growth as part of the Circle K International growing, it's another to hear directly from the top of the organization—getting an email from an International trustee stressing growth can make a profound impact!

What does your district believe are the top three critical issues facing the international organization?

1. The proposed plans for the restructuring of Circle K International. This is a major issue that will affect all levels of the organization and already has stirred up many questions.
2. A major issue facing Circle K International is member recruitment. Every year, the number of members in the organization continues on the same track. International needs to focus on finding the best ways to reach out to potential members before they join other service organizations. Why should I join CKI before anything else?
3. One major issue that CKI faces is stability in International officers. Each year, it seems that there is someone removed for a variety of different reasons. To members, there are a variety of reactions from these removals from the International board and gives members a reason to question the purpose of an International board. It would be ideal to see the same group of individuals be around to ICON 2007.

What would your district like to see the 2006-07 International Board accomplish?

- We would love to see the 2006-07 International Board take CKI to the top. By keeping district leadership on top of International proceedings, we can relay the information down to the clubs and members in turn getting record number of service hours and members. It is also important to keep club leadership on top of International happenings in order to increase International exposure of the organization.
- Always keeping the focus of the organization on the member. All decisions should be made for the betterment of the organization and ultimately the member. It is the members and the clubs that provide the leadership, fellowship and service that CKI stands for. The focus on the members can come through incentive programs, more awards, and tangible member benefits besides the magazine (which is a great resource, but so many of our members do not read the magazine that comes to their mailbox).
- One goal of the 2005-06 International Board focused around achieving 4,000 interclubs. CKI is different from other collegiate organizations in the fact that we have other organizations and an entire family to partake in service, leadership and fellowship together. Our district board is working heavily with our Kiwanis family counterparts and getting the whole Kiwanis Family involved in our events this year. We would love to see the 2006-07 International board continue to push for interclubs, rewarding outstanding club interclubs with Kiwanis Family branches, and continuing to realize that without the Kiwanis Family, CKI would not be the organization it is today.

What expectations does your district have of its assigned International Board Liaison member?

- The I-I would like a trustee that we can count on to listen to our concerns/questions/comments on the future of Circle K International and provide us with the most up to date information on our concerns
- We would also like to see our liaison during the year. We would expect our liaison to be able to attend our Leadership Training Conference in the fall to get to know our members and how our district works. This past year, we did not receive an official visit from our liaison and our members were totally unaware of who

our liaison was since we never saw him.

- The I-I would also like a trustee who can understand our points of view and listen to them before going to International Board meetings. We realize that they are not suppose to represent our views directly, but we hope that our next trustee can listen to the district board and the members of the I-I on how we feel about the issues to make the best decision as to the future of the organization.

Please describe the relationship you, as governor, wish to establish with your assigned International Board member.

I would ideally love to have a liaison whom I know I could call upon at anytime of the day and know that they were there for me with any question/comment/concern I had. I would also like a liaison whom I would know would keep the I-I in the information loop—I would not have to seek out the trustee in our to find out about an international event that is coming up that was announced five months ago! The I-I District Board has high goals and expectations this upcoming year that we are going to accomplish and we want someone who can help us further advance our district and not just be along for the ride!