

By District Bulletin Editor:  
Muffy Lavens

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# The Helping Hand

**A Michigan District of Circle K International Publication**

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# Subregion C Updates

## *Holiday Embrace*

By: Megan Pratt, U of M K-Family Chair

The first weekend of January, the Michigan District hit up Chicago for Holiday Embrace and had a fantastic time! Central Michigan, Northwood, and U of M were in attendance at the event. The first day in Chicago was spent doing a wide variety of activities, including touring the downtown area and taking tons of pictures, as well as participating in Winter Holiday Escape activities planned by Subregion C Representative Daniel Tsang, which included dinner and bowling with Sub C friends. Saturday, the big day of the event, featured Subregion C bonding activities/games including "Hit the Deck!" and other icebreakers to get everyone acquainted even more. In the evening, attendees enjoyed a delicious dinner in the hotel followed by one of the favorite activities of the Michigan District: DANCING! It is safe to say that everyone was jealous of our moves on the dance floor. The final day of the Holiday Embrace weekend included a Subregion C brunch at the Cheesecake Factory (so yummy!) and then everyone was heading back home. Hosted by the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District, Holiday Embrace had so much to offer for those in attendance: there were various opportunities to become acquainted with the Chicago area as well as to meet more members of our subregion and others throughout Circle K International, including members from the Texas and New Jersey Districts. Additionally, it was such a fun Kiwanis Family weekend with much of the event proceeds going to support the Spastic Paralysis Research Foundation.



# District Updates

## *District Convention Information*

**Rethink** (v.) – to reconsider something (such as a course of action or an idea), especially in order to make changes to it.

# Rethink.

This February, Central Michigan University and the Michigan District of Circle K International are thrilled to introduce District Convention 2012: Rethink. Putting a fresh spin on the classic convention formula, the weekend will include all your favorites (yes, there will be a sweet dance party and personalized service opportunities) but also bring to your attention different approaches to service and life. Throughout the weekend's activities, you will be posed the question: What is service? Allowing time for thoughtful reflection, you may come up with a few new answers and maybe, just maybe, see the world in a different light.

Registration for DCON is a paperless process. To do so, fill out the online registration at the Michigan District of Circle K website and then submit your payment. DCON is no longer a weekend with just a short service project, election, and dance; it is a place to reconnect to the world and find passion within it.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact District Convention Chair: Mark Fairbrother at [fairb1me@cmich.edu](mailto:fairb1me@cmich.edu)

# In Case You Missed Snowpia



## *Snowpia Overview:*

### **Service:**

The event Snowpia started out with numerous service projects around the city of Adrian and Lenawee County. Circle K'ers from the Michigan District went to projects at the Lenawee Humane Society, the Croswell Opera House, the Habitat for Humanity ReStore, Catherine Cobb Domestic Violence Shelter and many more. These service projects not only helped the Adrian Community, but also gave Circle K'er from around the district (and WUM!) a chance to see these places unique to Adrian.

### **Mascot Auction:**

Following dinner and before the start of the social and game, we held a mascot auction. Each club that attended brought a club mascot. These mascots were auctioned to the highest bidding club. In order for a club to get their mascot back, they must travel to the club that bought the mascot for some type of interclub event. Following the auction of the mascots, District Governor, Tyler Johnson, was up for auction. It was a battle between the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan District and Central Michigan University. Eventually WUM got District Bulletin Editor, Muffy Lavens, up there as well trying to buy both her and Tyler. Luckily Central saved them...even though the Michigan District will still probably make a visit to WUM's District Convention. All of the money raised from this event went to the March of Dimes.

### **Social:**

The final event of Snowpia was a Casino-themed social. There were a variety of card games for members to win chips. These Casino chips could be collected and redeemed for a variety of prizes including decks of cards, candy, yo-yos, movies, and so much more. The games were successful and everyone left with a bunch of prizes and had a lot of fun. It was a great way for the members of the Michigan District to get together and have a great time!

Read more about Snowpia on the next few pages.



### *Circle K hosts "Snowpia" service event*

Featured in the Adrian College World Newspaper

On Nov. 20, Circle K hosted the Snowpia of Service at Adrian College. Snowpia is an annual Michigan District event that is held near the end of November and the beginning of December. The event involved eight out of 14 Michigan District of Circle K clubs and two chapters from the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan District of Circle K.

Roughly, a total of 85 people were in attendance at the event. Registration for the event was \$5. There are 32 members of Circle K on AC's campus. "These are all different students involved in other organizations on campus and from all different academic classes," said senior Muffy Lavens.

This year, AC was picked out of all the applicants to host the event. The event started at noon. At 1 p.m., the clubs began to do community service in Lenawee. The students went to the Lenawee Humane Society, the Croswell Opera House, the Habitat for Humanity ReStore and many other places. They concluded their community service at 4 p.m.

The clubs met back in the Adrian-Tobias Room for dinner around 4 p.m. After dinner, the clubs participated in social events. The theme for this year's Snowpia was casino. The social events included card games, mascot auction to benefit the March of Dimes, and a house of cards competition. Winners of the competitions received tokens that they could cash in for prizes.

