

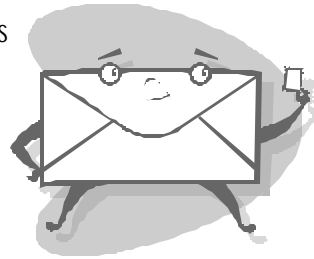
## Mass Meeting Bulletin

### Letter From The President

By Lisa Slominski

First off, I would just like to welcome you to Circle K. I believe that Circle K is one of the best organizations here at U of M, and in the world. I know, however, that there are a lot of other groups on campus that you could join, and a lot of other ways that you could fill your time. So why Circle K?

There are a million ways to answer this question, but I feel one of the big things that sets our organization apart from others is the sheer variety of community service opportunities that we offer. We like to say that we have something for everyone, and we truly do! We work with children, with the elderly, with animals, in the environment... the list goes on and on. In Circle K there is no service requirement - you basically do what you want to do, when you want to do it. We offer one-time projects almost every day that you can sign up for, or ongoing projects where you go every week to the same hospital or school.



In addition, if we don't have a particular project that you would like to do, we will set it up, or help you set it up!

Another thing that makes Circle K unique is that this club is not just all about service. The three tenets of Circle K are "Service, Leadership, and Friendship", and we definitely value all three! We offer an array of leadership opportunities for those interested, such as being on a committee or going to leadership conferences. We also have a lot of fun in this club, and I can honestly say that I have made my best friends, and my fondest memories of college, right here in Circle K. I could go on and on answering the question of why I think you should give Circle K a chance, but I won't. I hope that you will try us out, and find out for yourself why Circle K is one of the best organizations around!

### Take One: Freshman Year in Circle K

By Stephanie Watson

Walking into the Union Ballroom two September go was, not kidding, one of the scariest things I have ever one. Over three hundred people were seated in neat little rows, nearly filling one of the biggest rooms in the Union. Three hundred people and I did not know a single person. I am not even sure what made me go as all of my new friends were rushing sororities and writing for the daily or simply pending their time on schoolwork. All I knew was that I wanted to get involved and braving ginormous mass meetings was the first step to doing it. I remember leaving the meeting discouraged. I, being relatively shy, did not talk to anyone and made my way back to Bursley with the heavy knowledge that I was in my second week of school and very much alone. Never fear though! I decided Circle K was worth a try and signed up for Hunger Coalition.

I attended the project determined to be friendly and outgoing. It worked

One of the more senior and more involved members convinced me to join a committee. It felt very odd to be making such a move, but I decided to do it anyway.

Becoming part of a committee was the greatest thing I could have done. It gave me a lot of insight into the workings of Circle K and urged me to get more and more involved. Soon I was signing up for a project or more a week, as well as running a few of my own. Circle K also gave me connections to other great service groups like Dance Marathon and The Detroit Project.

Thus, through my involvement, I met some of my best friends as well as found my niche at U of M. I love every aspect of the service we do and the people we work with. I have found myself moved, inspired and imply contented by serving others. So, moral of the story is: take a chance, it's good for you.

# A Closer Look At Circle K

## Circle K Structure

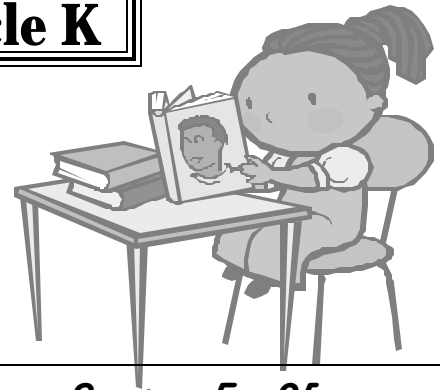
One of the many things that make the of Michigan Circle K unique is its complex (and sometimes a little bit hard to understand!) structure. To make things somewhat easier, I will go through the basics of Circle K club structure, and tell you a little bit about what each part does.

