



Looking for a Kidney Donor for Alice (Blood Type O) By Marty and Sue Dillon

Once again, we are coming to you, or fellow Kiwanians, to find the volunteer who will donate a kidney for our 39-year-old daughter, Alice. Our wonderful donor, a complete stranger, who passed through so many of the gates towards donating his kidney, has been turned down as a result of one of the many medical tests he had to take. We are all so disappointed. In the meantime, while all the tests were being done, Alice wound up being hospitalized, and going on dialysis.



Alice Dillon

Perhaps you, or someone you know, would want to be the Good Samaritan and be the altruistic volunteer for this. Your qualifications, for the laparoscopic surgery, are type O blood, between the ages of 18-60, and in good health, without a history of high blood pressure, cancer, diabetes, hepatitis, or a heart condition.

A kidney cannot be bought. It must be donated. All medical expenses are paid for by Alice's insurance. The Merrick Kiwanis Foundation has a fund earmarked for the donor's out-of-pocket expenses, as transportation, housing, lost wages, etc.

We have the form for you to fill out for the hospital, to help our daughter Alice Dillon. Call (516) 223-3264 and ask for Sue or Marty Dillon, e-mail mdillon897@aol.com. Further information is available at www.kidneyforalice.com.

KIWANIS LIGHTS UP HOLIDAY PARTY Edited from article by Frank Muzio

I delivered a car full of gifts to the Lee Goodwin residence yesterday afternoon. The staff there assisted me in unloading, and as I entered with an armful of wrapped gifts, a little girl saw me. I am guessing she was about 4 years old. She absolutely lit up and exclaimed, "You have (pause

for a breath)... PRESENTS!!" The image of this child so excited was a sight I will never forget. The staff then shooed her away with a smile; telling her the party wasn't until tomorrow.

Of course, she came back with another little girl, and pressed their faces against a glass door to watch us check in each gift. They were beaming with anticipation, and again were told that the party wasn't until tomorrow.

We bought gifts for most of the kids there, and after we checked in all of the gifts, the Goodwin staff went out to get whatever else was needed. They would not have been able to provide for all of the kids without our collective donations, and they thanked us again and again.

I arrived at about 3:00PM, so I didn't see any school age kids. I did, however, see quite a few infants and their mothers. But I know that the older children will appreciate their gifts, too.

On behalf of all of them, I thank you so much for bringing some joy into their lives. Please relay this message to your clubs; through our collective efforts, we made a difference. I hope we can do so again.

"We" are : Wantagh Key Club,; Seaford Key Club; Bellmore JFK Key Club; Wantagh Kiwanis Club; Mrs. Cathy Mitchell; The Simon Family; The Calvagna Family

A NEW YEAR'S GREETING FROM LG SUE

As I review the monthly reports from clubs throughout our division, I cannot help but be proud of the efforts that you have made to assist needy families in communities throughout the division. We do not think of it very often, but sometimes our efforts make the difference between people having something for the holidays or nothing. We never meet many of the people whose lives we touch, but touch them we have, and through your efforts we will make the world a better place one person at a time.

After the hectic pace of the Holiday Season, it's a great idea to pause and take a deep breath.

Having done this, we face the New Year with renewed optimism in our abilities to meet the challenges that face our clubs and communities. Please know that anything that I can do to assist your clubs in their activities will be done. I look forward to seeing all of you at our first Divisional, which will be held on January 8th at Spomante Restaurant. I hope that all of you and your families will enjoy a new year filled with lots of health and happiness. Thanks for all that you do.

AROUND THE DIVISION

We would like to offer our deepest sympathy to Wantagh's Nancy Kalberer on the passing of her father William (Bill) Navin.

We would also like to extend our sympathy to Tom Gallagher on the passing of his father John Vetter.

Tom and Nancy, please know that you are in our thoughts and our prayers at this difficult time.

A warm welcome home to Town Hall's Larry Schatz. He's finally back at home after spending eleven weeks in the hospital.

