



# The Columbia Connection

## December 2004

2004-2005 Columbia Division, Pacific Northwest District of Circle K International

Fellow Kiwanis Family,

The end of the semester (or quarter) is near, and there's panic in the air! As you all prepare for the holidays, don't forget that there are people in your communities who may not have all the luxuries that you do. Find out what ways you can help improve the lives of others during the holidays, and have a wonderful time yourself! Circle Kers and Key Clubbers, it is almost time to relax!... for a short while anyway...

**Laura McInnes**

Laura McInnes, Columbia Division Lieutenant Governor

*What's Coming Up?*



### **Bonspiel (Victoria, BC) – January 28-30**

All clubs should have received information on Bonspiel this past week, but here's a summary of the event again. The event, hosted by the University of Victoria Circle K, will be in Victoria, BC January 28-30, 2005. We will arrive Friday evening, where we will have the opportunity to socialize. Saturday morning, we will have breakfast, head out for some awesome service projects, eat lunch, go CURLING, have dinner, and get to know Victoria. The cost of the event is \$25 per member, but by bringing and donating some canned goods, the price will be dropped to \$20 per member. All presidents should have registration forms, which can be returned to [kerstenw@hotmail.com](mailto:kerstenw@hotmail.com). Hope to see many of you there! Remember, our Divisional goal for this social is 6 members. Let's reach it!

### **District Convention (Yakima, WA) – February 18-20**

District Convention in Yakima is approaching rapidly! Make sure you are advertising this to your members NOW! The deadline for all applications and awards (and scholarships) is January 31. This does not give us much time after we return from winter break to get things together. I would recommend talking to your members now to determine how many you will be sending. Start getting your finances sorted out so that you are ready to handle everything. Also, start to work on your award and scholarship applications now. Don't forget that both members and officers can fill these out, so let your members know as well. We set a goal to apply for every award possible at DCon, because we want to show off how awesome we all are! The cost per member attending is \$150. Also, don't forget about CKIdol! I would like to see at least one entry per club into this wonderful competition. I know this Division has some MAD talent! Our Divisional goal for this event is 20 members. All clubs should AT LEAST be sending their newly elected officers.

## Are Your Members Getting the CKI Magazine?

5,707 September e-zines were delivered to e-mailboxes of Circle K members, and only 3,511 November print magazines were printed. This means that some Circle Kers haven't updated their information online to include their mailing addresses. Circle K International is doing something new this year. Not only are they producing half of their magazines online, but they are also mailing magazines directly to members instead of to the clubs to be distributed. This came from many requests from members throughout International. Please make sure INDIVIDUAL members are going online to <http://soapmu.kiwanis.org/> and clicking on "Individual members, click here to update your personal information."

Please have individuals update their records before December 15 in order for them to receive the January e-zine and February print magazine. If they cannot do it by that time, please make sure they are doing it some time so that they can receive future editions. I believe that this can turn out to be a very successful change. Please help make it one by telling your members about this.

## It's Never Too Late to Fundraise!

Hey there Circle K! This is just a quick reminder in case you forgot that anytime is a good time to fundraise! Not only are you providing money to some cause, but fundraising is also a good way to get your name out in the campus and community. It's also a great way to get individual members involved. Do you have a certain member who is really enthusiastic about a cause? Ask them to chair a fundraiser for it! If you need ideas for fundraisers, you can go to the [www.pnwcirclek.org](http://www.pnwcirclek.org) website and check out the list of fundraisers in the Treasurer's section.

## What to Do With Your New Members...

So you have all these new members who have paid their dues and are eager to serve... But, how much do they actually know about Circle K and the Kiwanis Family? It is your duty as officers to make sure that your members are educated about what they are a part of. There are many ways to do this. Some things you could do to inform your members are: making packets, holding a special member education meeting (you could even throw in some Circle K trivia...), and having old members act as mentors for all new members to ensure they knew all about Circle K. Once members see that they are part of a much larger whole, they are more likely to want to get involved more on the club, district, and international level and to interact with members of the other branches. Visit <http://circlek.org/circlek/resources/club/growth/> for some great MD&E materials!

## Individual Club News

### Central Washington University

The CWU club has been very busy during the past month. They have participated in such activities as serving free refreshments at the Fire Station Open House, providing entertainment for kids at Boo Central, providing child care for Head Start families, Thanks for



Giving (collecting donations for the food bank), and reading to kids at the local elementary school. Winter break is just around the quarter, but they are ready to begin strong with a new quarter!

### University of Idaho

The University of Idaho club is wrapping up a great semester. Even though the semester is almost over, members are doing several projects including helping out at the local food bank and wrapping presents for Christmas For Kids. Two members are reading for the Success-by-Six After School program during finals week! The club is also planning on adopting a sponsor child and buying a animal through the Heifer Project. We look forward to next semester!

### Washington State University

WSU Circle K has continued to help at the Soup Kitchen, My Family, and Special Olympics every week. At their last meeting of the semester, they made holiday wreaths to decorate the nursing home for the holidays. They also made cards to give the residents. School is almost out for the semester, and they couldn't be happier!

### Columbia Division Point System!

As of today, the total points earned by each club are:

Central Washington University:	<b>199</b>
University of Idaho:	<b>245</b>
Washington State University:	<b>270</b>



Way to go all clubs! Remember, you have until April 1 to rack up as many points as possible, and then it's time for me to award the magical trophy! Keep up the amazing jobs you have been doing!