

# THE AKTION CONNECTION



NEWS FROM AKTION CLUB

April 2011

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To have your club featured in this newsletter, send information to [kgriffin@kiwanis.org](mailto:kgriffin@kiwanis.org).

## Aktion Club TLC

Have you heard the news? The inaugural Aktion Club Training and Leadership Conference will be hosted in Indianapolis at the Kiwanis International Office September 9-11, 2011. This event will be the first of its kind in Aktion Club history! If you're interested in having your club members attend, please contact your district administrator. There will be a limited number of spaces available, so start planning now! More information is available on our [website](#).

## Contests

Has your club started working on the contests for the year? Aktion Club has contests for scrapbooks, single service projects, posters and speeches. Encourage your members to participate. Take them to our website and discuss the details of each option determine their interests and help them to get started! Hand out awards to top district winners and send the first place winners to the International Office for judging. [More...](#)

### 2010–11 Aktion Club Contest Theme: Leadership

#### Speech

How have your leadership skills improved from being a member of Aktion Club?

#### Poster

Draw a picture of yourself being a leader in your club or community.

## Patches

Did you know that your club can earn patches throughout the year? Here is how you can earn these symbols of achievement.

**Contests:** Clubs that participate in the scrapbook and/or single service contests will receive a patch.



**Annual Achievement Report:** Clubs can earn either an Honors Club patch or Distinguished Club patch, based on achievements throughout the year.

**SCAW:** For any size donation to our service partner, Sleeping Children Around the World, you will receive a SCAW patch.

**Early Bird Patch:** If you pay your annual dues by November 1, your club will receive an Early Bird patch by February.



# Technology

## California State University Technology and Disabilities Conference

What's new in technology? The 26th Annual International Technology and Persons with Disabilities Conference had a lot to offer this year. The sessions provided information for individuals with the following needs: learning disabilities, cognitive disabilities, aging and disabled, blind and low vision, deaf and hard of hearing. They covered topics such as emerging assistive technology, web accessibility, as well as augmentative and alternative communication.

There was a wealth of information, as you might imagine. Check out their [conference sessions](#) and let me know if you would like more information on any of the topics. I will have access to this information for a limited time.

**Talk to your members.** What kinds of information would be helpful for them? Is anyone struggling with accessing the computer because of poor fine motor skills? There are solutions! Are any of your members non-verbal or have speech impediments? There are many ways to address these issues with low-tech or high-tech solutions. There are new products that will truly amaze you. Feel free to contact me with questions at [kgriffin@kiwanis.org](mailto:kgriffin@kiwanis.org).

## Kiwanis One Day—It is not too late!

Does your club have plans for service on Kiwanis One Day (April 2)? It is not too late! Call your local food bank or parks department to see if they have any needs. Or, call your local Key Club or CKI Club to see if you can join in on their service project. Be sure to take pictures and [share your story!](#)

## Membership Update Center

Do you have trouble updating your roster? When new members join or it is time to pay membership dues, do you know what to do? If you need help in this area, worry no more! Here are the steps to follow:

1. Go to the [Aktion Club website](#) and click on the link to the [Membership Update Center](#) in the upper right hand corner.
2. Look under the "Quick Links" section on the right side. If you do not have your password, click on "request a new password." If you have your password, click on "login page".
3. Feel free to practice with a sample club, as described on this page. Move on to updating your club by entering your club key number and password.
4. As always, if you are having trouble, contact our member services department at 1-800-KIWANIS, ext. 411.

## Resources for you...



Have you heard of Exceptional Parent Magazine? It is a great resource for individuals with special needs and their caregivers. [Check it out!](#)

A service club for adults with disabilities.



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