



Kiwanis is a worldwide group of volunteers who want to make a positive change, one child and one community at a time. Our Eye of the Tiger eKiwanis club is important for growing membership and developing leaders. We're all about setting up new clubs at every Kiwanis International Convention and in our member districts.

Last year, our EOT members started new Kiwanis clubs all over the world, and we're keeping that momentum going this year. As Past International President Jim Rochford mentioned, our members are in a great spot to help create even more Kiwanis clubs now and down the road. To boost Kiwanis' membership, I'm asking each of you to invite another Kiwanian to join our EOT club meeting and see what makes us special.

Our newsletter, interclubs, and Facebook page are great ways to get the word out about our EOT Club's mission. But it's really up to all of us, the dedicated members, to keep recruiting and expanding our club to make this vision a reality.

Thanks so much for all your hard work and dedication. Together, we can make a lasting difference in communities around the world.

*"May your troubles be less and your blessings be more and nothing but happiness come through your door."* (Irish Blessing)

Cheers,  
Chuck



### JIM'S GEMS

Members of the Eye of the Tigers help strengthen our Kiwanis organization by being involved in new clubs. Some people complain about new clubs and say, why do we bother to even open them? All they do is close!

The first new club in which I was involved in the 1979-80 Kiwanis year shortly after I had graduated from college and moved back to Peoria, the area in which I went to high school. The prior year, I had run a sales office in Kansas City selling wireless cookware, door-to-door and had 16 full time sales people whom I managed plus about 200 college students in the summer, which was how I started in that occupation. I essentially saved enough money selling wireless cookware to pay for my entire law school education. But the lessons that I learned from selling had well prepared me for opening new clubs in Kiwanis, which I have been fortunate enough in to participate in well over 1,000 new club openings.

That is what really gave birth to this club, which is premised and based on helping to grow our organization by participating in helping to open new Kiwanis clubs. We have members who have been hired by International as Club Opening Specialists. We have members who have been hired by International on a contract basis to set appointments for the opening of new clubs. And yet we still have an army of volunteers who participate in club openings including the only club openings in the past 2 years that have resulted in more than 1 club being opened in 1 week on an effort. Many of us participated in a club opening in KY & IN where we successfully opened 3 new clubs with many of the governors in Kuan Yong's class of governors.

Many of our members participated in helping the FL district open 4 new clubs in the Jacksonville, FL greater area. And now we have a number of our members who are intricately involved in helping to open 4 new clubs in the greater Dallas area at the end of March and beginning of April.

Many of you have heard me say that the world is made up of 3 kinds of people: Boers, Chewers, and Doers. Thank you fellow Doers for always keeping your eye on the ball and helping to do the work that so many others don't want to do because it is either too hard, too demanding, or too much rejection but thank you for those who step up and continue to help build our organization and make it the best community service group in the world, especially because of our sponsored leadership program. Members of the EOT know and demonstrate that 1+1=3 and when we come together and work together under the umbrella of the Kiwanis programs what we can achieve greatly exceeds what we can do individually. Thank you for all you continue to do!



**Past President  
Jim Rochford**



## March 2025 Calendar of Events

- March 4th Mardi Gras
- March 9th Day Light Savings
- March 10th EOT BOD Viz Zoom
- March 17th St. Patrick's Day
- March 20th Membership Meeting Zoom
- March 20th 1st Day of Spring
- March 23rd Holi Day (Hindu)



- March 7th Barbara A. Breuer
- March 18th William L Seeman

## Member Spotlight:

### Gary Levine



Gary Levine has been a real game changer for our club by working with Kiwanis International to obtain the CP Desk software. This awesome tool has made it way easier for us to gather community info and set up appointments.

Gary's all-in attitude was clear from his leadership during both the initial training and the many retraining sessions, making sure everyone got the hang of the system.

Gary's creativity is off the charts. He makes personalized birthday videos with JibJab, spreading joy and laughter throughout our club. Plus, he blew us away when he designed a Mardi Gras theme for our February meeting, turning it into a fantastic and unforgettable party.

Besides being tech-savvy and super creative, Gary is incredibly helpful. He's always ready to give a hand to fellow members, offering guidance and support whenever we need it.

Thanks a ton, Gary, for everything you do!

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS, WE'LL PRINT  
CALLING ALL **TIGERS** – WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR **ROAR!**  
WE KNOW THAT YOU HAVE BEEN DOING EXCITING THINGS WITHIN YOUR DIVISIONS AND DISTRICTS,  
AND WE WANT TO HEAR ABOUT IT.

WE INVITE YOU TO SUBMIT ANY NEWS YOU MAY HAVE TO US – WE WILL BE HAPPY TO INCLUDE IT  
IN YOUR NEWSLETTER. DON'T WORRY ABOUT GRAMMAR AND SYNTAX – SUBMIT WHAT YOU HAVE,  
AND WE WILL TAKE CARE OF THE REST.

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL EDITORIAL MATTER TO BARBARA BREUER AT  
[BARBARA.KIWANIS.FINE9@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BARBARA.KIWANIS.FINE9@GMAIL.COM).

