



Ensuring a Legacy for the Children of Florida

In my initial article for this year's Florida Kiwanis Magazine, I noted that the uncertainty of today's economic realities would be a challenge to the Florida Kiwanis Foundation's goal of "Leaving a Legacy for the Children" for years to come.

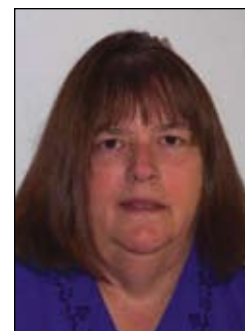
No Kiwanis Club in the Florida District has been excluded from the negative effects of the current economic downturn. Just as many clubs have experienced decreases in funds generated from their fund-raising activities and projects, the Foundation also has had economic challenges. The Foundation has seen its endowment shrink, a decrease in annual support gifts from our Kiwanis Clubs and a reduction in corporate sponsorship supporting foundations.

A major challenge facing any foundation is continued respect and support. I feel the Florida Kiwanis Foundation is finally getting the recognition it deserves. The Officers of the Foundation and its Executive Director have placed a strong emphasis on communications. The Foundation recently began distributing an annual report that clearly identifies revenue generated by the Foundation, funds allocated to support Sponsored Leadership Programs, the grants program for worthy club projects and the operational costs for the Foundation.

Yes, we have been able to sustain a positive position for the Florida Kiwanis Foundation which is critical to obtaining our goal of Leaving a Legacy for the Children. Your Foundation Officers and Trustees have overcome numerous challenges this year with perseverance, flexibility and unrelenting dedication.

It has been an honor to have served each of you as President of the Foundation. To my fellow Officers, I salute you and thank you for your leadership and willingness to seek new opportunities critical to meet the challenge of perpetuity. To my esteemed Trustees, thank you for your commitment in promoting the value of the Foundation and its importance to the Kiwanis family in your Divisions. To Governor Dave and his outstanding class of Lt. Governors, my thanks for your support and working relationship with the Trustees of the Foundation. To our Executive Director Jack Allen, your professionalism and management skills have been vital as we have addressed critical issues while maintaining an organization with the potential for continued achievements and success.

But above all, I thank you, my fellow Kiwanians. Your fellowship, friendship and best wishes will never be forgotten. I appreciate each of you and give my personal thanks, as any success of the Florida Kiwanis Foundation can only be measured by your continued support. You have given me a renewed commitment of service to our Kiwanis Family.



Laura Beagles
President Florida
Kiwanis Foundation

2008-2009

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