



The Columbia Connection

July 2004

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

Happy July Columbia Division!

Sorry to be sending this newsletter out a few days late! I know you all sit on the edges of your seats when the 10th of the month rolls around because you are so anxious to read it! :o) I hope you all enjoyed your 4th of July weekends and had the opportunity to share them with your friends and/or families. International Convention was a blast, and I wanted to thank all of you who contributed your time and/or money to making it possible for our District. Also, thank you to all who have been supporting the Tomorrow Fund (International) and the Outreach Fund (PNW District). We all appreciate it immensely. Just to give you a heads up, the Tomorrow Fund is about \$8,000 away from reaching the \$100,000 mark, at which point we will be able to start using the interest collected from it. Hip Hip Hooray! Also, thank you to Norm Olson, Robert Ramirez (*Texas rocks!!!*), Julie Killian, Ray Seitz, and the rest of the Tri-Cities Kiwanis crew for your help in seeing to it that we have a Circle K club at CBC this coming year. To all the Kiwanis Family, continue to serve and have a wonderful month!

Laura McInnes

Laura McInnes
Columbia Division Lt. Governor

What You Missed at International Convention...

20 PNW Circle Kers along with our District Administrator, Jim and wife, Marj attended the 49th Annual Circle K International Convention in St. Louis, Missouri June 30 through July 3. It was a wonderful week, beginning with the exhausting plane rides or exhausting road trips to St. Louis. We arrived in St. Louis on the 29th, settled in to our hotel rooms in the Hyatt-Regency Hotel located in the St. Louis Union Station, and then gathered for a District Dinner at the Hard Rock Café. The next day was spent either running wild at Six Flags, sight-seeing, attending training sessions, or rehearsing for the big night to come. The night of June 30th, we kicked off ICON with an amazing Opening Session, where we had the chance to mingle with people from other Districts, trade pins and buttons (build our collection of "bling"), and listen to our opening speaker, Kim Araya. We spent Thursday and Friday days attending workshops and House of Delegates, where we were able to vote on International policy and elect International Officers. During the Governor's Gala on Thursday night, the Pacific Northwest District came away with some exciting awards: Distinguished Governor - Rachelle Strawther, Distinguished Editor - Catherine McInnes, Distinguished Committee Chair - Oliver Chung, and Outstanding Kiwanis District Support - PNW District Kiwanis. Then it was time to boogie on down at the dance that followed! Friday night was filled with parties hosted by different Districts. We enjoyed a night of "hugs", 80's, and Eastern Caribbean dancing. On Saturday, members had the chance to participate in the House of Delegates, attend



workshops, and participate in the “Dream a Little Dream of Service” Fair, where PNW attracted all the attention with our castle made from cans of food sporting flags for the 7 Divisions in our District (guess who’s division was on top?... yeah, that’s right... C-O-L-U-M-B-I-A - HEY!), which we later donated to the Ronald McDonald House in St. Louis. That night at Closing Session, our District received an award for Distinguished District. Way to go PNW! Hopefully, we can do the same this next year! :o) We were also able to celebrate the start of Western Washington University Circle K’s very own Stacey Feasel’s election to her second term as International Trustee. We are very proud of her! Once again, it was time to hit the dance floor, and Columbia TORE IT UP when the country music came on! All in all, ICON was a great experience, and I cannot wait to do it again. I cannot accurately describe in words how awesome the event really is. It is something you really need to experience for yourself. I hope to see much more representation from Columbia Division next year!



Don't Miss Your Chance at a POST Article!

It's about that time again... time to write your articles for the PNW POST! Do you have members or officers that you would like to thank for their hard work? Has your club done something that you would like to share with the District? The POST is the perfect way to recognize your club, AND our Division can benefit from it! The Division with the most POST submissions by club members and officers (sorry guys and gals, I don't count) by District Convention receives a free ice cream party during caucusing courtesy of our District Editor, Erin. So limber up those fingers and start writing! The deadline for article submission for the August-September edition of the PNW POST is July 23rd.

Now is the Time to Start Planning Your Year!

Summer always seems to be a hard time to be productive as a club as everybody is off doing their own thing, relaxing, vacationing, gaining experience or earning money for next year. What can you do during the summer to build your club? Get together with your officers and advisors, whether it is in person, through e-mail, a telephone conference, or an online chat room and start brainstorming things that you would like to do when school starts up again. Think about what projects you already know you will be doing and what ones you would like to be able to do. Start working out the details now and set some dates. Not only will this make the school year less stressful on you, but it is also a great way to draw in new members. A person who comes to a meeting is obviously interested in doing some community service (or maybe they are just hungry...), so the more they can see that your club is actually doing service, the more they will want to keep coming back and joining in on the fun.



See What the Member Community Has to Offer!

If you are looking for fun new ideas for projects, fundraisers, or just want to chat with Circle Kers from around the world, a great resource is the Member Community on the Circle K International website (www.circlek.org). If you have not yet signed up as a member, DO SO NOW! Also, promote this to your members. It is very easy to do. All you need to know are your Circle K club code and member ID number. These can both be found on your membership card provided by International. If you do not have this information, you can find

it out by calling 1-800-KIWANIS and they can tell you your information. The office is based out of Indianapolis, so make sure and call before 2pm Pacific Time. The Member Community has many great discussions about service projects, fundraisers, current issues, experiences, Sponsored Programs, a list of jobs made available to Circle Kers by Kiwanians (Job Board) and much more. Check it out!

Interested in Helping Plan a District Event?

Every year, our District holds two events that are open to all PNW Circle Kers: Fall Conference and District Convention. These are two wonderful events and great ways to get pumped up for Circle K and grow in leadership, fellowship, and service! Fall Conference, *“Circle K: The Recipe for Success”*, will be held November 12-14 at Camp Wa-Ri-Ki in Washougal, WA. District Convention, *Service Safari: “Searching for Service”*, will take place February 18- 20 at the Red Lion Hotel Yakima Gateway in Yakima, WA. It takes a lot of behind the scenes planning to make these two events go off smoothly. If you are interested in finding out what it takes to plan one of these events (maybe you would like to be the Committee Chair next year...) or think you have some good ideas to offer, I encourage you to join one of the committees. Contact Fall Conference Committee Chair, Becky Thomas (thomasr@onid.orst.edu), District Convention Committee Chair, Kei Otawa (kotawa@willamette.edu), or myself (Lmcinnes@wsu.edu) if you have any questions or are interested in joining a committee. Also, if you have any club members that you think would do a great job on one of these committees, encourage them to join or let me know about them!

Columbia Division Point System!

I realized that in my point system, I had no reward for the service that you are doing. After all, that is what we are in this organization to do. %Therefore, I have added one more thing to the points system:

Service Hours: 1 point for every 10 hours performed

For the rest of the point system rules, either refer to the April edition of the Columbia Connection or visit the Columbia LtG. Section of the district website, www.pnwcirclek.org! If you have any suggestions or think that I should add something else to the point system, please let me know!

As of today, the total points for each club are:

Central Washington University:	58
University of Idaho:	74
Washington State University:	78



Thank you all for the wonderful work you have been putting into your clubs. It is really helping to make our Division stronger. Don't forget to turn in your articles to Erin by July 23rd to earn your club 10 points. And don't be stingy... the club can submit as many articles as they want!