WE CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Have you seen our Facebook page lately? Visit us here: <https://www.facebook.com/KiwanisTiger>  
Website <https://kiwanistiger.org/> Contact Alan Guire [aguire@portnaz.org](mailto:aguire@portnaz.org) with questions or comments.



## 2024-2025 Eye of the Tiger eKiwanis Board Members



- President – Charles “Chuck” Gugliuzza
- President-Elect – Laura Gililand
- Vice-President – Dr. MaryJo Brubaker
- Immediate Past President – Alan Guire
- Secretary – Melissa Guire
- Asst. Secretary – Barbara A. Breuer
- Treasurer – William “Bill” Seeman

- Director – Dr. Delores B. Lewis, MD
- Director – Joseph “Joe” Meyer
- Director – Mark Petersen
- Director – Belle Garcia
- Director – Colleen Lawson-Taylor
- Director – Barbara A. Breuer
- Sage – Dr. Barbara “Barb” Thompson
- Sage – Jim Rochford





## Tigers Take on Jacksonville, Florida Four New Clubs in Four Days!



From January 20 to 23, 35 members of the Eye of the Tiger took Jacksonville by storm by opening four Kiwanis clubs in four days. Members from all over the world, including Lee Kuan Yong of Malaysia and several Kiwanis governors, took part, as well as several Florida Kiwanians. They battled bad weather, including Florida snow, and appointment cancellations because of the Martin Luther King holiday to open these clubs against all odds.

Despite the obstacles, the team's efforts culminated in successfully establishing new Kiwanis clubs in Nassau County, Baker County, Clay County, and Ponte Vedra. Each member's dedication and hard work were instrumental in overcoming challenges and achieving their goals. Their unwavering spirit and determination exemplified the essence of teamwork and community service.

### Here are some of the most memorable moments from those who participated.

**Laura Gilliland** shared that she had a wonderful team and could not have asked for better. Everyone pulled their weight, and she especially loved working with Claire Crouch, Jackie Sue McFarlin, Jeremy Riehl, Mark Garman, and John Chiesa. They named their team "Clay Don't Play" because they were working on opening a club in Clay County. It was a family she'll never forget.

**Jackie Sue McFarlin** mentioned that due to the holiday, many appointments were canceled. However, she and Claire Crouch were undeterred, going door to door and making cold calls to ensure the success of their mission. Claire had a unique talent for connecting with people; she made every interaction personal and highly productive.

**Jeremy Riehl** was on the team to open Ponte Vedra, which initially had only six paid members. Despite not feeling optimistic at first, the organizational meeting saw a surprising turnout, with 12 or 13 people showing up, though they needed 15. He persevered and went back on his own a few days later. His dedication paid off when enough people joined the following Monday, allowing them to open the club successfully.

**Gary Levine** emphasized the importance of keeping an open mind and not second-guessing people. He made a point to cold-call businesses that he might have otherwise overlooked. His philosophy was that every person is a potential Kiwanian and worth engaging in conversation. Levine stressed that while cold calls are necessary, scheduling actual appointments is crucial for successfully opening a club.

**Gary Jander** faced significant challenges while working on opening a club in Baker County. The Martin Luther King holiday led to numerous appointment cancellations, and the cold weather, including unprecedented snow in Florida, added to the difficulties. Despite the setbacks, Gary and his team's determination didn't waver. They needed 15 applications to open the club but had only 14. At the eleventh hour, the 15th application came in, marking a successful conclusion to their efforts. Through this process, Gary learned a great deal about the intricacies and perseverance required to open new Kiwanis clubs.

**Jay Hubbard**, known for front-loading his week with as many appointments as possible, worked with his team to open a club in Ponte Vedra. Despite their best efforts, they had only secured one application by Monday. This was particularly discouraging,  
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yet the team maintained a positive attitude and continued to support one another. Their perseverance paid off and ultimately, they achieved the success they were striving for.

**Barbara Breuer** shared her unique experience and personal growth during the event. Initially, she thought she would serve only as a driver, but her role quickly expanded. With Terry Cunifer, Marty Slezak and Mario Bruni in her car, Barbara eagerly joined them in appointments and cold calls. Barbara cherished the opportunity to finally meet so many people she had only known from Zoom – an experience she described as a picture book come to life. An appointment at the Roasted Rooster coffee shop stood out, where she met a lady who eventually became the founding president of the Nassau Club. This weekend was an inspiring journey of learning and connection for Barbara as she absorbed wisdom from governors and fellow participants.

**Claire Crouch** demonstrated immense perseverance, embodying the principle of "keep engaging and it will happen." She approached the Chamber of Commerce Director, who had been a former Kiwanian in another state and was currently a Rotarian in Florida. Claire's patience and engaging nature paid off as she continually interacted with him, ultimately convincing him to join. She emphasized the importance of not having any preconceived notions about people, which was instrumental in their success.

