

# BC WIRE

E-Newsletter for Builders Club Advisors

March 2011



Your Builders Club can make a difference for babies NOW with the March of Dimes! Here's how:

Join your local March for Babies, our walk fundraising event. Visit

[www.marchforbabies.org/kiwanis](http://www.marchforbabies.org/kiwanis) to find your local event and sign up!

Invite your Builders Club students and fellow Kiwanis members to join you on the day of the event! Each person can create his or her own personal online fundraising page to share with friends and family.

Coming soon: Watch your club's mailbox for more information from the March of Dimes!



## New Builders Club Specialist

Greetings from Kiwanis International! My name is Meghan Ward-Bopp and I'm your new Builders Club Specialist. As a fan and participant in Kiwanis Service Leadership Programs I'm excited about collaborating with each of you to help give each Builders Club member the best experience possible.

But first, I want to say thank you. Thank you for all of your thankless hours of service to the middle school students you advise in Builders Club. Thank you for investing in the students and in their future.

Over the past two months I've been learning the ropes, all the while focusing on how to improve our Builders Club member experience. Recently it occurred to me that those individuals who have the best insight into how to improve our member experience, would be you: the advisors.

Because of that, I'm asking you to participate in either a town hall type conference call in order to share your thoughts with me. I'm interested in gaining your insight regarding what resources KI needs to develop for clubs and advisors, the current member experience and awards process.

Below are the dates, times and links for the calls/survey. If you can, please take a few moments out of your already *very* busy day to participate, as we need your voice to help better the Builders Club experience.

**Date:** Thursday, April 14th at 7pm EST

**Toll Free Number:** 800-406-9170 ; Participant ID: 3751040254

**To register for the call:** [www.surveymonkey.com/s/BCadvisors](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BCadvisors)

Again, thank you so much for all that you have done and will do! Know that the entire KI staff and your Builders Club administrators are always just a phone call or email away – and happy to help in any way that we can!



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## Builders Club renewal

Has your Builders Club been renewed for the 2010–11 year? Have you received this year's club supplies? If you answered no to these questions, you can renew your club at the [Club Renewal Center](#). Contact Members Services at 1-800-KIWANIS, ext. 411, if you need assistance or have questions.

## Contests

Have your club members started working on your 2010–11 contest book? Download entire contest and award information, including submission forms and complete guidelines at the [Contest and Awards page](#) at [www.buildersclub.org](http://www.buildersclub.org).

**Deadline:** Due April 1st to your district administrator. Refer to the [Builders Club District Administrator List](#) for contact information.



## Annual achievement report

Want to earn another banner patch? Keep track of your club's activities throughout the year and submit an annual achievement report to Kiwanis International by May 1. Check out the [Contest and Awards page](#) at [www.buildersclub.org](http://www.buildersclub.org) for more information.

## Post-community service reflection activities

Reflection is a key component to effective youth service-learning projects, but it also has important implications for use in other service projects and youth activities. Structured reflection helps participants:

- Consider what they accomplished and learned during an activity
- Contemplate ways that the experience could be adjusted to improve the outcome
- Formulate concrete ideas of how they can use their experience in other facets of their lives
- Share their ideas and feelings with others
- Communicate the value of their participation with themselves and other participants

Next time your Builders Club completes a service project consider wrapping up with an activity that allows for some personal reflection time. Here's a possible activity with some processing questions:



### Pass the ball

*Material needed:* Any soft object that can be tossed from one participant to another; ideal group size: 5–15

*Description:* In this activity, the group sits in a circle and you facilitate a discussion about what the youth learned by participating in the service activity. A soft object is tossed around the circle. Whoever has the object is the one who can talk. Many times youth are more willing to participate and answer the questions because they want to be able to hold and toss the object.



First explain how the activity works. Ask them to sit (or stand) in a circle. "I'm going to ask a question. If you'd like to answer raise your hand and I'll pass you the ball (or whatever object you have). Then once you are done you can pass the ball to someone else that would like to answer the same question." When you are ready to ask a different question, ask that the object be tossed back to you. After the youth answer each question, you can take time to summarize what they said or expand on the thoughts they shared.

#### Here are some example questions that can be used for most activities:

1. What did you like best about this service activity?
2. What did you like least about this service activity?
3. What did you learn by participating in this service activity?
4. What are two or three words you can use to describe how you feel about this service activity?
5. What are some other service activities that you would like to do?
6. Why was it important that we worked together to complete this service activity?
7. What, if anything, will you do differently at home because of the experiences you had while participating in this service activity?

## Don't forget: advisor input needed!

**Date:** Monday, March 28th at 7pm EST

**Toll Free Number:**

800-406-9170

Participant ID: 3751040254

**To register for the call:**

[www.surveymonkey.com/s/BCadvisors](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BCadvisors)

## UNICEF donations

With over 265 clubs participating (so far!) in the 2010 Trick or Treat for UNICEF campaign, we've already raised \$51,716 USD for Operation Uruguay! Check out our top three rock star contributing clubs:

Builders Club of Alfred G. Berner Middle School	Massapequa, NY	\$1,028.96
Builders Club of Kirkland Junior High School	Kirkland, WA	\$1,155.16
Builders Club of Prairie Vista Middle School	Fort Worth, TX	\$1,280.21



Does your club still have funds to donate? It's not too late- please make sure and send them in as we'd love to include you in our tally! Submit your club's donations with the [UNICEF Donation Form](#). Great job to all of our participating clubs for this record breaking year!