Senior and vice president of AC's chapter of Circle K club, Samantha Sloan, said, "I wish I could go next year because it is a lot of fun, but I'm a senior."

Snowpia ended at 8 p.m. Next year, a different school will host the event with a different theme.

There are three tenets within the organization: service, leadership, and fellowship. Circle K was founded in 1936 to provide financial support to young men attending college and soon after the service aspect was added. It quickly grew to be what it is today – the world's largest collegiate service organization in the world.



# Mascot Auction!

*A Mascot Governor Auction*

By: Sue Li, CMU Vice President

Snowpia was a day filled with fun, service, and social. The most exciting part about that day was definitely the mascot auction! We were competing with the WUM District for our lovely Governor Tyler. The competition got extremely intense, and the WUM kept outbidding us! We were almost running out of money, and I was so nervous that my palms were sweating! We received financial support from Northwood CKI, and even Tyler himself (he gave us money, because he doesn't want to drive to Wisconsin! :) We eventually spent \$85 and won the bid! It was absolutely crazy for us to spend that much money, but we know the money will be donate to the Eliminate Project. It's for a good cause. I'm so excited for Tyler to come visit us now!! (:



Social!



# Club Updates

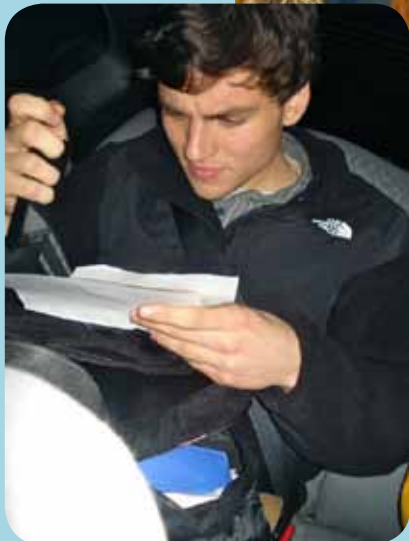
## *Protect Your Gavels*

By: Nigil Valikodath, Wayne State Editor

These past couple of months was really high in gavel robberies! In November, our Membership Development co-chairs Radhika and Joesina organized our annual Rally Night. This is a social event that we host in our Student Center Ballroom just to chill and have fun. This year, our President Nita Valikodath was pried in the face by our Treasurer Paul Syriac. The theme was Around the World so we had different stations with diverse cultural activities. At the event, our gavel was stolen by CKI at UofM because a couple members had come to join us for Rally Night. In a mission to get it back, Paul joined Tess Abraham at UofM CKI and stole it back!

Another event that we participated in was Snowpia. Let it be known that Wayne State was the most represented school at Snowpia! At the event, we were split up at various sites to volunteer at. Radhika Sharma and I were at Habitat for Humanity cleaning up at their site. It was really fun and the people there really appreciated our help. The most exciting part of Snowpia was when we stole the District Governor's gavel! We took a picture with it and left a ransom note to bring 50 members to our 24 Hours of Service, we'll see how that turns out.

We're really excited about going to the next inter-club, which is Lovepit and then hosting our very own 24 Hours of Service which will be some time in March. We're hoping to combine with District event that will be happening at that same time and encourage all of you guys come out and join us!



## *Aktion Club of Lenawee Welcomes New Members*

By: Sarah Gliniecki, Adrian K-Family Chair

December 2 was an exciting day at the Hope Center as the Aktion Club of Lenawee welcomed dozens of new members into the Kiwanis family. Circle K members Sarah Gliniecki and Sam Sloan were able to attend the initiations, along with several members of our sponsoring Kiwanis and some members of Tecumseh Kiwanis. Circle K members were charged with helping to pin the new initiates and the new members were very excited and proud to be part of this organization. If you are interested in attending an Aktion Club meeting, they are held the first and third Friday of every month at 12:30 at the Hope Center.

## *Serve-a-thon 2012: Service is a Wish Your Heart Makes!*

By: Megan Pratt, U of M K-Family Chair

Serve-a-Thon is an event our club puts on for Key Clubs and other Circle Ks within the state and this year the theme is Disney! And let's be honest here; who doesn't love Disney?! On Saturday, January 21st from 9am until 3:30pm we will be doing service and just having fun with other Circle K members and Key Clubbers from around the state. The event will begin with a can drive to gather food for the Key Club governor's Project H.O.P.E. (Helping Other People Eat) as well as Circle K's international service partner STUFH (Students Team Up to Fight Hunger). Following this, we will be doing three sessions of service projects including Knit Wits to make gloves to donate and Little Dresses for Africa to sew dresses for young girls to wear. We will also be doing Do Random Acts of Kindness (DoRAK) and making small gifts to donate to people around campus. Finally, we will have a card-making station to create gifts to brighten the days of children, members of our military, and residents of local assisted living homes. Lunch will also be provided. Near the end of the event, we will be holding a social in which we will be playing Disney-related games, including Disney Scene It and charades. Then of course we will be ending with a reflection activity facilitated by the LEAD committee to talk about the day and our experiences. At 3:30pm after the event has ended, we will then take those Key Club members who are interested on a tour of our campus as they are high school students and many of them already have or may be applying to college in the near future. Serve-a-Thon will be a great day of service and getting to know amazing people in the Kiwanis Family so be sure to sign up on the calendar and join us!