**Dr. Delores Lewis** shared her memorable experience with her team, highlighting the importance of reaching out to others. She recounted how she approached a lady in a supermarket and started a conversation about Kiwanis. Through their conversation, Dr. Lewis learned that the woman's 19-year-old son had recently been killed in an accident just two blocks away. Touched by the outpouring of support she had received during her time of loss, the woman expressed a desire to give back and help others. Inspired by this connection, she became the charter president of the Ponte Vedra club. Dr. Lewis emphasized that one should never be afraid to approach others about Kiwanis, as it can lead to profound and impactful outcomes.

**Coleen Lawson-Taylor** worked diligently with the Ponte Vedra team. During one of her appointments, she met a husband and wife who both decided to join Kiwanis. Despite their efforts, by Wednesday, they were still short on members. Determined to meet their goal, Coleen took it upon herself to cold-call various offices. In an inspiring moment, she approached a lady on her way to her car and spoke to her about Kiwanis. The conversation was fruitful; the lady agreed to attend a meeting and even referred Coleen to others who might be interested. Remarkably, this lady was a REALTOR®, and her office later hosted the organizational meeting.

**Dr. Barb Thompson** felt truly honored to be part of the remote team, focusing on scheduling appointments. She cherished her meaningful conversations with everyone she contacted, even if they were not interested in joining Kiwanis.

**What is a leprechaun's favorite time of day? Golden hour.**

**Why did the leprechaun turn down a bowl of soup? He already had a pot of gold.**

**What kind of spells do leprechauns use? Lucky charms.**





## MEMBER PROFILES

### BELLE GARCIA –

Belle's Kiwanis journey began in September of 1990 when her parish music ministry, where she was the Chair, was invited to perform at an event. It was a turn-over ceremony of the oldest Kiwanis club in the area.

As women were accepted in 1987, opening an all-female club was one of their goals. The first female club in our division was chartered on January 21, 1991, where she served as the secretary. In 2006, the Philippine-Luzon District had elected the first female governor. She served as governor in 2007 with KI President Dave Curry and as ASPAC Chair in 2022 with KI President Bert West. The following year, the ASPAC Executive Board gave her the task of leading the ASPAC Growth Task Force, which is a multi-year assignment. This is where she will spend her time and energy for the next few years.

She retired from the US Embassy in Manila in December 2017 as the visa operations director. In 2011, the Foreign Service Institute, under the US Department of State, piloted the Adjunct Faculty Program, and she was chosen to join the 12 adjunct faculty worldwide. She traveled all over Asia in that capacity, on top of her day job in Manila. On each trip, she looked for Kiwanis clubs in that area and met with them. In her class, she introduced herself as a Kiwanis volunteer and shared what Kiwanis does for the community.

After serving the U.S. government for 32 years, she moved to Guam in 2018 to become a U.S. citizen. Guam is 15 hours ahead of Eastern time and is about a 3.5-hour flight to Manila. She is currently connected to a big construction firm in Guam and handles foreign labor recruitment for various projects located in Guam, Saipan, and Diego Garcia.

In 2021, she opened the first Kiwanis Club in Guam. Two clubs followed in two years, and she sponsored three Key clubs in the Mariana Islands (two in Guam and one in Saipan). She is working on her fourth and fifth clubs as the clubs prepare to host the 2027 ASPAC Convention in Guam. Their goal is to establish a Kiwanis Children's Center in Guam that will serve the Mariana Islands.

Belle often says that Kiwanis made her life complete. Oprah's quote inspires her, "Life is a reciprocal exchange. To move forward, you have to give back. The energy you expend always comes back. There are always two ways to complete the cycle. It is about reciprocating the blessings we receive from up there to those people we meet and serve."



**MEMBER PROFILES**

**Garnell Kemp**

Garnell Kemp hails from all the way from the beautiful island of Nassau, in the Bahamas.

She is married with two adult children and four grandchildren and was a banker for over 45 years. She is Anglican by faith and participates in many ministries in her church.

In May 2001, while employed and working late in a local bank, she saw employees rushing out the door. When she asked what the rush was, they told her they were going to a Kiwanis meeting. She asked what Kiwanis was, and her supervisor asked if she was interested and invited her to a meeting the following week.

She became involved right after her induction as assistant secretary. She has held all the positions at the club level and was Kiwanian of the year five times, distinguished president two times, and the first female lieutenant governor for her club. On the division level, she served as assistant chair for Young Children Priority One and is membership chair 2024-2025. On the district level, she serves on the Membership Committee and is also chair of the Past Lieutenant Governor Committee.

As lieutenant governor, she solicited funding to purchase a specially made wheelchair for a young boy on one of our family islands. The boy was 16 years old, and his parents lifted him up everywhere he had to go until it became unbearable for them. The specially made wheelchair made a huge difference to the family.

She joined the EOT team after a longtime friend and classmate invited her. Since then, interacting with a dynamic and knowledgeable membership from around the world has been a valuable learning experience.

Garnell says, "Kiwanis has made me who I am today, and I love serving the children of the world, one child, one community at a time."



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CONVENTION 2025  
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Won't you be our neighbor?