

THE AKTION CONNECTION



NEWS FROM AKTION CLUB

February 2011

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This month we hope to find you staying active with your clubs, despite what the weather may be in your area. It has been cold, icy and snowy here at the International Office, as many of our district administrators found out at our SLP conference. Keep your clubs focused on their goals this month!

Make your meetings fun

Valentine's Day is right around the corner, so why not do a service project around this "lovely" holiday? Make Valentines for the children at your local hospital or to bring to the neighborhood nursing home. Find more fun ideas at: www.KiwanisOne.org/fun.

Featured club

Genesis HealthCare nursing center puts seniors into Aktion

Two and a half years ago, the West Chester (Pennsylvania) Kiwanis Club teamed up with Brinton Manor, a Genesis HealthCare skilled nursing facility, and became the first ever Kiwanis Aktion Club chartered out of a skilled nursing center.

Since the partnership began in 2008, the Brinton Manor Aktion Club has addressed a variety of community needs, including adoption of four local homeless shelters. The club provides meals, clothing and social activities to shelter residents. For example, 2010 marked the start of the Aktion Club's vegetable and flower garden on Brinton Manor's grounds. The produce grown in the garden is donated to the shelters and the Club has donated more than \$700 in fresh summer fruits and vegetables to the West Chester St. Agnes Day Center to help needy families.

The Brinton Manor Aktion Club has been self-sufficient since its May 2008 charter date and has funded all community service projects through its own independent fundraising activities. This year, the club is on target to raise \$1,500 to fund projects through 2011. Also, the Genesis HealthCare Brinton Manor Aktion Club expects to increase membership from 12 to nearly 25 members. With this increase, nearly 30 percent of all Brinton Manor residents will be members in 2011.

The unique collaboration between Kiwanis and Brinton Manor has not only benefitted the community, but has also been fantastic for the residents of Brinton Manor. The residents have been able to remain integrated with the community, have built new relationships and remain active—all important aspects to staying happy, healthy and young.



SLP Conference wrap-up

The Service Leadership Programs Conference was held in Indianapolis on January 20-23. Your district administrators received training to assist them in their positions to lead your districts. Talk to your district administrator about the topics discussed at this conference.



Administrators enjoying the speaker.

Contests

Have your club members checked out the 2010-11 contest book? Learn about this year's contest theme and complete contest rules on [the Contest and Awards page](#) on the [Aktion Club website](#).

To have your club featured in this newsletter, send information to: kgriffin@kiwanis.org.

CKI and Aktion Club

Let's strengthen our Kiwanis family! CKI and Aktion Club are pursuing a partnership that focuses on service, fellowship and leadership. The first major event will occur during the CKI Service Week, beginning March 27. Aktion Clubs should connect with their local CKI clubs to do a joint service project during this week. For more information, contact your district administrator!

Stan Soderstrom, executive director of Kiwanis International, spoke to SLP administrators.



New activity reports

We now have new Activity Reports. The changes to this report include: 1) Reports will be completed quarterly instead of three times per year, and 2) Keep a copy and send to the district administrator; copies no longer need to go to the International Office. These reports are very helpful in keeping track of club activities, service projects and events. Reports are due January 15, April 15, July 15 and October 15. Please be diligent and complete these in a timely manner. Find this report on the Aktion Club website at www.aktionclub.org.

Are your members on Facebook?

At your next meeting, have your members fan the Aktion Club [Facebook page](#)! Get them started. Many members are already using Facebook, so let's make sure they are connected to Aktion Club!

A service club for adults with disabilities.



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