## *Community Service Galore at Oakland University*

By: Becky Murphy, OU President

Oakland Circle K has added a new organization to volunteer at weekly . . .Gleaners! Gleaners distributes food to people in need. They collect food then repack it and distribute it to their business partners. Those business partners pick up the food and serve it or send it out to people. They have over 400 local business partners. Our club helps out by volunteering their time, mostly on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, to help package orders received from Gleaners business partners. Last year Gleaners distributed 40 million pounds of emergency food to over 600 partner soup kitchens, shelters and pantries in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston and Monroe counties.

We are also starting to work with the Baldwin Center. There we tutor children in Math and English. Most of them are in elementary school and go there right after school is over. They are there for a couple hours each evening until their parents get off work and pick them up.

This weekend, our school is having a MLK day where we will go to Pontiac high school and fix up the building by painting, organizing, and arranging the rooms. Next weekend a couple of our Club members are volunteering at a case competition for middle school students. Our job will be to judge their business plan on sustainability, etc.

## *White Elephant Party December 2011*

By: Victoria Zegler, CMU Bulletin Editor

It's hard to be boring when friends are unwrapping a singing Santa Claus mounted on a plastic toilet, a MLB bobble head of your least favorite team, or a bag full of heavy duty utility supplies for any at-home-do-it-yourself task. Twenty members attended this year's party, pigging out on delicious food while unwrapping their surprise gifts. Remember, what might be useless to somebody is really appreciated by the next person as people left with candy, jewelry and festive home decorations.



## *24 Hours of Service is Coming to Adrian*

Every Circle K'er loves doing service, so why not spend a day doing it? Adrian College Circle K will be hosting their 24 Hours of Service event starting February 3rd at noon. Service projects will include, the Lenawee County Humane Society, Lynwood Manor, the Salvation Army, Catherine Cobb Domestic Violence Shelter, and so much more. If you enjoyed your project at Snowpia, here's your chance to come back and volunteer there again! Or, if some of your friends told you about a great project they went to at Snowpia or you missed Snowpia, here's your chance to come to Adrian and do community service at these great places. Sign ups will be available online soon.





**Join the Michigan District at Northwood University on January 28, 2012 for our annual event: Lovepit**

Register at:  
<http://micirclek.org/lovepit-2012>  
 Deadline: Monday, January 23, 2012

**Things you'll want to know about Lovepit:  
 By: Adam Matzke, Northwood President**

**Are you a member of Circle K in the Michigan District? Do you love your club but want to get to know members from other clubs as well? Are you tired of spending your Saturdays doing homework and watching reruns of Friends on TV? If you answered yes to any or all of these questions, then you will not want to miss Love Pit on January 28th at Northwood University which runs from 12pm – 8pm.**

**This year's theme is Candy Land so you will not want to miss out! If you can navigate through the Candy Cane Forest and over Gum Drop Mountain and make it Northwood you are guaranteed to have a sweet (pun intended) time! Service projects include helping out at Kid's Day at the Midland Mall, competing in a bingo marathon at a local retirement home, working at a local soup kitchen and much more. Service will be followed by a delicious pasta dinner and then a social you will not want to miss!**

**Throughout the event there will be a fundraiser for the ELIMINATE Project. Each club will nominate a representative (the club president would be perfect for this) who will be in the running to be pied. The three club representatives with the most money in their jar at the time of the social will get free dessert...to the face! So be sure to bring some extra cash to make sure that your president (or representative) doesn't go home without discovering whether chocolate pudding really is a good exfoliator.**

**We at Northwood are really looking forward to this event and we hope you are too! Be sure to sign up online at the Michigan District of Circle K's website and bring your \$5 with you on the day of the event. The deadline to sign up is Monday, January 23rd so don't delay! We look forward to seeing you then.**

## Important Events:

- January 21: *Serve-a-thon*, University of Michigan
- January 28: *Lovepit*, Northwood University
- February 4: *24 Hours of Service*, Adrian College
- February 17-19: *District Convention*; Central Michigan University
- February 24-26: *I-I's District Convention*
- March: *District Event/Service Day*; Wayne State University
- March 23-35: *WUM's District Convention*
- April 5: *Officer Installations*; University of Michigan
- April 15: *Circle K Service Week Starts*
- June 24: *Large Scale Service Project*; New Orleans
- June 27: *International Convention*; New Orleans

\*see the website for more details

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It's hard to believe DCON is only a month away. There have been so many great things done by all the Circle K clubs in Michigan so far and I can't wait to see how everyone is awarded at DCON.

I have loved putting these bulletins together, even though sometimes they take longer to put together than I think they will. It's so great to have so many wonderful Circle K'ers that take the time to contribute to each issue and to let me know what they think everytime **The Helping Hand** comes out. I could not do it without you guys!

Love & Service,  
Muffy Lavens