The **Bellmores** club is planning for the future. Officers and members of the Board of Directors met and discussed the club's annual budget. More importantly, the club is working to recruit officers for the next administrative year. They are facing the difficulty with resolve, determination, and a plan to encourage members who have not served as officers to consider taking the plunge.

The club held a joint meeting with the local Lions club. Both service clubs are looking forward to another meeting early next year. Thanks to the Lions President Greg Markin who has actively supported the joint meetings.



Levittown Kiwanians and spouses joined Santa, his elves and children and staff at the Summit Lane DLC Party.

Congrats to the Mepham Key Club whose members collected 103 pints of blood. They helped to give the gift of life. The Mepham Key Club also held a bake sale

and raised \$350.00.

Meanwhile the Kennedy Key Club raised \$500.00 at a candy sale. They held a drive to collect food for the needy. While the weather outside may be getting colder, the students at Kennedy are determined to see that those in need have a coat, and they have organized a coat drive to meet the challenge.

On November 17th, members of the **East Meadow** club met at W.T. Clarke High School and assembled 95 Holiday Food baskets for needy families. This year's collection represented a joint effort between the East Meadow Kiwanis Club, Key Club, Builder's Club, and the Boy Scouts. Everyone worked very hard to collect and package the food. Special thanks to Alan Hodish who coordinated the efforts and DPP Jay Steinmentz. Jay and son Jordan lent the club the use of their strong backs and Jay's truck as they picked up the turkeys and groceries that made up the baskets.

But making up food baskets is not enough to satisfy a club like East Meadow. So they held a little get together, and they served over 500 Senior Citizens a Thanksgiving dinner with all of the trimmings. Once again it was a joint effort with members of the sponsored youth clubs serving the guests while Kiwanians cooked the meals. A good time was had by all.

Tom Gallagher and his family attended East Meadow's November 28th meeting. A defribulator kit was donated in memory of Tom's father John Vetter. The club also donated \$500.00 to send a child to Kamp in memory of Tom's father.

On Friday December 15th, the **Levittown** Kiwanis Club hosted its Annual Holiday Party for students in the Summit Lane DLC Program. This was a special day that was as enjoyable for the Kiwanis members, who got to see the joy on the children's faces as it is for the children who each received a present from Santa.

The **Merrick** club held a very successful Holiday Toy and Food drive. Thanks to a team effort between the club, its sponsored youth clubs, and local merchants, they were able to deliver food baskets that included such things as turkeys with all of the trimmings to over thirty families and toys to fifty-nine children.

Chairperson Laraine Foster and other members from the club with a heart presented toys to



Members of the East Meadow Club prepare Holiday Food Baskets

Developmentally Disabled children at Sacred Heart Church. Thirty-three children attended the club's Holiday Party. Thanks to the efforts of Chairperson Charles Rosenblum and his wife Donna, the evening was

filled with lots of fun activities for Kiwanians and kids alike.

Seaford will be hosting a fundraiser (for administrative funds) on Thursday Jan 11th at 7PM. The event will be held at the Classic Car Café, which is located at 3500 Sunrise Highway in Wantagh. The cost is only \$20.00 per person and tickets will be available at the divisional that the club is hosting on January 8th.

The club gave out toys to needy families and assisted the Salvation Army in collecting money in the local community. But it wasn't all work and no play for Seaford as members attended several holiday parties.

The club is looking forward to raising a whole lot of money at their Scholarship drive, which will be held in March. The tentative date is Thursday March 22nd. It will be a night of dancing, karaoke, and there will be a silent auction as well.

Seaford would like to offer their condolences to the Kalberer and Hackett families. "We would also like to wish everyone a happy and healthy new year. We look forward to seeing you and making you feel welcome at the divisional on January 8th."

Town Hall celebrated the Holidays by holding a Holiday Food Drive. Thanks to the generosity of Town of Hempstead residents and employees, the club was able to distribute over thirty baskets of food to needy families. The club also collected over eight large bags of toys at CSEA Local 880's annual Holiday Party. Special thanks to Local 880 President Bill Flanagan who, as he had in the past, encouraged union members to bring toys to the Holiday Party.