First of all, U of M Circle K is part of an international organization. That means that there are Circle K clubs at universities all around the world, and an international board with international trustees to oversee everything. There are also international conventions every year where clubs from all over the world get together to have fun with other Circle Kers. To break up all of these clubs even further, the clubs are divided into separate districts. For example, the University of Michigan Circle K is in the Michigan district, which also includes other clubs from Michigan. We have district conventions every year at different universities, and this year the district convention will be at U of M!

Circle K clubs are also part of a much larger organization: the Kiwanis family. Kiwanis Clubs are organizations for adult business professionals who are active in their communities. Kiwanis Clubs were around first, and then they decided to start up and sponsor service organizations at different age levels. Circle K is the college level branch of the Kiwanis family, Key Club is the high school branch, Builders Club is the middle school branch, K-Kids is the elementary school branch, and Aktion Clubs are for people with disabilities. All of these different clubs are devoted to community service, and they all get help from the other branches of Kiwanis when they need it. For example, U of M Circle K currently co-sponsors a K-Kids Club for elementary school students in Detroit, and will soon co-sponsor a Builders Club for middle school students in Ypsilanti. Our club is sponsored by a Kiwanis Club, and we often work together with Kiwanis Clubs and Key Clubs on different projects and fundraisers.

Within the club, U of M Circle K also has its own structure. The core of our club is composed of our 165 members, who participate in service projects and make our club as great as it is every year. Our club also has 12 different committees that take care of different areas of the club, such as fundraising or setting up service projects. In charge of the committees and other important aspects of our club are 15 chairs, and keeping track of the entire club are 5 executive board members. All of these parts work together constantly throughout the year, and make our club as amazing as it is.

This whole structure thing is kind of confusing, right? Well, don't worry it definitely gets easier to understand later on! Once you start becoming involved with different aspects of our structure, say, after joining a committee, attending District Convention, or hanging out with our K-Kids, everything starts falling into place, and what was once really hard to understand simply becomes another great aspect of our club.

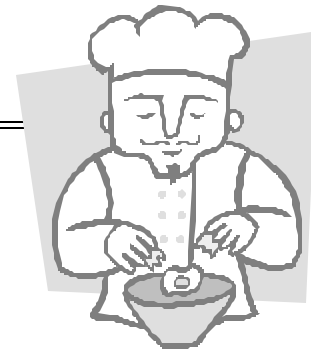


## Service For You

One of the best parts of Circle K is the wide variety of service opportunities that it offers to its members. In Circle K, we work with people across the life span, from infants and toddlers at a daycare for homeless children, to the elderly in nursing homes. We work with hospitals, elementary schools, community centers, homeless shelters, and dozens of other places that allow us the chance to work with and learn from a variety of different people in a variety of different circumstances. We also do projects with animals and the environment, and do service in Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, and Detroit, among other places. The structures of the service projects in Circle K also vary, and there are projects to fit every schedule and every interest. Each week there are numerous one-time projects, such as playing with toddlers at a science center or cleaning up the river, that people can sign up for and go to on a one-time basis. There are also many ongoing projects in Circle K. For these projects, the same groups of people attend the same projects each week, some examples of which are working with teens at group homes and volunteering at homeless shelters. Circle K also has opportunities for participating in mentorship programs, with everything from hanging out with an elementary school pal once a week, to writing letters to the elderly. Even if you are interested in a service project that our club does not currently do, U of M Circle K makes an effort to provide members with the opportunities to put their ideas into action, and to help make our club even better. With tons of different service projects offered each week, there are always opportunities for members to get involved in whatever type of community service that they are most interested in, and maybe discover new ways of serving their community in the process.

# What is Your Favorite Circle K Project?

## A Project For Every Interest By Lynne Strickler

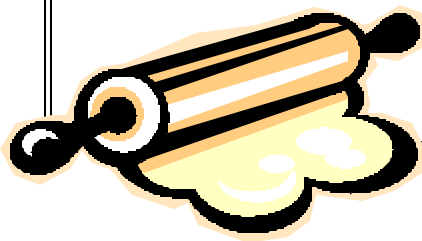


There are an incredibly ridiculous number of community service groups on this campus. This is not a criticism, as I am pleased to think that so many students are interested in serving the community, however it makes the task of finding fresh- the “right” one rather daunting. I recall walking through Festifall my first man year and being incredibly overwhelmed. I know that I wanted to do service, but with whom? I began to sample a lot of different clubs and amongst this buffet of service groups, I found Circle K, Circle K intrigued me, so I went to a meeting and another meeting....for 4 years.

