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## Goodbye to summer...

I can hardly believe it's time for Quota to start the 2003-2004 club year. I hope you've all had a restful and relaxing summer. I can honestly say that I've missed my Quota friends, and I'm really looking forward to a great new year of service and FUN! Of course, many Quotarians have been very busy with Quota activities, including the mentoring group... The "mentorees" had a great time as did the Quotarians at the July horseback riding event. Thanks to everyone who was part of this event.

I want to thank Barb Peles, our Lt. Governor, for serving as our delegate to international convention. She brought back lots of good ideas that will be shared at our next meeting and through the appropriate committees.

We'll be easing into the Quota year with a fun, relaxing meeting in August... no formal program, just making plans for the new year and a chance to visit and enjoy each other's company. It's going to be a great year, I can feel it!

— Michelle

## Dates to remember

**Aug. 30, 11 a.m. Living Flag event,  
Indiana Fairgrounds grandstand**

**Aug. 27, 5 p.m. Holiday Inn,  
Regular dinner meeting —  
BRING ALICE PAUL HOUSE ITEMS!  
BRING STUFFED ANIMAL!  
BRING A FRIEND...**

Remember that guests are always welcome to come to our meetings or community service projects. If you are bringing a friend(s) to the monthly dinner meeting, just please make sure and add their reservation to yours when you are contacted by the reservation committee. First-time visitors will be our guests for dinner.

# Q NEWS



The Official Newsletter  
of Quota International  
of Indiana, PA  
August 2003

## District backpack project underway

The idea started at International Convention in Pittsburgh in 2002, and thanks to Pat, Barb and Jean (our district officers), the idea is well underway.

Quota clubs in district 3 (Altoona, Blairsville, Indiana, Johnstown, New Castle, Sharon,) will be part of the "backpack project," providing backpacks and items for children who must be removed from their homes by Children and Youth Services.

As we heard at convention, many times these children are given a garbage bag and five minutes to pack up their things before being taken out of their homes for their own protection, earning them the nickname, "garbage bag kids." This project is about giving these children some dignity and something they can call their own, including a nice, new backpack; books; notebooks and pencils or crayons; toiletries; and from Indiana Quota, a new stuffed animal.



Each of the district clubs is providing something for the backpacks — Quota of Indiana is to bring new stuffed teddy bears or comforting animals (any type) for the project. Please bring your stuffed animals to the August and September meetings. We have between 350 and 500 backpacks to fill (this number is an estimate from the CYS offices in the district 3 region).

However, thanks to Quotarian Claudia Brown and her connections with Ty Inc., Quota of Indiana has the opportunity to receive new stuffed animals and beanie babies from Ty for this project. It looks very promising that this will come through for the project, but in the meantime, we are asking each Quotarian to bring at least one stuffed bear or animal to the next meetings.

This project can certainly make a difference in these children's lives — thank you, everyone, in advance for your participation.

## NEW HOSTESSING PROCEDURE IN PLACE

To make things easier for all busy Quotarians, we have changed the hostessing procedure, starting with the August meeting. We discussed and approved this new process at the April meeting.

Starting this month, all members will be contacted by the reservation committee, now including **Candi Kinnel and Karen Surma**. Contacts will be made by phone or e-mail. Quotarians, **PLEASE** respond to Candi and Karen within the requested timeframe. **Hostesses will no longer need to call members.**

The main responsibility hostesses will have is to check-in members at the door the evening of the dinner. Hostesses are not required to bring table decorations or candy, but may do so if they wish. If you would like the Holiday Inn to provide decorations, just let Candi or Karen know and they will inform the Holiday Inn. The lead hostess (see **schedule on page 2 of the newsletter**) is responsible for calling her co-hostesses to coordinate table linen colors, candy or centerpieces if they wish to do so.

We hope that this makes things a little easier for everyone. Please watch your e-mail or be expecting a call the week before the meeting to make your reservation. Also, thank you for paying by check at the door for dinner fees. It makes bookkeeping so much easier!

Meals will remain at \$12 (except for the Christmas party meal, which will cost \$15).

## 2003 HOSTESS SCHEDULE

**August**

*Connie McCardle* Linda Bradley  
Kathy Gaunt Michelle Fryling  
Keli Sheffer Suellen Shick

**September**

*Linda Brown* Kathy Honacki  
Debbie McCombs Tina Semon  
Suzie Pickering

**October**

*Ilene Boughner* Claudia Brown  
Sherry Clawson Cate D'Amico

**November**

*Kitty Henry* Becky Farren  
Tammy Brletrick Lauren Williams

**December**

*Kim Fulton* Candi Kinnel  
Judy Kochman Stacy Long

Please plan to arrive by 4:45 p.m. to get things set up to greet your guests and do check-in. Check-in sheets will be provided to you at the door.