Town Hall President Joann Delgado held her own version of Pasta Night at her home on December 18th. It was like a scene out of the movie "The Godfather" as members gathered around the Delgado's dining room table and enjoyed pasta and each other.

The **Wantagh Club** was busy this month - we hosted hot chocolate and cookies for the Wantagh Chamber of Commerce's Tree and Menorah Lighting, which also hosts the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus in Wantagh.

The Christmas Turkey Project for L. I. Cares headed by Pres. Georgiana was very successful with contributions of turkey coupons and \$\$ made it possible for almost 200 families to have a holiday dinner. We also participated in our annual toy drive chaired by Mike Pezzuto and SDPLG Chris Brown. Several members rang the bell for the Salvation Army.

We also had some sadness this past month with the passing of Nancy Kalberer's mom just before Thanksgiving and her dad shortly before Christmas. Also Rich Herman's mother passed away during this time.

A membership round up early in December, which featured "The Governors" --Gov. Joe, IPG David, and DPG Peter - as our speakers, was very successful. We had three prospective members there that night - all are becoming Kiwanians and a fourth prospective who couldn't attend is also joining!! Congrats to our newest Kiwanians.

"Madison in New York" is a child's book written by NY State's First Lady Libby Pataki. The KCW has



Santa gets hug from one of the Summit Lane DLC children

over 250 copies of this wonderful book and has begun distributing them - ten are being sent to Binghamton, a couple to Hagedorn Little Village School in Massapequa, some to St. David's Lutheran Church School in Massapequa, the

Renaissance School in Amherst, MA. Some will go to local libraries and schools.

Several members of KCW -- Chris Wright, Kristin Seyfried, Janice Seyfried, Patrick Reilly-- and a member from KC Hempstead Leora Geons were fortunate to sing with the Andy Williams Show (Bel Canto Chorale) at the North Fork (formerly Westbury Music Fair) on the 17th of December. That was quite an experience. For those of you who don't know who Andy Williams is - he is the one who made the song "Moon River" famous!!

Our Christmas party with Garden City and Franklin Square was well attended - a fine time was had by all.

We wish all a very Happy New Year!!!

The **West Hempstead** club made its usual holiday donations to various religious organizations in and around the West Hempstead area and also to the Interfaith Nutritional Network in Hempstead. They donated coats and clothing to the Inn and to the Mercy Thrift Shop as well.

The club is starting to make plans for their annual Pancake Breakfast, which will be held on May 20th, 2007. They're hoping for lots of support from the division. Finally DPP Bob Smith is heading to Southern California for a nice long vacation. We wish Bob well on his trip as he journeys to sample life on the West Coast.

Franklin Square was able to help 5 individual at risk families with children, with donations of \$500.00 in food / clothing / toy gift cards for each family. A very large number of toys (4 lawn/leaf bags full) were donated to the Gateway Youth Outreach Program. Congratulations to Franklin Square's Vice President, Frank Ammendolea and family on the birth of Kaitlyn Eileen.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this month's newsletter. Special thanks to DPLG Janice Seyfried who contributed the entry for Wantagh. It's been a little easier to get news from clubs this year, and I would like to thank everyone who is sending me things on a regular basis.

CALENDAR

Mon Jan 8th 6:30 PM LISC Divisional Council will be held at Spumante Restaurant.

Wed Jan 10th 7:00 PM LISC West Key Club Divisional will be held at MacArthur High School in Levittown

Thu Jan 11th 7:00 PM Join Seaford for Karaoke, Dinner, Raffles, and 50/50 at the Classic Car Café. The donation is \$20.00 per person.

Wed Jan 17th Hempstead High School Key Club Blood Drive in the gymnasium at Hempstead High School on President Street in Hempstead.

Feb 22nd – 25th New York District Mid Winter Conference at the Desmond Hotel and Conference Center.

Sun Mar 11th 8:00 AM The East Meadow club will hold its annual Pancake Breakfast at W. T. Clarke High School which is located at 740 Edgewood Drive in Westbury.



**Franklin Square's Newest
Kiwanian Kaitlyn Eileen
Ammendolea**