Finding the right student group is a personal choice, since we all came to this university with different goals and different expectations, so I can only impose upon you my own reasons for being a loyal member of Circle K, namely, Circle K gave me the opportunity to combine my interest in service along with my other interests in life. This pairing of interests has made certain projects into my favorite projects. I love to cook, I feel that cooking allows one to be creative, but also provides others with a basic need. Thus, preparing dinner at Ronald McDonald House and Hunger Coalition rate among my two favorite projects. At both of these projects not only do I get to indulge my love of cooking, but I also have the chance to provide a meal for those who need it, although for very different reasons. At Ronald McDonald House I feel good knowing that with a team of Circle Kers cooking, parents can focus more of their attention on the needs of their ailing children. And at Hunger Coalition, I can directly see how my time and efforts in the kitchen are directly contributing to the health and wellbeing of those who visit.

Every project that Circle K does directly helps the community and those in it, but the ability to find the projects that are especially meaningful and important to the members is what makes Circle K so amazing.

There are a myriad of other reasons to join a club, including fun socials, leadership opportunities, and the wonderful people you will meet, and luckily, you can find all that right here in Circle K!



“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.”

-Aesop

## Circle K Socials!

University of Michigan  
Circle K

4213 Michigan Union  
(4th Floor)  
Come Visit Us!  
M-Th 2-5pm

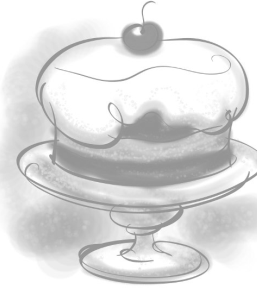
Phone: 734-615-0523  
Email: circlek@umich.edu

[www.umcirclek.org](http://www.umcirclek.org)



I LOVE CIRCLE K SOCIALS. Socials are the most amazing time you will have. After doing hours and hours of community service with people, finding out what they are like after hours is a great time. Ice cream, Frisbee, Laser Tag, Tigers Baseball Games, Weekend Ski Trips I've done them all with Circle K. Sure, Circle K is a service group, but without them socials, it simply would not be the same club. I know that I certainly look forward to unwinding meetings with my friends from Circle K.

So now that I've gone into all these details about socials, you probably find yourself asking, How do all these wild and crazy things happen? Well, I'm here to help! One of the cool things about U of M Circle K is that it has a bunch of committees, and one of these committees is dedicated to coming up with fun things for the club to do! They have a lot of exciting things planned so far this year, but to find out what they are, you are just going to have to come to more meetings, and more socials! See you all around 8pm!



details about socials, you do all these wild and here to help! One of the that it has a bunch of committees is dedicated to

## University of Michigan Circle K: One of the Best

One of the great things about this organization is that there are Circle K clubs all over the country, and even all over the world. All of these clubs are made up of people dedicated to serving their communities, developing their leadership abilities, and having fun. And each year, the Circle K International Convention (ICON) is held to bring all of these clubs together for an outstanding week of service and socializing. This year, ICON was held in St. Louis, Missouri in early July. At ICON, members had the chance to attend workshops, participate in fun community service projects, and explore the city with people from around the world. Awards were also given to celebrate the achieve-

This year, U of M Circle K won second place Gold Division Club Achievement Award. Since we were judged against all of the other large Circle K clubs in the world, this was quite an honor! Our club also won the Kiwanis Family Relations Award, as well as an award for membership growth. Each year the University of Michigan Circle K wins similar awards, and there is really only one reason for that- our members! This club is made up of some of the most caring, energetic people you will ever meet, who every year make this club better and better. We sincerely hope that you will become a part of this great tradition, and that you help us win first place next year!