The lead hostesses are listed in *italic* type above. They will be responsible for contacting the co-hostesses to coordinate decorations or candy (which is up to the hostessing group). Most everyone is available by e-mail, so please take advantage of this time-saving way to be in contact!

The lead hostess should contact Candi or Karen with any requests for table linens or decorations from the Holiday Inn, which are gladly provided.

We hope this will make things easier for everyone... and if you cannot hostess for your scheduled month, please just let your lead hostess know, and you may switch with someone else on the calendar for a more convenient month.

It's a new system, so please be patient as we work out the bugs.

**APH update: toiletries**

Thank you, everyone, for your generosity during the past club year and your faithfulness to the Alice Paul House donation calendar.

This month, club members can clean out their suitcases and purses of all the little soaps, shampoos and other personal toiletry items that are so useful for the women and children who stay at the Alice Paul House.

If you haven't had the chance to pick up any of these types of items, please remember that all types of personal toiletry items are welcome and can be brought to any meeting.

The committee is currently planning a September garage sale to benefit APH. (A great excuse to clean out your closets!)

The APH committee will meet at 4:30 p.m. Aug. 27 prior to the regular dinner meeting. Everyone is welcome to join any committee for which they have an interest; if you would like to serve on this committee, or are interested in coming to any committee meetings, please feel free to do so.

Kitty Henry is the chair of the APH committee — if you have any questions or suggestions for this particular committee, please do not hesitate to contact Kitty.

**NEW WEBSITE now under construction**

We have a new website address — [www.quotaofindiana.org](http://www.quotaofindiana.org). The site is under construction right now, but in the future, the newsletters, news releases and photos will be posted to that site. We hope it will be a great opportunity for all of our members to stay connected to Quota. Our former website, [wpaquota.com](http://wpaquota.com), may be taken by District 3 for District news. More on this later.

**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

Mary Cotter of QI of Fairbanks, Alaska was elected Quota International President at the 2003 convention. Her theme for the next year is "Strengthen Quota's Roots," recognizing that Quota's 309 clubs worldwide possess very strong roots, which have sustained them throughout their club longevity.

The roots she recognizes for Quota International are definitely a part of Quota of Indiana: **community service, world service, aiding disadvantaged women and children, and assisting the deaf and hard-of-hearing.**

Mary has asked that each individual Quota club "strengthen their roots" by:

**1. Enhancing community service...**

Add a new and different project to your calendar; plan an activity for Quota Cares Month.

**2. Increasing the local awareness of your Quota club...**

Make you club more visible within your community.

**3. Strengthening your club...**

Enhance your members' satisfaction in being part of our organization.

Certainly, Quota of Indiana is well on its ways to "strengthening our roots," as we have all been working to meet these goals during the past few years. Remember, Quota belongs to all of us; if you have ideas or concerns that should be brought to the table, please do not hesitate to do so.

**QBits... QBits... Q Bits...**

Congratulations to two Quotarians with new arrivals this summer:

First, to **Diana and Jim Dickie**, congratulations on Abigail Kathryn, born May 15. Ask Diana to see photos, she's a cutie!

Also, congratulations to Barb and Greg (and Katie) Peles on the birth of **PA BBQ**, located out South Sixth Street. When you stop out, make sure to check out the bulletin board in the entryway... and thanks to Barb for posting Quota news there!

**Murder most delicious...**

The Holiday Inn is hosting a **murder mystery dinner** Saturday, Aug. 23 at 6:30 p.m. that is a *great chance for Quotarians to get together!*

Participants will dine on dagger shredded salad, blood orange sorbet, electrified balsamic chicken or beaten and tenderized flank steak, smashed red skin potatoes, diamond cut veggies and tortured crème brulee — and everyone is not only a guest, but a suspect! Cost is \$20 per person (all inclusive), and reservations are required by calling the Holiday Inn at 724-463-3561, ext. 198.

**Happy Birthday to...**

Aug. 17 Tammy Brletrick  
Aug. 19 Eleanor Rose  
Aug. 26 Ilene Boughner  
Aug. 28 Carol McQuaide  
Sept. 6 Jane Putt  
Sept. 15 Clarice Reber

